

REQUIREMENTS OF THE CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Each Candidate must attend Confirmation classes for two consecutive years and successfully complete the course of study in order to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Parents will be notified and asked for their assistance if a student is experiencing academic difficulty. Attendance at every class is required. If your student is unable to attend a class due to illness or an emergency situation, please send a note explaining the student's absence to the next class. If the student misses more than three classes during the year (10% of class time), he or she must attend special classes to make up this work. These classes will be scheduled at various times throughout the year. Parents will be notified of the dates and times of these classes as far in advance as possible.

Parochial school students are expected to successfully complete the Confirmation requirements of their school and to provide us with the signed "Parochial School Certification of Completion of Saint Report and Service Project" form.

DOCUMENTATION

So that we can comply with all documentation requirements specified by the Diocese of Harrisburg, we ask that you assist your student with completing his or her documents.

PLEASE KEEP A COPY OF ALL SUBMITTED DOCUMENTS FOR YOUR RECORDS.

Every effort is made to control the documents, but sometimes paperwork is misplaced or lost. Thanks for helping us.

1. BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE

- For children baptized at St. Richard's:
Fill out the "VERIFICATION OF BAPTISM AT ST. RICHARD PARISH" form and give it to the Parish Secretary.
- For children NOT baptized at St. Richard's:
Please give us a **COPY** of your child's original Baptismal Certificate. We cannot guarantee that it will be returned to you, so Don't give us the original. If you cannot locate this document then you will need to contact the parish where your child was baptized and request a copy.

2. CONFIRMATION CONTRACT & CODE OF CONDUCT

All Confirmation candidates and parents must sign the *Confirmation Contract & Code of Conduct* form indicating that they understand and accept the requirements set forth in this Handbook. The student must possess a desire to be confirmed and Have the intention of fulfilling all of the requirements of the program to the best of his or her ability. For their part, parents must be able to provide the time and emotional support that will be required during the next two years. This is not a process to be entered into lightly and we deeply appreciate and respect the sacrifices that parents make on behalf of their children.

3. SPONSOR CERTIFICATE WITH PARISH SEAL

Every Confirmation candidate must provide this document by the due date.

4. CONFIRMATION DATA SHEET

All Confirmation candidates must provide the information requested on this form.

5. **LETTER TO FATHER MENEI FROM THE STUDENT**

Every Confirmation candidate must prepare a letter to Father Menei listing the reasons why he/she wants to be confirmed, the reason for their choice of the sponsor selected and the reason for the choice of the patron saint whose name the student chose as their Confirmation name. The letter can be typed or NEATLY handwritten. Check the "Master Schedule of Documents & Due Dates" for the due date of this letter. Please read the letter before your student submits it. A parent signature and the student's signature must appear on the letter.

6. **PATRON SAINT REPORT**

All Religious Ed Confirmation candidates must fulfill this requirement by the due date. Parochial school students normally fulfill the requirement at their school. The saint whose name your child has chosen as his/her Confirmation name must be the subject of this report. Parochial School students who satisfy this requirement at their school during the 7th or 8th grade year are required to provide the "*Parochial School Certification of Completion of Saint Report and Service Project*" form to us in the 8th grade year. Parochial School parents and students, please note the DUE DATE of this form. We need to have the form by that date based upon the anticipated date of Confirmation.

7. **STEWARDSHIP & FORMATION PROJECTS: A Disciple's Response**

Each candidate is required to complete 30 hours of service over a two year period. Ten hours of service must be acquired in each of these 3 categories:

- Catholic Religious Devotions
- Community Service Projects
- Service to Parish

Suggested activities:

Devotional Hours:

- Forty Hours Eucharistic Devotion
- Eucharistic Adoration
- Stations of the Cross during Lent
- Parish Penance Service
- Ash Wednesday Mass
- Holy Thursday Mass
- Good Friday celebration of the Lord's Passion
- Seder Meal
- Daily Mass, (Monday – Friday 9 a.m.)
- Rosary Group

Community Hours:

- Volunteer at nursing homes
- Work at the food bank
- Community Cleanup
- Help out at the library
- Errands, yard work or housework for seniors

Parish Community Service

- Serve at the Spaghetti Dinner
- Help out at the Church picnic
- Help with children's liturgy during 10:30 Mass
- Weed the parish flower beds
- Shovel snow
- Walk Waldo for Father Menei