

## **Requirements for Confirmation Preparation In Diocese of St Augustine**

### **Sponsors Form or Letter. (Due by February 25<sup>th</sup>)**

Each candidate is to have a sponsor. It is the responsibility of the sponsor to assist the candidate in their faith journey and encourage the confirmed person to mature in Christian faith and witness. To be admitted to the role of sponsor a person must:

- have completed their 16th year
- be a Catholic who has been confirmed and admitted to the Eucharist as well as one who:
  - leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role undertaken as sponsor.
  - not bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared;
  - not be the father or mother of the one to be confirmed. (Code of Canon Law 874)

Sponsors unknown to the pastor are to provide written evidence from their parish that they fulfill these requirements. The rite suggests the sponsor of Baptism continue in this role at Confirmation. This presumes that the person still meets the requirements of Canon 874. Sponsors should be identified as soon as possible prior to immediate preparation so that they can be fully involved in the preparation of the candidate for the Sacrament. All Sponsor forms/letters should be given to Queen of Peace by our February class.

### **Letter to the Bishop (Due by March 22<sup>nd</sup>)**

Letters themselves should be one side of a plain sheet of paper and typed. If absolutely necessary, letters may also be printed neatly in ink. These letters should not be placed in sealed envelopes. It is expected that the Director of Religious Education or another delegate of the pastor has taken proper care that these letters are written well and reflect the sincerity of the candidate for Confirmation.

Please remind your teen that this letter is a way for them to share who they are to the bishop, so are free to explore their personal experiences for each question. The bishop wants to know your teen, not definitions they read in a textbook.

These are the questions Bishop Estévez desires the teens should reflect upon in their letters:

1. In what ways has the preparation for the Sacrament helped you?
2. How does the Church understand the Eucharist? What does the Eucharist mean to you personally?
3. What will you do for the Church-for society- as a confirmed Catholic?
4. What is your basic prayer life...both as an individual and as part of a family?

5. Someone has said Confirmation has good effects in stewardship. Explain what this might mean.

### **Saint Report (Due April 19<sup>th</sup>)**

The taking of a saint name for Confirmation is related to Baptism, in that we are declaring who we are. With Confirmation, our teens are preparing to receive greater access to the Holy Spirit. Students should research saints who have served the Church in ways in which the student is passionate. It is preferable that a first or middle name is used, but if there is no resonance in the lives and mission of those saints for the Confirmandi, they are free to take the name of any saint in the last 2,000 years of the Church's history.

A simple, one-page report is expected to explain who the saint is, and why the teen relates to this saint. There is no need to even cite where they go their information.

### **Confirmation Dress Code (Confirmation on June 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm Mass)**

"Sunday-best" attire should be worn, following these norms:

#### 1. For Young Men:

■ Dress trousers (no jeans), with a shirt and tie. A coat is recommended, but not necessary.

#### 2. For Young Women:

■ A dress, or a skirt and blouse, or a pantsuit, none of which may be tight fitting.

■ The dress or skirt must reach the knees (no mini-skirts) and it must cover the back

■ The dress or blouse must have sleeves that cover the shoulders (spaghetti straps, etc are not sleeves)

■ No low-cut tops on blouses or dresses.

**Please ascertain prior to the ceremony that dress is appropriate**

Hair should be styled in such a way that the forehead is easily anointed