

Family Homework Activities

CONFIRMATION HOMEWORK: complete the following activities as homework by the assigned dates. The intention of these activities is to help build unity in the family and educate the youth in the faith. We will be discussing how our family bonding activities went in our Confirmation small groups, so please ensure this bonding homework is completed.

FAMILY ACTIVITY #1 – Complete BEFORE November 22, 2021

As a family, go through photos of your child's baptism. Talk with your youth about what that day was like, who was there, and what happened during the baptism. All family members and even the candidate can share what means for them to be baptized.

Together watch the [Sacraments 101: Baptism video](http://youtu.be/05YB2jdHLsY) at <http://youtu.be/05YB2jdHLsY>

Go over Student-Sponsor getting to know you question sheet.

Can't find the question sheet? Go to <http://sttheresa.caedm.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Getting-to-Know-You-Sponsor-and-Candidate-Discussion-Questions.pdf>

FAMILY ACTIVITY #2 – Complete BEFORE December 13, 2021

Research Confirmation Saint. Parents work with youth in order to ensure have Saint's name chosen, and help youth develop 5 key points about their saint so they can share about them with their small group. Helpful website resources for researching saints:

- <http://saints.sqpn.com>
- www.catholic.org/saints
- <http://gnm.org/saints-calendar/>
- www.americancatholic.org/features/saints

Saturday Dec 11, 2021: Christmas Carol at Mill Woods Town Center Mall. If you are singing or playing with us, please be there at the food court at 11:15 am. If you want to watch, the program will start at noon.

FAMILY ACTIVITY #3 – Complete BEFORE January 10, 2022

As a family share on why Jesus came on Earth, the mystery of His incarnation, the meaning of Christmas.

FAMILY ACTIVITY #4 – For the month of February 2022

The goal is to sit down and share about the gospel heard at mass in a Family Meal at least once a week in the month of February. Confirmation student is to lead grace before the meal.

Together watch the [Sacraments 101: Confirmation video](http://goo.gl/uP1qfO) at <http://goo.gl/uP1qfO>

If they haven't already, students are also to go over the getting to know you question sheet with sponsor. Can't find the question sheet? Go to <http://sttheresa.caedm.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Getting-to-Know-You-Sponsor-and-Candidate-Discussion-Questions.pdf>

FAMILY ACTIVITY #5 – For the month of March 2022

Pray the rosary together as a family. Need help on how to pray the rosary? Go to

www.newadvent.org/images/rosary.pdf

Not sure why Catholics pray the rosary? See <https://www.catholic.com/video/why-do-catholics-pray-the-rosary> or the explanation of St. Pope John Paul II https://w2.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/apost_letters/2002/documents/hf_jp-ii_apl_20021016_rosarium-virginis-mariae.html

Or if you want you can read together and share some passages of the Bible for an half hour.

Sat. Mar 26, 2022 (10:00 am – 3:00 pm): Confirmation retreat with sponsors and candidates. (lunch offered)

Mar 27, 2022 at 3 pm Confirmation Mass, gathering down in the hall at 2:15 pm. Cakes offered in the hall after mass to congratulate confirmands and rejoice together with all your friends and relative (There you will pick up your certificate)

To Parents: Choosing A Confirmation Name

One of the favorite aspects of preparing for Confirmation is the choosing of a Confirmation name. In this custom, the one preparing for Confirmation takes the name of a person who has officially been declared a saint, blessed, or venerable or who is one of the faithful from the Bible. One may also choose to be Confirmed under his or her own name given at Baptism. As parents, you will need to assist your child in choosing a Confirmation name.

How do I help my child choose a Confirmation name?

1. Life-time saint friends.

Help your child to understand that they are not simply choosing a name they like, but they are asking a saint to be their friend for the rest of their lives. We call these life-time saint friends "patrons." Patrons help us live as Christians both through their praying for us (intercession) and their good example (witness) (cf. CCC 2156, 956).

2. Read stories about the Saints.

More than likely, your child will not know too many saints. Take time read the lives of the saints. There are many different books on saints. The internet also has many different websites on the saints. One place to start is to search websites like the following:

- <http://saints.sqpn.com/>
- <http://www.catholic.org/saints/>
- <http://gnm.org/saintscalendar.htm>
- <http://www.americancatholic.org/features/saints>

You might start your reading with a saint that has similar interests. Sometimes, patrons are chosen because of the day their feast day falls on, e.g. if your child's birthday is on November 3, they might choose Martin for St. Martin de Porres. Sometimes, patrons might be chosen because of family ties, e.g. the child's grandpa's name is Mark, grandpa is a great, so the child chooses St. Mark. You might even start with your own baptismal name. There are many different starting points for choosing a particular saint. Ultimately, the patron chosen should be someone that your child wants to imitate in their love for Christ and others.

3. Choose a Saint

After researching, students pick a saint and write down their name and 5 points about that saint to bring and share with their small group on December 13, 2021.

4. Ask the Saint

The child should ask the saint to be their friend (patron). As parents, you might encourage them to write a letter to the saint. You might also encourage them to be friends with the saint. Teach your child to ask for the saint's intercession, get them a picture or statue of the saint, read more about the saint, etc.

5. Practice telling the Saint's story.

The Confirmation youth will be asked why they chose that particular patron. They should be able to explain who the saint is, how they were a faithful disciple and witness of Jesus Christ, and what they hope to imitate in their own lives as a disciple and witness.

Getting to Know You Sponsor and Candidate Discussion Questions

The purpose of the following questions is to get the sponsor and Confirmation student talking about Confirmation and their faith. So call or meet up with your sponsor and go through the following questions, get to know each other! Your sponsor is there to support you as you prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Some of these questions may seem difficult to answer. Try your best and strive to be open with one another, pray for each other, and encourage each other in the faith.

For the Sponsor: share your answers with your Confirmation student

Why have you agreed to be a sponsor? What do you hope to get out of it?

How have you come to know God more personally in your life?

How have you seen God working in your life through the years? What are some moments when you really felt God present in your life?

Which is the passage of the Scripture that you like more and why?

What do you love and appreciate about the Catholic faith?

Do you remember anything about your Confirmation? If yes, what do you recall about it?

For the Confirmation student (Candidate): share your answers with your sponsor

How do you feel about preparing to receive Confirmation?

How would you describe your faith? How would you describe your relationship with God?

Do you feel close to God right now? Why / why not?

Which is the passage of the Scripture that you like more and why?

What more do you think you can learn about your faith?

What does the sacrament of Confirmation mean to you?