



Confirmation Candidate and Parent Meeting

January 2021

Opening Prayer

Let us pray to God the almighty Father,
For these, his adopted sons and daughters,
Already born again to eternal life in Baptism,
That he will graciously pour out the Holy Spirit upon them
To confirm them with his abundant gifts,
And through his anointing conform them more fully to Christ, the Son of God.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
Who brought these your servants to new birth by water and the Holy Spirit,
Freeing them from sin:
Send upon them, O Lord, the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete;
Give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
The spirit of counsel and fortitude,
The spirit of knowledge and piety;
Fill them with the spirit of the fear of the Lord.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.



Reflection Questions

(5 minutes: Parent/Candidate Discussion)

- ❖ What word or phrase sticks out most to you? Why?
- ❖ When did you become an adopted son/daughter of God?
- ❖ What are we hoping for/asking for in the Sacrament of Confirmation?
- ❖ What does it mean to be anointed?
- ❖ Through the Sacrament of Confirmation, who do we become more like?
- ❖ What is the point of being filled with the spirit of wisdom, etc.?
- ❖ What does the Sacrament of Confirmation strengthen you to be able to do/be?
- ❖ Why does the Sacrament of Confirmation matter in your life?



Confirmation Video by Sophia SketchPad

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?
v=Lu3MoT_egFI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lu3MoT_egFI)



Questions or Thoughts?

Sacrament of Confirmation



Notes on Confirmation Mass

- ❖ **Confirmation Date:** Saturday, October 30, 2021 with Archbishop Broglio
 - ❖ 10 am and 1:30 pm...Mass assignments coming later. Rehearsal TBD.
 - ❖ Sacrament of Reconciliation prior to Confirmation
- ❖ **Tickets:** Will be necessary. More information coming as we get closer.
- ❖ **No Robes:** Bishop Burbidge is content with our request for no robes to move Confirmation away from being viewed as graduation. Sunday Best-modest attire.
- ❖ **The Bishop may ask questions at Confirmation.**
 - ❖ List of questions in the packet online
 - ❖ Catechists/religion teachers will be covering in class
 - ❖ Please review these questions at home



Confirmation Preparation: 2-year Formation

- ❖ Religion Class either at OLGC School or at CCF (7th and 8th Grade)
- ❖ Retreat: July 29th (August 7th make up date) OR Virtual
 - ❖ A lot will depend on COVID-19 Status this Summer
- ❖ Large Group Sessions-None for 7th Grade; TBD for 8th Grade (post Confirmation depending on COVID-19 status)
- ❖ Confirmation Faith Sharing Interviews- Fall 2021
 - ❖ May be part of the virtual retreat

Confirmation Checklist

-due April 2022

Confirmation Formation Checklist

Due Spring 2022

All of the following must be completed outside of CCF and School Time

Formation

- 7th Grade Large Group Sessions
 - Cancelled because of COVID
- 8th Grade Large Group Sessions
 - 1st Date _____
Parents Initial _____
 - 2nd Date _____
Parents Initial _____
 - 3rd Date _____
Parents Initial _____
- Confirmation Retreat- Summer 2021
 - Date _____
Parent's Initial _____
- Confirmation Faith Sharing Interview- September 2021
 - Date _____
Parent's Initial _____

Parish Community

- Attend Junior High Youth Ministry Social Event (one)
 - Date/Event _____
Parents Initial _____
- Attend Parish Social Events (Fish Fry, Spaghetti Dinner, Donut Social, etc.) (three)
 - 1st Date/Event _____
 - 2nd Date/Event _____
 - 3rd Date/Event _____
Parent's Initial _____

*Please note that some of these items on the checklist and service logs may not be possible to accomplish depending on where we are with COVID. Please accomplish what you can and don't worry about what you can't.

Spirituality

- Participate at OLCG Youth Mass (one)
 - Date _____
 - Parents Initial _____
- Participate at Stations of the Cross or Pray the Rosary in Mary's Garden at OLCG (circle one)
 - Date: _____
 - Parent's Initial _____
- Spend 5 hours in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (Holy Hour)
 - See attached Adoration Log
- Celebrate Confession at least twice
 - 1st: Parent's Initial _____
 - 2nd: Parent's Initial _____
- Visit one of the below (circle one)
 - Cathedral of St. Thomas Moore in Arlington, VA
 - Basilica of St. Mary in Old Town Alexandria, VA
 - Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in D.C.
 - Franciscan Monastery in D.C.
 - JPII National Shrine in D.C. (Visit the JPII Museum)
 - Other _____

Date: _____ Parent's Initial _____

Service

Please see the backside of this page and the 3 attached service logs.

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Confirmation Formation Checklist

Due Spring 2022

All of the following must be completed outside of CCF and School Time

SERVICE

- A total of 30 Hours of Service is to be completed in the following areas
- Please record on the attached Service Logs

OLGC Liturgical Service (10 Hours)

- To be completed at Weekend Masses
- Please contact Gerard Hall at liturgy@olgcva.org to sign up for any of these ministries:
 - Children's Liturgy of the Word
 - Altar Serving
 - Lecturing
 - Ushering
 - Music/Choir

OLGC Community Service (10 Hours)

- CCF Catechist Aide
 - Contact Amy MacKinnon at ccfcoordinator@olgcva.org
- Parish Lenten Fish Fry Prep and Service
 - ~~Sign up~~ **Sign up** ~~genius~~ to come
- Fall Fest Booths
 - ~~Sign up~~ **Sign up** ~~genius~~ to come
- 1st Eucharist Retreat
 - ~~Sign up~~ **Sign up** ~~genius~~ to come
- Parishioners who need assistance
- Other

Please note that Derek Rogers will be hosting service opportunities throughout the year as possible depending on COVID. Please keep your eye out on email for more details.

Local Community Outreach (10 Hours)

Local Community Outreach should fit into one of the Corporal or Spiritual Works of Mercy (see below). Examples include:

- Local soup kitchens
- S.O.M.E.- So Others Might Eat
- C.H.O.- Committee Helping Others
- The Lamb Center
- Hope Center
- Tutoring
- Local Cemeteries- clean the gravestones

Corporal Works of Mercy

- Feed the Hungry
- Give Drink to the Thirsty
- Shelter the Homeless
- Visit the Sick
- Visit the Prisoners
- Bury the Dead
- Give Alms to the Poor

Spiritual Works of Mercy

- Counsel the Doubtful
- Instruct the Ignorant
- Admonish the Sinner
- Comfort the Sorrowful
- Forgive Injuries
- Bear Wrongs Patiently
- Pray for the Living and the Dead

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Choosing a Confirmation Name

Pray | Research | Reflect

- ❖ This saint is your spiritual companion
- ❖ Could be your baptismal name (if baptized with a saint's name)
- ❖ Could be a saint that is special to you or your family
- ❖ Could be a saint that shares a special day with you
 - ❖ i.e. your birthday is on their feast day
- ❖ Could be a saint that is a patron of one of your hobbies, interests, etc.
- ❖ Must choose a Saint or a Blessed recognized by the Catholic Church
- ❖ Ask your mom, dad, sponsor, sibling, grandparent , godparent, etc. which saint they chose and why to help give you ideas
- ❖ Take this choice to prayer and see which saint God reveals to you
- ❖ Document in the packet of materials with resources to help you research



Choosing a Sponsor

- ❖ Select one person to journey and support you as you prepare for Confirmation and beyond
- ❖ Like a coach or teacher
 - ❖ *Want to select someone who knows the game, but in our case knows the faith.*
 - ❖ *This person has the experience to guide you in deepening your relationship with Jesus and witnesses to you and to others God's love for the world.*
- ❖ Could be one of your godparents
- ❖ See the packet for the document on Choosing a Confirmation Sponsor
- ❖ If the sponsor cannot be physically present, a proxy can stand in his/her place (email me for next steps if this is the case)



Qualifications of a Sponsor

- ❖ Someone who is at least 16 years old
- ❖ Someone who is not your (the Confirmation candidate's) parent
- ❖ Someone who has received the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist)
- ❖ Someone who is a committed and active Roman Catholic, committed to living his or her life in accord with Catholic Church Teaching and Tradition and fully participates in the sacramental life of the Church
- ❖ If married, someone whose marriage is recognized by the Catholic Church
- ❖ **This person must provide a Letter of Good Standing / Sponsor Eligibility Form.**
 - ❖ *This letter/form/certificate comes from the sponsor's home parish stating that he/she meets the qualifications above. Sponsors from OLGC also need to submit one.*
 - ❖ ***This form is due to Amy W. de Bernardo by August 1, 2021.***



Role of Parents

- ❖ Pray for your child during this time
- ❖ Power of Witness (Prayer, Mass, sacraments, etc.)
- ❖ Engage your child in the Confirmation formation and preparation and in conversations about the faith-you are the primary educators!
- ❖ Continue your own formation:
 - ❖ Salesian Presentations
 - ❖ Bulletin, Website, and weekly OLGC email newsletters
 - ❖ Formed.org (use code VGXJ7X for a free account)
- ❖ 7th graders- don't be afraid to ask questions to your parents, sponsors, catechists/teachers, etc. Preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation is an important step in your life- Explore it!



Parent Volunteer Roles

- ❖ Five or six Grade 8 Catechists
- ❖ 12 parents to chaperone the retreat (Summer 2021)
- ❖ 12 group Facilitators for future Large Group Sessions (Winter 2022-Spring 2022)
- ❖ Will send emails with sign up information as we go along
 - ❖ Please make sure Amy W. de Bernardo (dre@olgcva.org) is an approved sender in your email...emails have been going to spam folders

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION TIMELINE 2020-2022

Timeline

Fall 2020 to Spring 2021	<u>7TH - GRADE CATECHESIS</u> CCF Small-Group Sessions (CCF only): Sun. evenings, 7:00-8:00pm (Virtual) Religion Class (OLGC School only): OLGC School Schedule <i>Dates for 7th-Grade Large-Group Sessions are as follows:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cancelled because of COVID-19
Winter 2021	CCF Form 1A. Confirmation Info Form- Due February 1, 2021
Spring 2021	Confirmation Retreat Registration opens May 1, 2021
Spring 2021 – Spring 2022	Complete Confirmation Formation Checklist
Summer 2021	Confirmation Retreat: Thursday, July 29, 2021 9 am to 9 pm Location TBD Make Up Retreat: Saturday, August 7, 2021, Details TBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirmands must attend one of these dates. We prefer them to attend on 7/29/21. If they are unable to attend either of these dates, it is your responsibility to find a Confirmation retreat at a different Church to be Confirmed at OLGC in the Fall of 2021 We may have to change plans and put in place a virtual option depending on COVID regulations. CCF Form 2A. Confirmation Name (Saint) & Sponsor Info- Due June 1, 2021 Sponsor Eligibility Form/ Letter of Good Standing- Due August 1, 2021
Fall 2021	Confirmation Faith Sharing Interview with member of Pastoral Team (may be included in the retreat if we need to move to a virtual platform) Confirmation Rehearsal: TBD Confirmation: Saturday, October 30, 2021. Mass assignments TBD.
Fall 2021 to Spring 2022	<u>8TH - GRADE CATECHESIS</u> Small-Group Sessions (CCF only): Sun. evenings, 6:30-8:00pm Large-Group Sessions (CCF & OLGC School): Mon. evenings, 6:45-8:00pm once every other month (with no CCF small-group session that week) <i>Dates for Large-Group Sessions: TBD</i>

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Confirmation Timeline



Due Dates Prior to Confirmation

- ❖ **Form 1A.** Confirmation Info/Commitment Form – Due Feb. 1, 2021 (online)
- ❖ **Newly Issued Baptismal Certificate with Notifications-**
 - ❖ *Please contact the parish where your child was baptized ASAP*
 - ❖ *Physical certificate due March 1, 2021 to Amy W. de Bernardo at OLGC*
 - ❖ *We only need this if the Confirmation Candidate was NOT baptized at OLGC.*
- ❖ **Confirmation Retreat Registration and Completion** – Opens May 1, '21
 - ❖ *Online Form (will be emailed and posted online)*
- ❖ **Form 2A.** Confirmation Name (Saint) & Sponsor Info – Due June 1, 2021
 - ❖ *Online Form (will be emailed and posted online)*
- ❖ **Letters of Good Standing / Sponsor Eligibility Form-** Due Aug. 1, 2021
 - ❖ *Original copy needs to be sent to Amy de Bernardo at OLGC*
 - ❖ *Make a copy for your records (scan, picture, photocopy, etc.)*



Due Dates Post Confirmation

- ❖ *Completion of 8th Grade OLGC School Religion or CCF*
- ❖ *Confirmation Checklist-due April 2022 (in online packet)*
- ❖ *3 Service Logs-due April 2022 (in online packet)*
 - ❖ Liturgy
 - ❖ OLGC
 - ❖ Local VA
- ❖ *Adoration Log- due April 2022 (in online packet)*

*Keep in mind that some of this might not be accomplishable depending on where we are with COVID between now and April 2022.



Questions?

❖ Amy W. de Bernardo

❖ 703-896-7414

❖ dre@olgcva.org

❖ Confirmation Packet on our website:

<https://www.olgcva.org/sacraments/confirmation/2021-fall-confirmation-prep-details>



Closing Prayer

Breathe in me O **Holy Spirit**, that my thoughts may all be **holy**.

Act in me O **Holy Spirit**, that my work, too, may be **holy**.

Draw my heart O **Holy Spirit**, that I love but what is **holy**.

Strengthen me O **Holy Spirit**, to defend all that is **holy**.

~St. Augustine