

CANDIDATE AND SPONSOR RETREAT DAY / SESSION 2 SPONSOR INFORMATION SHEET

A Sponsor must be a practicing, confirmed Catholic. He/she may not be the candidate's mother or father. A godparent is a good choice. The candidate is encouraged to choose someone close by. The sponsor should be a person who is prayerful, open, dependable, loving, and is comfortable sharing his or her faith with young people.

The sponsor represents the support and prayers of the entire Church. He/she will be the candidate's "spiritual friend." In this program, the following is asked of the sponsor:

1. Accompany the candidate to the sponsor and candidate session, which is specifically designed for sponsor/candidate interaction.
2. Sponsors are encouraged to attend the reception welcoming the candidates back from their weekend retreat.
3. Sponsors need to attend the Confirmation rehearsal.
4. Attend the Liturgy of Confirmation.
5. To meet with the candidate regularly throughout this year of preparation and to discuss the topics addressed in the preparation sessions.
6. Share their faith story with his or her candidate.
7. Spend time getting to know the candidate, possibly taking him or her out to lunch or dinner, or having him or her over to your home.
8. Pray for and with the candidate.
9. Present the candidate during the Confirmation Rite.
10. Continue to be there for the candidate and lend spiritual support after the Confirmation ceremony is over.
(Suggestion: Send a card or note every year on the anniversary of his/her Confirmation.)

Year and place of Sponsor's Confirmation _____

I agree to serve as a sponsor for this confirmation candidate. I understand my role as described on the Sponsor Information sheet, which I have received from the candidate and read. I agree to attend the required session with my candidate, unless not possible due to distance or work schedule - in which case a family member proxy will stand in my place. I agree to cultivate a relationship with my candidate during this year of preparation for his/her confirmation and to serve as a spiritual support during this important time in his/her life, as well as in the years to come.

- Sponsors need to be present at the Sponsor/Candidate session.
- Sponsors need to attend the Confirmation rehearsal.
- Sponsors need to be present at the Confirmation ceremony.
- Sponsors need to meet monthly with their candidate December through April.

Date _____

Petition For The Sacrament Of Confirmation

Dear Bishop _____,

I wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

My name is _____, I am _____
years old, and my Parish is _____ in _____.

I want to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation because...

The Sacrament of Confirmation is helping me to change to be a better person by...

I have chosen _____ to be my Confirmation name because _____

In preparation for Confirmation, I provided SERVICE to others by...

and I learned that _____

If I could do one thing to make myself a better follower of Jesus, I would...

I know that I can help to build up the Church by...

Some of my favorites:

Favorite movie _____

Favorite actor or actress _____

Favorite music group or musician _____

Favorite song _____

Favorite sport _____

Favorite sports team _____

Other hobbies _____

In ten years I hope to be _____

It's OK with me if you read some of my answers in your homily. Yes No

If yes, you can mention my name too. Yes No

Nickname _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone # () - Birth Date

Cell Phone # () -

E-mail _____

Mother's Name _____

Mother's Work # () -

Father's Name _____

Father's Work # () -

School _____

Grade in (year) _____ Year graduating _____

Interests and Activities _____

Part-time job/hours of work _____

(OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION)

William E. Smith
15 Belmont Dr
Valdosta, GA 31605

Date

Your Excellency,

I've been looking forward to being confirmed for several months. Understanding that I will be blessed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit will empower me in my lifelong religious journey.

I've been preparing for this day for several months to include going to CCD every week, attending mass, talking regularly with my sponsor, attending and participating the religious retreats, and carefully selecting my saint name.

I chose St Augustine as my saint because like St Augustine I initially struggled to find God and like him I surrounded myself with a bad group of friends. With encouragement from his mother, St Augustine prayed to be free of sin and began a prayerful life and in time became a priest. I'm also considering becoming a priest when I grow up. I will continue to pray for guidance and direction.

St Augustine also was a good role model in that he cared for the sick, the poor, and those in prison. I will forever look to St Augustine for strength, wisdom and guidance.

My faith and prayer play a significant role in my life, every day, as I begin and end each day praying to God, opening my heart to Him. It is when I pray that I feel closest to God and at these times feel blessed by His graces. My confirmation is yet another grace which I'm excited about.

I plan on remaining active in the church once confirmed. I'll serve in any and all capacities called to do, whether it's a lector or some other role. I'm excited that my confirmation will give me other opportunities to contribute my talents in the church.

Sincerely,

Billy Smith

Letter to the Bishop – Sample Letter

March 1, 2012

Your Excellency,

Hello. My name is John (Jane) Smith. I am currently in 8th grade and am getting ready to start High School this coming Fall. My family and I belong to St. Theresa Parish in Ashburn, VA. I have an older brother and a younger sister. I have lived in Ashburn for about three years. I enjoy playing sports, watching TV, and having fun with my friends.

I am writing you today to request to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. I want to be confirmed because I want to deepen my relationship with Jesus. I know that when I receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, I will be more fully equipped to face the challenges that I will have in the future. I want my Catholic Faith to always be a big part of my life, and I know that Confirmation will give me the grace I need to keep it like that.

I have done a lot of work in preparation for Confirmation. I began my preparation in 7th grade, reviewing important information about Jesus, the Bible, and the Church. I have finally chosen my Confirmation saint, who is St. _____, whom I admire very much. I completed a brief report on him/her for CCD class. I completed all my class assignments and homework, which taught me a great deal about the Faith. I also completed a spiritual activity, as well as found a sponsor, and completed a Works of Mercy Project, which helped me see the importance of serving others, which is something Jesus always likes to see.

Once I am confirmed, I will continue to live my Catholic Faith for the rest of my life. I will go to Mass on Sundays, and try to make it to Confession more often. I will continue to learn about my Faith by reading the Bible and listening more closely to those who talk to me about doing the will of God. I look forward to meeting you, your Excellency, when you come to our Church to celebrate Confirmation.

Sincerely in Christ,

(Signature here)

John (Jane) Smith