

Candidate's Name _____

Homeroom Teacher or Shepherd: _____

Date Due: Wednesday, February 8, 2012

CONVERSATION PACKET

for

Confirmation Candidates

and their

Sponsors

The special gifts of the Holy Spirit will help you live out your life as a Christian.

They are:

Wisdom

Understanding

Right Judgment

Knowledge



Courage

Reverence

Wonder and Awe

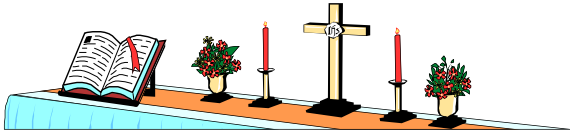
(Remember them by: WURK CReW)

*Come Holy Spirit; fill the hearts of your faithful,
And kindle in them the fire of your love.*

The Holy Spirit is given freely to those who ask.
So by asking for and receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation,
you are asking for the Holy Spirit and all the gifts of the Spirit.
That's a gift worth asking for!

This packet is due by Wednesday, February 8, 2012.

Additional packets may be downloaded from www.stmichaelcommunity.org



Suggested timetable: September

FAITH

1. Do you know of anyone whose actions show you that they have a strong belief in God? Give examples of some of these actions you have noticed.
2. How does having faith in God add meaning to your life? Or help you in the everyday situations you face?
3. Can you think of anytime in your life when you have “gone against the grain” of the group or went along with the group when perhaps you shouldn’t have because of your belief in God? How did that make you feel then? How does it make you feel now? How do you think God felt then?
4. Are there times when you wished your faith was stronger?
5. What did Jesus do when he was challenged and needed to have his faith strengthened?

Summary

Confirmation means that you are promising to try to live a life of faith. You are promising to stand up for God. You are promising to live the Beatitudes. This means that you may have to go against some of the values preached by others around you. Are you willing to make this commitment?

Sponsor’s Comments:

Sponsor’s Signature

Date



Suggested timetable: October

PRAYER

1. Who would you say are your closest friends?
2. How do you show them that they are your closest friends?
3. Friendships are good and important. They should remind us of our friendship with Jesus. Communication with Jesus will keep our friendship with Him alive and growing. Communication with Jesus is called prayer. What are some of your favorite ways to communicate with God?
4. When do you like to pray? Or, how can you work at making prayer more consistent in your life?
5. Does prayer always use words? Can our actions or our service to others be a way of prayer? Discuss.

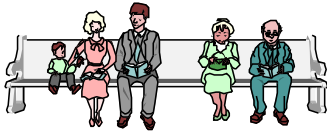
Summary

When you choose to be confirmed, you are committing yourself to daily prayer. When you commit your life to Christ, prayer will lead the way. Prayer will help you discern the difference between God's will in your life and the world's influence on your life.

Sponsor's Comments:

Sponsor's Signature

Date



Suggested timetable: November

CHURCH

1. Name some service organizations in our community or our country that help make our world a better place? What do they do?
2. Name two to three service organizations within our parish of St. Michael that minister to our parishioners? What do they do? (Hint: Look in our church bulletin or the Parish Ministry Directory at <http://www.stmichaelcommunity.org>.)
3. Just what does the term “church” mean? (Not the building!)
4. How important is faith and prayer to the church (not the building)? Share some examples.
5. What does it mean to be an ACTIVE member of the *church*? (the parish *church* and the *church* in the world)
6. Sponsors, share with your candidate your “apostolic” work. How does this service help to build the Body of Christ and the Church?

Summary

When you choose to be confirmed, you are promising to be an active member of the Church for the rest of your life. The Church is referred to as the “Bride of Christ” in Scripture. That is how much Jesus Christ loves His Church! Ask yourself how you are ready to commit to a covenant relationship as the bride of Christ.

Sponsor’s Comments:

Sponsor’s Signature

Date



Suggested timetable: December

RESPECT FOR LIFE

1. Newspapers and magazines are filled with stories of senseless killing. How do you think God feels when he sees his children acting like that?
2. Talk about ways we “kill” people other than physically.
3. In contrast, what effect does showing love and concern have on another person? Can you think of a time when your love or concern for someone else made a difference?
4. Talk about a story or stories in Scripture when Jesus sought out the lonely and unwanted and showed friendship to them.
5. Killing a person physically, emotionally, and intellectually is wrong because it denies the act of creation we are all expected to participate in. God has bestowed life on each of us. He expects us to nurture that life and in that way to help Him in the creative process. Our call is to respect life and to treat life as sacred. In light of this, why do you think the Church tries to:
 - a. Offer women other choices besides abortion?
 - b. Support the care of the elderly and the infirmed until natural death?
 - c. Stop the death penalty?
 - d. Warn against the misuse of drugs and alcohol?

Summary

We, as Catholic Christians, believe that LIFE is the most precious gift we have been given. For this reason, we are entrusted by God to cherish that life in ourselves and in others. We are called to be “co-creators” in helping every person become the best they can be! At Confirmation, you are committing yourself to carry out the value of respecting life. Are you ready to accept this challenge?

Sponsor’s Comments:

Sponsor’s Signature

Date



Suggested timetable: January

COMMITMENT

1. What are some of your talents, personality strengths, and things that you like about yourself?
2. How can you develop these traits to help serve others?
3. What are some qualities or talents that you would like to ask Our Lord to give you?
4. Since you are unique and completely lovable in God's eyes, how do you think God is calling you to use these gifts from Him to serve others now?
5. In asking to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, the final Sacrament of Initiation, you are asking to take on the commitment of being the Body of Christ for others. What goals can you set for yourself today to help you continue to serve the world as you grow and mature?

Summary

Confirmation is a life-long commitment to become like Jesus Christ. To be committed is to do a task when it is easy as well as when it is not so easy. Through Confirmation we commit to carry out the work Jesus left us when he commissioned the apostles to go out and to tell all the world of his Father's love! Pray for the grace to make this commitment.

Sponsor's Final Comments:

Sponsor's Signature

Date