



**MASS JOURNAL:
Preparing for
The Sacrament of Confirmation
Part 2**



Diocese of Peterborough



Name: _____

Parish: _____

Confirmation Name: _____

Sponsor's Name: _____

Confirmation Date: _____

This Mass Journal is to be submitted at the sixth catechetical session.



Dear Candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation:

As you prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation, we, your family and parish family are filled with joy and we journey *with* you as you prepare to celebrate this special sacrament. The sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation together constitute the sacraments of Christian Initiation. In the sacrament of Confirmation, we are strengthened with the gifts of the Holy Spirit to be true witnesses of the faith in word and deed.

Catechism 1303:

From this fact, Confirmation brings an increase and deepening of baptismal grace:

- it roots us more deeply in the divine filiation which makes us cry, "Abba! Father!";*
- it unites us more firmly to Christ;*
- it increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us;*
- it renders our bond with the Church more perfect;*
- it gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross:*

Recall then that you have received the spiritual seal, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of right judgment and courage, the spirit of knowledge and reverence, the spirit of holy fear in God's presence. Guard what you have received. God the Father has marked you with his sign; Christ the Lord has confirmed you and has placed his pledge, the Spirit, in your hearts.

Through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which was instituted by Jesus Christ when he conferred this sacrament on his apostles at Pentecost, your bond with Christ and his Church is strengthened.

When you use this Mass Journal to reflect upon your faith, it can be like a compass that guides you and reveals God who is at work in your life as you walk with Christ. I look forward to conferring the Holy Spirit upon you in the Sacrament of Confirmation.

His Excellency Most Reverend Daniel Miehm
Bishop for the Diocese of Peterborough

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THINGS

Please answer briefly and in point form. The internet is a good research tool where you can read information and express it in your own words.

The preparation period for Christmas is called _____ and the same period for Easter is called _____. The vestment colour for these two times is: _____.

Why do we have these preparation times?

At Christmas, God takes on our humanity. What does "Emmanuel" mean?

Name the four gospels:

What distinguishes the Old Testament and the New Testament as the revealed Word of God?

Name the 7 sacraments and in a few words define them.

What do we mean by the Communion of Saints? Who are the Saints?

GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

At Baptism we are sealed with the “Gifts of the Holy Spirit”. At Confirmation we are awakened to these gifts and their fruits.

The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel, piety, fear of the Lord, fortitude and knowledge.

Read the seven gifts and reflect on TWO gifts, showing how they have enabled you to live your life faithfully in love, service and compassionate care.

- WISDOM: Enables us to see how all of creation reflects the power and love of God.
- UNDERSTANDING: Enables us to discover the meaning of our faith.
- COUNSEL: Enables us to make practical decisions to live out our faith.
- PIETY: Enables us to honour and respect God and all people as children of God, created in the image and likeness of God.
- FEAR OF THE LORD: Enables us to acknowledge the greatness of God in the world around us.
- FORTITUDE: Enables us to overcome obstacles that stand in our way of loving God and others.
- KNOWLEDGE: Enables us to see God, reflected in all of creation.

Write your story.....

MASS JOURNAL REFLECTION #6

Date: _____ Time: _____
Church: _____

But when he comes, the Spirit of truth, he will Guide you to all truth. He will not speak on his own, but he will speak what he hears, and will declare to you the things that are coming. He will glorify me, because he will take from what is mine and declare it to you. John 16:13-14

What was today's Gospel about? Who was Jesus speaking with and how did they respond?

How would you have responded if you were there?

Pick three images on the church walls and explain their significance in our faith?

What was brought to the altar at the offertory and what are they used for?

Mass concludes with a special blessing from the priest so we can glorify the Lord by our lives. In what ways will you glorify the Lord this week?

MASS JOURNAL REFLECTION #7

Date: _____ Time: _____

Church: _____

God raised this Jesus; of this we are all witnesses. Exalted at the right hand of God, he received the promises of the Holy Spirit from the Father and poured it forth, as you see and hear.

Acts 2:32-33

Who was the main celebrant or presider and what was the message of the gospel today?

How can you apply the gospel to your own life this week?

Was there someone to lead the community in Song? Did they inspire the congregation to sing? Did you sing? If not why not?

Did you hear bells ring during the Mass? If so, when and why did they ring?

What was the main message from the Mass to take home with you?

MASS JOURNAL REFLECTION #8

Date: _____ Time: _____

Church: _____

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.

Luke 4:18-19

What was today's Gospel reading about?

How did the Homily relate to today's readings?

During the Eucharistic Prayer we give thanks and praise to God. What are you grateful for today?

What was the message of the Opening Song and Communion Song? Did people sing along? Did you enjoy the singing?

What colour were the priest's vestments and why?

Of the 14 Stations of the Cross on the wall of the parish, which one stands out the most and why?

MASS JOURNAL REFLECTION #9

Date: _____ Time: _____

Church: _____

For I, the Lord, love what is right, I hate robbery and injustice; I will give them their recompense faithfully, a lasting covenant I will make with them.

Isaiah 61:8

Other than the priest, who else processed in during the Entrance song?

Did they carry anything? What was it?

Which reading from today, including the Psalm Response, could you relate to most, and why?

How did the Homily relate to things going on in your life? (*At home, at school, with friends, in the world, in your local community, at your church*)

MASS JOURNAL REFLECTION #10

Date: _____ Time: _____

Church: _____

"Ah, Lord God!" I said, "I know not how to speak; I am too young." But the Lord answered me, "Say not, 'I am too young.' To whomever I send you, you shall go; whatever I command you, you shall speak. Have no fear before them, because I am with you to deliver you." Then the Lord extended his hand and touched my mouth, saying, "See, I place my words in your mouth!"

Jeremiah 1:6-9

What was today's Psalm Response and what meaning could it have in your life?

At Mass, we stand, we sit and we kneel. Gives examples of when we use these postures and why.

What was today's homily about and what message from it can you take home and apply to your own life?

During the Eucharistic Prayer, the priest holds his hands in the "orans" position. What is the meaning of this gesture?

Holy Spirit, Come

Holy Spirit, come and set upon me the fruits of your Spirit, that I may become the hands, the feet, and the voice of Jesus Christ in the present world.

From this moment I open my heart to you that you may fill me with immeasurable love of God.

By this gift, all who meet me, whether they are lost or have not yet found their way to you, shall come to know and love you.

Lord, my God, you have created me uniquely in your own image that I may always know my incomparable worth.

You took great care in giving me special gifts to serve not only you, Lord, but those around me. This seal, this covenant, this promise is for eternity.

This day I say to you, God, "I choose, I believe, and I will honour the truth and live by it." This journey now laid before me may be difficult at times. While I will try my hardest to never lose sight of you I will rely on the Holy Spirit to guide me back should I stray.

My eternal home is with you, Lord, and through the example of Jesus Christ your Son, Mary the great mother of God, all the angels and saints, as well as the faithful members of the Church including my family and friends who have supported me on this journey, I know I will succeed in serving and loving you. I will never be abandoned.

Your love is clear in the passion and achieved in the resurrection of Jesus.

I will go forth today, a young Confirmed Catholic, and not be afraid to set the world aflame with Christ's love.

Amen!



