

# Parish-Based Sacramental Preparation for Confirmation

Roman Catholic Diocese of Peterborough  
CONFIRMATION INFORMATION NIGHT FOR PARENTS,  
SPONSORS, AND CANDIDATES



## Information Night

# OPENING PRAYER: Come Holy Spirit



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

*V.* Send forth your Spirit, and they shall be created.

*R.* And You shall renew the face of the earth.

*Let us pray.*

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

# GOALS



- Prepare children for the Sacrament of Confirmation
- Further parent engagement in their child's faith development
- Encourage the faith development of parents and families
- Support schools' role in partnership with the family and parish
- Provide consistency for parish-based sacramental preparation programs within the Diocese in alignment with the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (Cccb) publication, *Criteria for Catechesis*

# DIOCESAN PLAN



- **2015-2016:** city parishes piloted First Reconciliation and First Communion sacramental preparation program.
- **2016-2017:** all the other parishes of the diocese will implement a consistent First Reconciliation and First Communion sacramental preparation program.
- **2016- 2017:** city parishes + Assumption pilot Confirmation
- **2017-2018:** Confirmation Pilot Year 2

# CITY PARISHES + ASSUMPTION + St. Michael, Cobourg PILOT YEAR 2



- The city of Peterborough and Assumption parishes are continuing to pilot a parish-based sacramental preparation program for Confirmation in 2017-2018.
- Each week, you will receive an Exit Card and we encourage you to fill it in.
- Feedback helps us to make the sessions better for your children and for you as parents. Feedback will be used in the review of the program.

# PROGRAM CHOICE



# CHOSEN

YOUR JOURNEY TOWARD CONFIRMATION



# LEARNING AT THE PARISH, AT HOME AND AT SCHOOL

- Some of the lessons from CHOSEN will be covered at the parish and some will be assigned for homework.
- A curriculum chart details what the child will be covering at the parish session; what material the child will cover at home and the connections with the Catholic school's Religious Education program.
- Parents are the first educators of their children in the faith.



# Sessions for Candidates

- 10 catechetical sessions over the school year
- To be scheduled by each parish
- Full day of Retreat



# SPONSOR



# CHOSEN

YOUR JOURNEY TOWARD CONFIRMATION

- Sponsor is at least 16 years old,
- s/he is a practicing Catholic,
- s/he is not a parent of the candidate,
- s/he has received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation, and

*Note: Sponsor provides signed personal attestation form and a copy of sponsor's annotated Baptism certificate (including Confirmation date) to the pastor of the parish where the child is being confirmed.*

- s/he is leading a life in harmony with the Roman Catholic faith.



# SPONSOR



**CHOSEN**  
YOUR JOURNEY TOWARD CONFIRMATION



## Personal Attestation Form FOR SPONSOR

NAME OF THE CANDIDATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your willingness to be a Sponsor for Confirmation. Please prayerfully consider the role noting that a Sponsor for Confirmation is a role model in living the Faith for the candidate. The sponsor has her/himself received all three Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation) and is living in harmony with the Roman Catholic faith. The sponsor supports the candidate being confirmed in her/his commitment to embrace the Christian life.

**Sponsor Requirements** (*Taken from the 1983 Code of Canon Law*):

- Is at least 16 years of age;
- Is a practicing Catholic;
- Has received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation;
  - Sponsor is required to provide a Copy of sponsor's annotated Baptism certificate (including Confirmation Date – this may be obtained from the Parish where one was baptized)
- Leads a life in harmony with the Roman Catholic faith;
- Attends the parent sessions when possible;
- Is not a parent of the candidate; and
- Completes and submits this Personal Attestation Form to the pastor.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, attest to fulfilling the requirements as outlined above in accordance with the Code of Canon Law. I further promise to support the candidate in prayer during this time of preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and I will encourage them to live out this sacrament faithfully.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Sponsor

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



# MASS JOURNAL



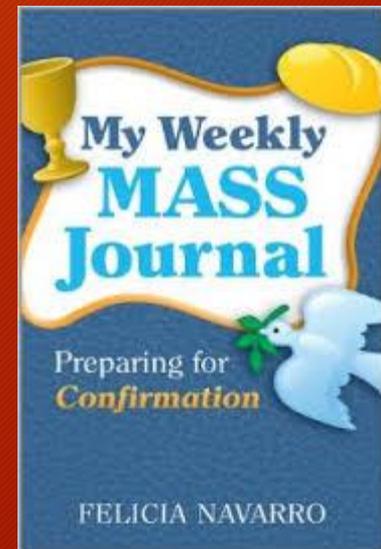
# CHOSEN

YOUR JOURNEY TOWARD CONFIRMATION

- Reflections on 10 Masses

Children preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation are expected to attend Sunday Eucharist in their parishes.

Children preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation will be asked to write five reflections on the Masses they attend before Christmas and five reflections on Masses they attend after Christmas.



# APOSTOLIC SERVICE PROJECT



**CHOSEN**

YOUR JOURNEY TOWARD CONFIRMATION

- Children preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation will undertake an Apostolic Service Project which comprises at least eight hours of service.
- Service in the parish must comprise two hours of that total before Christmas and two hours after Christmas.
- The other four plus hours may be service at school and/or service in the community.
- There is a form for the pastor or designate to approve the proposed Apostolic Service Project before the child begins and a log to track the Apostolic Service project and submit upon completion.

# Day of Retreat and Prayer

- Prayer
- 4 interactive sessions with personal faith witness stories and opportunities for group discussion
- Introduction to Vocation Discernment
- Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- Sacrament of Reconciliation

# Confirmation Saint Project

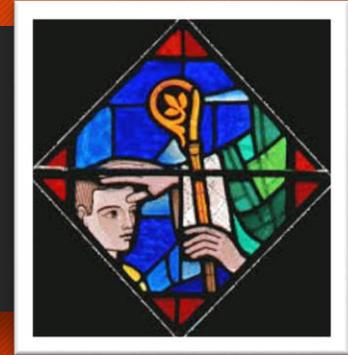
- For this project, candidates will select a saint whose faith witness inspires them to live a life of greater faithfulness. Candidates may select the name of this saint as their Confirmation name or they may choose their baptismal name. The church prefers that the candidate chooses her/his baptismal name. The Confirmation name is the name by which the candidates will be presented to the Bishop at the Sacrament of Confirmation Mass.
- Catechists will encourage candidates to choose a saint who has not been chosen already by a sacramental preparation group member for their project.

# Meeting with the Parish Priest or Designate and Letter to the Bishop



- Your child will have the opportunity to meet with the parish priest or designate to talk about their faith and their reasons for desiring the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- Your child will have reviewed in their fifth catechetical session a guideline for writing a Letter to the Bishop about her/his sacramental preparation for Confirmation.
- This letter will be reviewed at the meeting with the priest and submitted in final, good copy with signature to the parish.
- The parish will send letters to the Bishop.

# Certificate of Confirmation and Mystagogia



- All candidates will wear a red robe or gown on Confirmation Day as an outward sign of receiving the Holy Spirit.
- Pictures may be taken during the celebration in accordance with the general norms for photography (cameras or cell phones) during liturgical celebrations.
- Your child will receive a Certificate of Confirmation after the celebration on Confirmation Day.
- The faith journey continues during the period of mystagogia in the Grade 8 year.

# Aims for the 7 Parent Sessions

Parent Information Night and 6 Parent Sessions

- To assist the children in their spiritual growth;
- To encourage faith discussions at home; and
- To encourage adults within the faith community to engage in discussions about their faith.

# EXIT CARD



- In what ways did this session help you in your faith and your role as a parent supporting your child's faith journey?
- For next time, what would you like to see included in the session to address your questions of faith and help you in your child's faith journey preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?
- Are there other things we need to know to assist you, your child and family?

# CLOSING PRAYER

Almighty and eternal God,  
who has given us new life through water and  
the Holy Spirit,  
send forth from heaven and shower upon us  
the gifts of the Holy Spirit:  
wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude,  
knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord.  
Amen.