



# Confirmation Packet 2021

## **Confirmation Checklist: *Due at Confirmation interview***

**Candidate Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ Attend Mass regularly: 80%
- \_\_\_\_\_ Attend Life Teen Nights regularly: 75%
- \_\_\_\_\_ Copy of Baptismal Certificate (if not baptized at St Timothy)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Confirmation Interview (April)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Confirmation Day Retreat & Rehearsal (Candidate, parent and sponsor)
- \_\_\_\_\_ One Retreat or Virtual Retreat
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday 5:30pm Mass With Parent
- \_\_\_\_\_ One ENCOUNTER! Night

### ***Turn in ASAP:***

- \_\_\_\_\_ Confirmation Behavior Policy
- \_\_\_\_\_ Copy of Baptism Certificate

### ***Turn in: Due by February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021***

- \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor Agreement
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility
- \_\_\_\_\_ Saint Name Form
- \_\_\_\_\_ Service Hours Form

# **Confirmation Requirements**

## **Readiness for Confirmation**

Readiness for celebrating a sacrament cannot be determined by the calendar. The meaning of the rite for those celebrating it, and its total impact on their faith-lives, will be strongly affected by many developmental factors besides age. These factors may include: the psychological maturity of the candidate, the depth of his/her faith development, the degree of his/her commitment to Christ and the faith community, the extent of his/her involvement in community worship and service, and knowledge and understanding of the basic teachings of the Church.

Since Confirmation celebrates the response of the individual to the gift of faith, the primary responsibility for determining when the candidate is ready for the sacrament lies within the individual candidate himself/herself. Because Confirmation is a Sacrament of Initiation, the decision is to be made in dialogue with the representatives of the faith community into which the candidate is being initiated.

Parents may decide for their child that he/she will be instructed for Confirmation; however, the decision to be confirmed rests with the young person. William J. O'Malley, S.J., in his book, *Sacraments: Rites of Passage*, says: To be genuine, Confirmation cannot be a treadmill onto which one is "expected" to climb at a certain age because all of the other boys and girls are doing it. It has to be a reasoned, free choice. In adolescence, young people can be invited to the world of adult responsibilities and commitments. But they can't become adult unless free to make their own commitments. That means they may choose to make no commitments for a while. . . .That also means they may make commitments contrary to the ones that have given meaning to their parents' lives. But love is not love unless it is freely given (175).

## **Attendance Requirements**

80% Mass attendance is expected. We account for this on your honest "good faith". Mass is the source and summit of our lives. It is the most important thing we do as Catholics, especially as we are trying to prepare ourselves to a vital sacrament of our faith. We also expect those not able to attend to watch the Mass online.

80% Attendance on Sunday night on campus Life Teen nights or on our virtual zoom option is expected. We take attendance every Life Teen night. It is within the group that youth are able to discuss, ask questions, and help each other "figure out" their Catholic Faith. If a student becomes ill or must miss a small group meeting, a parent must email their child's mentor leader or Youth Ministry Office before the absence occurs. Because this is an issue of liability, it is imperative that we know where the student is supposed to be. The Diocese of St. Petersburg asks us for a minimum of two years participation in religious education or youth ministry prior to receiving sacraments. Attending Life Teen Nights, a Catholic school, or use of a Catholic homeschool curriculum meet this requirement. In other words, Catholic school or homeschool students are not required to attend Life Teen Nights, but are extremely encouraged to do so in order to build community with other teens and adults at their parish. However, all Catholic School and homeschool students must attend Direct Confirmation Formation Life Teen Nights.

## **Expectations of Those Preparing for Confirmation**

The decision to be confirmed is a serious one, for it indicates that a young person wishes to ratify and accept the Church. In Confirmation, one willingly assumes an active participation in the Church's apostolate or mission. The preparation for receiving the sacrament of Confirmation happens throughout a young person's lifetime. This type of preparation is referred to as "remote" preparation

and includes all the years of catechesis that have led to this moment. “Immediate” preparation refers to catechesis for Confirmation specifically. This Immediate preparation for Confirmation is a process that lasts one year and focuses on preparation for receiving the sacrament.

## **Do Catholic School Students Require the same Preparation?**

Sacramental preparation is only provided through the Parish. Students that attend a Catholic School will not receive any Confirmation Sacramental preparation at their school. However, since they do receive Religious Education they are not required to attend indirect formation 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade Religious Education. They are only required to attend Direct Confirmation Preparation Life Nights on Sundays. They are encouraged, however, to attend every Sunday. A special calendar with Direct Confirmation Preparation Sunday’s is provided for all of our Catholic School Students. Check above “Attendance Requirements” for more details.

## **Baptismal Certificate: *Due ASAP***

If candidate was not baptized at St. Timothy please send a copy of student’s baptismal certificate to our office or via email scan or picture to [christelle.howard@sainttims.org](mailto:christelle.howard@sainttims.org) or mail it to:

St. Timothy ATTN: Youth Ministry

17512 Lakeshore Rd.

Lutz, FL 33558

## **Retreats**

Candidates **must** attend one Youth Ministry Retreat. This year there will be an option for a virtual retreat to be attended. Register ASAP online.

### **High School LIFE TEEN “Discovery” Retreat Saturday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> at Bethany Center 9am-10pm**

Our Confirmation students are required to attend at least one weekend retreat. This is also a good way for students who are not in Confirmation to come and get to know other teens, have lots of fun, and grow in their faith. This year’s Fall Retreat is at the Bethany Center in Lutz. God created the majesty of the universe with us in mind. He created us to be inquisitive explorers as we journey through life, examining ourselves and the world around us in fine detail. This fundamental instinct has sparked our interest in our world and the universe around us. As scientists learn more about the cosmos, we realize that there is infinitely more to know about God, who created it. *Discovery* gives teens an opportunity to assess where they are at on their faith journey, while providing a catalyst to dive deeper into the great unknown that is a relationship with Jesus. Cost is \$50 registration online and due September 20<sup>th</sup>. Registration is on our website.

### **High School LIFE TEEN “Chaos” Retreat Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at Mary Help 9am-10pm**

All High School students and their friends are welcome. God has a history of making order out of chaos. In the beginning, He formed all of creation out of a dark void. In the Psalms, He makes wars cease and there is stillness and peace in Him. In the Gospels, Jesus calmed the wild seas when the disciples were caught and afraid for their lives in a storm. Jesus’ very mission on this earth was to bring the order of redemption out of the chaos of the fall. The goal of this retreat is to invite teens out of their chaos into a relationship with God while encouraging them to allow God to continue His creative work in them and live a life grafted into Him. Cost is \$50 and registration due November 15<sup>th</sup>. Details and registration is on our web site.

### **High School LIFE TEEN “Joyful Noise” Retreat Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at Mary Help 9am-10pm**

All High School students and their friends are welcome. This retreat will look at the power of music as well as the honest prayer given to us in the Psalms. Each session will be built around a different genre of music and will focus on a different Psalm. Using music and the Psalms as a basis, the goal of this retreat is to bring teens into intimate and honest relationship with God through the Sacraments, Scripture, prayer, worship, and community. Cost is \$50 and registration due February 7<sup>th</sup>. Details and registration is on our web site.

### **High School LIFE TEEN “Spoken” Virtual Retreat Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> 10am-8pm**

All High School students and their friends are welcome. Enjoy a virtual event like no other (we know – you’re over Zoom classes). God spoke each of us into existence and desires a personal relationship with us. We can learn to hear His voice by becoming familiar with the way He has communicated throughout salvation history and ultimately through Jesus Christ. *Spoken* leads teens through the Scriptures and offers unique encounters with God through prayer and the sacraments so that they live rooted in His Word. Livestreamed from the St. Timothy Youth Center with popular presenters and powerful prayer and worship music, fun games, a virtual retreat care package sent right to your home and online small group breakouts. It will also include an opportunity for a drive through confession and Mass experience, where students can safely receive these special sacraments at St. Timothy. Cost is \$25 and registration due October 25<sup>th</sup>. Details and registration is on our web site.

### **Confirmation Sponsor Info & Agreement Form: *Due by February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021***

A sponsor must be a practicing, Confirmed Catholic. ***He/she cannot be the candidate’s parent/guardian.*** 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 has been Confirmed themselves for at least a couple years, 18 years of age or older. If student’s confirmation sponsor is a long distance away or cannot be present at the Day Retreat/Rehearsal or at the actual Confirmation ceremony than it is acceptable to have a proxy stand in to either one or both of those events. ***Parents are encouraged not to stand in proxy.***

### **Confirmation Saint Name Form: *Due by February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021***

As we go through our sacramental preparation for Confirmation, Confirmation saints are chosen to be a person we want to be like, as well as someone who can pray for us from heaven. Through the process of canonization, when someone is declared by the Church to be a saint, the Church is proclaiming that this member of the faithful practiced heroic virtue during their life on earth, ‘the Church recognizes the power of the Spirit of holiness within her and sustains the hope of believers by proposing the saints to them as models and intercessors’ (CCC 828). To aspire to be like a saint is the same as trying to imitate an actor, musician, or athlete; a confirmation saint is someone cool who we want to be like! Throughout the Bible, there are many examples of people taking on new names, dating back to the Old Testament. God changed the names of many to reflect the special roles they’d play throughout the history of the Church.

*In Paragraph form*, please answer the questions below regarding the Saint you chose for your Confirmation name.

- 1 What is your given baptismal name? (The name you were given by your parents- First and middle?) Is there a meaning behind the name you were given? I.e. named after a grandparent, Saint, etc.

- 2 What Saint's name have you chosen for your Confirmation name?
- 3 Tell the Saint's story/background using your own words. Please do not plagiarize.
- 4 Explain why you have chosen this particular Saint and what it means to you.
- 5 How do you plan on living out your life post Confirmation? Volunteering, serving in what ministry, and favorite time and place for prayer in your daily routine?

Please list any resources you use for this reflection. 1-2 page double space typed, 12 font.

### **10 Service Hours: Due by February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

They are hours spent sharing your love of Jesus Christ with others who may or may not be as fortunate as you are. It is your opportunity to show that you believe in Jesus and what He taught us by your actions and deeds. It is not enough that you know about your faith. How do you put your faith into practice? How often do you go out of your way to help others?

*In Paragraph form*, please answer question regarding your 10 service hours. This could have been completed at multiple locations and even at home.

- 1 What did you do for your 10 hours of service?
- 2 Include dates, people you helped and how did this impact you.

One to two paragraphs double space typed, 12 font.

### **Candidate Interview: April 2021**

Candidates are asked to complete a 20 minute interview with the Youth Minister, Youth Coordinator or Deacon. The Youth Ministry office will schedule these times in March. In the interview, the candidate will be asked about their intent to be confirmed, as well as, their reasons for making this decision. The interview is a chance for the candidate to ask questions and process experiences from the Confirmation process before they receive the sacrament. The Youth Minister also makes sure that all necessary paperwork and requirements are completed for the candidate at that time. A sign up link will be sent in February.

### **Confirmation Day Retreat/Rehearsal: Sat. April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2021 9am-12:30pm**

This day retreat and rehearsal will give **candidates, sponsors and parents** time to reflect on this beautiful sacrament together, pray for each other, and also give everybody an opportunity to run through the logistics and rehearsal of the Confirmation Mass. This retreat is an integral part for parents/guardians and sponsors to have one last assessment of the candidate that the criterion for readiness has been met for them to receive confirmation. Sponsors that cannot make this day can have a *proxy* stand in for them at the Retreat/Rehearsal. **A proxy cannot be a parent.** This day will include a lite breakfast. Parents, sponsors and friends will be asked to write letters of encouragement, support, guidance and prayer to the candidates for them to receive at this retreat.

### **Confirmation Mass:**

#### ***Date TBD with Bishop Gregory Parkes***

All are invited to attend a special Confirmation Mass. It is recommended that family and friends joining for this special celebration arrive 45min to 1hr early for good seating. Students and sponsors will be given direction as to when to arrive and what to wear at the Confirmation Day Retreat/Rehearsal.

## Confirmation Sponsor Information & Agreement Form



A sponsor must be a practicing, Confirmed Catholic. He/she should not be the candidate's parent/guardian. 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 has been Confirmed themselves for at least a couple years, 18 years of age or older.

### ROLE

1. 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:
2. Accompany the candidate to the April 25<sup>th</sup> Day Retreat and Mass Rehearsal, specifically designed for sponsor/candidate interaction.
3. Present to Candidate a letter of encouragement, support, guidance and prayer at the Day Retreat.
4. Meet with the candidate following their weekend retreat to hear about it.
5. Attend Mass with candidate, as often as possible & discuss the Readings.
6. Meet with the candidate regularly throughout the year to discuss the topics addressed in the Confirmation sessions, even if by phone.
7. Share your faith story with his/her candidate, read Bible together
8. Spend time getting to know the candidate, possibly taking him or her out to a meal or outside activity for conversation that will show a faith full life.
9. Commit to praying together
10. Present the candidate during the Confirmation Rite in the Mass May 5<sup>th</sup> at 7pm
11. Continue to be there for the candidate and lend spiritual support and prayer after the Confirmation ceremony is over. For example a card every year on the anniversary.

**Page 1** is to be kept by Sponsor.

**Page 2** to be turned into Ms. Christelle or office by February 16<sup>th</sup>.

# SPONSOR AGREEMENT FORM

Due: February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

Write Clearly & Neatly.



## Confirmation Candidate

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Birthplace: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Parent/Guardian

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Sponsor

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to Candidate \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Church \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Year and place of Sponsor's Confirmation \_\_\_\_\_

## Sponsor's Agreement

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 have read. I agree to attend the required day retreat with my candidate, unless not possible due to distance or work schedule – in which case a family member or other 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 Parent Sponsor/Candidate Day Retreat/Rehearsal, Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup> 9am-12:30pm.
- Sponsors need to be present at the Confirmation ceremony
- Sponsors need to meet monthly with their candidate. Even if it is via phone, online – if miles away – praying with them and checking in with their Candidates.

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Sponsor

\_\_\_\_\_

Date



## Confirmation Sponsor: Certificate of Eligibility

To be chosen as Sponsor for Confirmation is a great honor that carries with it great responsibility, namely, to instruct, to encourage and to inspire the newly baptized Catholic to live an authentic Christian life. Therefore, in accordance with the Code of Canon Law (canons 872, 874, 892, and 893), the faith community of St Timothy Parish in Lutz, Florida stipulates that a person who aspires to be a Sponsor for Confirmation:

1. Be a person of faith, suitable for this role, selected by the candidate or his/her family, and have the intention of fulfilling the responsibility of sponsor, namely, to assist the young Christian in living his/her Christian life.
2. Be a baptized practicing Catholic who lives his/her faith in word and deed, has been confirmed, attends Mass regularly, receives the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ frequently, and celebrates the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least once a year.
3. Be at least 16 years of age, unless the parish priest believes there is a just reason for an exception.

As sponsor for: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Child/Youth to be confirmed)

I affirm my faith in Jesus Christ and attest that I live that faith in daily prayer and regular participation in Sunday Eucharist. I have been baptized and confirmed in the Catholic Church and frequently receive the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. I understand the responsibility I am undertaking, and I will do all in my power to assist in the Christian Catholic formation of the person I intend to sponsor by the Christian Catholic example of my own life, by my prayers for him/her, and by ensuring his/her continued growth in living and learning the Catholic Faith.

Yes, I am in a valid Catholic Sacramental marriage...initial here \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Sponsor:** \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Sponsor (*Print*): \_\_\_\_\_

Parish of Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

City & State of Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Office Only:**

I testify that the person whose name appears above:

\_\_\_\_\_ is registered at  
\_\_\_\_\_ Parish and that I have witnessed  
him/her sign the above affirmation.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Confirmation Saint Name Form

Due: February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021.

Write Clearly & Neatly.



1. What is your given baptismal name? (The name you were given by your parents- First and middle?)

First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

2. Is there a meaning behind the name you were given? I.e. named after a grandparent, Saint, etc.

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3. What Saint's name have you chosen for your Confirmation name?

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4. Tell the Saint's story/background using your own words. Please do not plagiarize.

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5. Explain why you have chosen this particular Saint and what it means to you.

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Please list any resources you use for this reflection: \_\_\_\_\_

# Confirmation Service Hours Form

Due: February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021

Write Clearly & Neatly



## WHAT ARE SERVICE HOURS?

They are hours spent sharing your love of Jesus Christ with others who may or may not be as fortunate as you are. It is your opportunity to show that you believe in Jesus and what He taught us by your actions and deeds.

## WHY DO WE HAVE TO?

Because Jesus told us to in Matthew 25:40 -And the king will say to them in reply, "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me."

The service is an answer to the Gospel challenge to love our neighbor as Jesus loves us. Jesus gave us many examples of loving service.

## WHY DO WE DO THEM?

Because, like Jesus, we must love our neighbor and trust that God will always be there for us. To have the promise of salvation fulfilled in us, we must choose to live our faith in both word and action. James 2:14-17 -What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works. Can the faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well," but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

## WHY DO WE DO IT FOR CONFIRMATION?

Because it is not enough that you know about your faith. How do you put your faith into practice? How often do you go out of your way to help others? Read the Beatitudes in Matthew 5:3-12.

## HOW DO I START?

Think about what some of your God-given talents are and then list ways that those talents can help in the church or community. Read 1 Corinthians 12:1-11. Ask God for guidance. He won't let you down. Open your heart and your mind to His help. Your service hours should be special and not something already being done as a part of your daily routine.

## WHAT DO I DO?

Before making your decision and commitment: Pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance. Talk to your parents and sponsor to discuss ideas. Find out the needs of people in your neighborhood, parish, school or community. Look at opportunities provided by Life Teen. Make phone calls and ask what you can do to help. Schedule yourself to help. Prepare yourself for the service by praying and asking for God's help. (Some of your projects might be uncomfortable for you. Ask God to give you patience and compassion.

1. What did you do for your 10 hours of service? Include dates, people you helped and how did this impact you. Please include at least 2 paragraphs neatly written.

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## **Confirmation Behavior Policy**

**Due: ASAP**

When engaging in formal or informal activities, functions and programs, youth are expected to behave appropriately at all times, respecting the rights of others.”

1. No Cell phone or any electronics use during the prayer time, large group announcements and small group sharing. We all need to disconnect from electronics to focus on God’s message and respect speakers, their peer and other important information being delivered.
2. Once youth have entered the campus buildings- no youth leaves early without first telling the mentors or youth ministers at the start of the night and then make an acknowledgement at time of departure. If a teen leaves early and no notification is given, then the adult team will need to call parents to make sure of the safety of their youth.
3. Driving on the campus by Youth and Parents must be very slow and careful. We do have youth moving from Youth Center and Parish Center during Youth Nights.

Parent Adult/Guardian Name

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Print Student Name

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Signature of Parent Adult/Guardian

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Date

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Signature of Student

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Date

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