



October, 2018

To: All parents of students in the Confirmation Class
From: Kevin Kimmel, Coordinator of Children's Religious Education
Re: Confirmation

Confirmation will be administered at St. Jane Parish on Thursday, March 21st at 4:30 p.m. by Bishop Alfred Schlert. Girl students will meet in the Monsignor Gobitas Meeting Room (located downstairs at the church) and the boys will meet in the Chapel by 4:00 p.m. Sponsors report directly to their seats.

I: RECEPTION

A reception for all students, parents and sponsors will immediately follow the ceremony. The ceremony itself usually lasts 1½ to 2 hours.

II: REHEARSAL

A rehearsal for all students and sponsors will take place on Monday, March 18th from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the church [SNOW DATE: Tuesday, March 19th from 6:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.]. **All must attend.** (If a sponsor, because of distance or some other circumstance cannot be present, another adult must be present at the rehearsal).

III: SPONSOR

Each student is required to have a sponsor. The sponsor can be of either gender. A sponsor must be at least 16 years of age, have been confirmed themselves and practicing his/her faith. If the sponsor is married, they must be in a valid marriage in the Church. Sponsors may not be a parent of the one to be confirmed, but godparents are encouraged to continue their faith role as sponsor. If the sponsor does not belong to St. Jane's Church, he/she must request a Certificate of Eligibility from the church they attend. **These certificates are due by October 31st, 2018.** Certificates should be sent to the Religious Education Office; 4049 Hartley Avenue; Easton, PA 18045.

IV: REQUIRED QUESTIONS

The Bishop's Confirmation Questions from the Catechism are to be **studied** and **memorized** by each candidate in the class. These questions will be given to the students in September. Questions are on the last page of this document.

V: 8TH GRADE CONFIRMATION PARENT SESSIONS:

1st Parent Session (*Parents only): November 12th, 2018 7:00p.m. @ Chapel on Hartley Ave.

Make-up: Tuesday, November 13th 7:00p.m. MGMR @ 4049 Hartley Avenue

**Msgr. Radocha will present the FIRST Parent Session for Confirmation.
If you have attended Msgr. Radocha's session in the past you do not need to attend this FIRST session.**

***A PARENT MUST ATTEND THE SECOND SESSION OR A MAKE-UP:**

2nd Parent Session (*Parents Only): November 29th, 2018 7:00p.m. @ Church

Make-up: Monday, December 3rd 7:00p.m. Chapel @ 4049 Hartley Avenue

VI: RETREAT DAY

CCD Confirmation Retreat - Sunday, January 6th @ St. Jane Church from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

[Snow Date – January 13th @ St. Jane Church from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.]

St. Jane School 8th grade student retreat will occur during a school day. The date of the retreat has not been scheduled yet.

VII: FORMS

***Some of these forms are at the end of this parent letter.**

The following forms must be sent to the Religious Education Office on or before the dates below. Send these forms to the school or parish office.

1. Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility from sponsor's parish is **due by October 31st.**
2. Final copy of Bishop Schlert's letter.
St. Jane CCD **due date is November 30th.**
This letter should be typed, double spaced, and edited carefully.
Please remember to sign your letter in ink.
St. Jane School students will have a different due date.

Confirmation Name Project **due date is November 30th for 8th Grade CCD.**
St. Jane School students will have a different due date.

- 3.
4. Witness Experience (Service) Hours: Service Logs are due in the Religious Education Office on or before the end of January 2019.
5. Gown order form due **no later than January 6th, 2019.**

*All Confirmation students must have a gown, see next page for order form.

VIII: DRESS CODE

We have been given permission for the Confirmation Candidates to wear Confirmation Robes. Girls will be wearing white robes and boys will be wearing red robes.

Every Confirmation candidate will wear a gown.

The cost of a remembrance gown is \$20.00.

Gowns must be ordered and paid for by January 6th, 2019. No gowns will be ordered after this date.

GIRLS

Girls are asked to wear a dress or skirt and blouse under their white robe. Shoes should be reasonable in design and height. (no sandals, flip-flops or clogs....and hair off of the forehead).

BOYS

Boys are to wear a shirt, tie and dress slacks (such as Dockers...) under their red robes. Dress shoes and socks. Hair must be neat, and off of the forehead.



Please return the bottom portion along with your payment

CANDIDATE NAME _____

Male

Female

St. Jane's School _____ **8th Grade PREP** _____

HEIGHT _____

PAYMENT \$20.00 _____ **ENCLOSED.**

(Please make checks payable to St. Jane's Church.)

**FORM MUST BE RETURNED BY JANUARY 6th, 2019.
NO GOWNS WILL BE ORDERED AFTER THIS DATE.**

Name _____

Outline Bishop's Letter

*Letters must be typed and double spaced.

Salutation: Dear Bishop Schlert,

Paragraph 1 Introduction (Who you are; your parish; tell something about yourself)

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

I am writing to ask you to confirm me as a member of the Roman Catholic Church.

Paragraph 2 Why receive the sacrament?

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

Paragraph 3 How have you prepared (include description of service)

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

Paragraph 4 Name you chose and why (sponsor & why you asked this person to sponsor you)

- 1. _____
- 2. _____

Paragraph 5 How the gifts of the Holy Spirit will help you bear witness to the gospel of Jesus
(Name 2 gifts and how they will help you)

- 1. _____
- 2. _____

Sincerely,
STUDENT'S SIGNATURE
Student's Printed Name

Dear Sponsor,

As you know, your responsibility as a sponsor for a Confirmation Candidate is to share your faith and to help your candidate mature in the Catholic faith. We encourage you to help your candidate in any way that you can. We ask that you take an interest in what is being taught and the projects that your candidate will be completing. I am sure that your suggestions, support and encouragement will be appreciated.

Please fill out the bottom section of this form and return it with your certificate of eligibility to the Religious Education Office by **October 31, 2018**. The certificate of eligibility can be acquired at the sponsor's home parish.

God Bless You,
Kevin Kimmel

The Code of Canon Law states that it is desirable that one of the sponsors/godparents for Baptism also undertake the role of sponsor at Confirmation. The following conditions also apply:

- The sponsor should be at least sixteen years of age.
- The sponsor should be fully initiated into the Church (*Confirmed*).
- The sponsor should be a practicing Catholic in good standing (*i.e. regular Mass attendance, married in the Catholic Church by a priest*).
- Neither of the parents of the candidate should be considered as a possible sponsor.
- A person of either sex may stand for either a boy or a girl.
- A baptized non-Catholic **may not** act as a sponsor.

Confirmation Candidate _____

Name of Sponsor _____

Parish of Sponsor _____

Parish Address _____

Each **SPONSOR** must fill out this form and return it with a **CERTIFICATE of ELIGIBILITY**.

Office of Religious Education
4049 Hartley Ave.
Easton, PA
18045

DIOCESE OF ALLENTOWN

The Bishop's Confirmation Questions

1) WHAT ARE THE SACRAMENTS?

The Sacraments are sacred signs through which Jesus gives us His Spirit and makes us holy and pleasing to Him by grace.

2) HOW MANY SACRAMENTS ARE THERE?

There are seven sacraments.

3) WHAT ARE THE NAMES OF THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS?

The seven sacraments are: Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders and Matrimony.

WHAT IS CONFIRMATION?

Confirmation is the sacrament in which the Holy Spirit comes to us in a special way to join us more closely to Jesus and His church and to seal and strengthen us as Christ's witnesses.

WHAT IS CHRISM?

Chrism is a blessed mixture of oil and balm used during the baptismal ceremony, in Confirmation, during the ordination of priests and bishops, and in the consecration of churches, altars, and other things.

WHAT ARE THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT?

The gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, right judgment (or counsel), courage (or fortitude), knowledge, reverent love (or piety) and holy fear.

WHO IS THE MINISTER OF CONFIRMATION?

The Bishop is the ordinary minister of Confirmation.

8) HOW IS CONFIRMATION GIVEN?

The bishop extends his hands over the person and anoints the forehead in the form of a cross while saying: "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit." The person being confirmed answers, "Amen," meaning, "Let it be so." The bishop says "Peace be with you." The person being confirmed answers, "And with your Spirit." The Gift is the Holy Spirit Himself. He is the Gift of the Father and the Son to us.

9) WHAT ARE THE EFFECTS OF CONFIRMATION?

The effects of Confirmation are: an increase of sanctifying grace, the gift of a special sacramental grace and the imprint of a lasting character on the soul.

***ALL ANSWERS MUST BE MEMORIZED IN THE EXACT ORDER THEY ARE IN.**