

TEEN PREPARATION CHECKLIST

Keep track of when you turn papers in to Religious Education.

Date attended or turned in:

- _____ Baptismal Certificate
- _____ Sponsor/Candidate/Parent Meeting and Vocations
Workshop during class Jan 23, 2011, 6:30 pm
- _____ Candidate Application
- _____ Letter of Intent
- _____ Sponsor Affidavit
- _____ Faith Conversations
- _____ Saint Report and Research Worksheet
- _____ Ministry Project (Dec 30th 1:00pm & Jan 2nd (10 -
4:30pm) at Our Lady of Angels (Christmas around the World)
- _____ Confirmation Retreat; October 17, 2010; 10am-8pm
- _____ Final Exam
- _____ Consistent Class Attendance
- _____ Consistent MASS Attendance
- _____ Confirmation Rehearsal (Apr 17, 6:30 pm in church)

- _____ CONFIRMATION MASS (Apr 23, 2011, 8:00 pm in
church)

*Office of Religious Education
Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church
13752 Mary's Way, Woodbridge, Virginia 22191
www.ourladyskids.org
(703) 494-3696 FAX (703) 494-3117*

Dear Parents of Confirmation Candidate:

Greetings in Our Lord Jesus Christ!

The clergy and staff of Our Lady of Angels Catholic Church welcome you and your child to this program of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation and or Baptism and Communion. Your child now begins the final immediate preparation for receiving these sacraments. Your involvement is essential to your child's preparation. We have prepared this booklet so that you will understand what we require from your child and from you.

Our role is to assist you in your role of teaching your child the faith. The purpose of the classes, meetings, retreat and other projects is to further enlighten these young people about their faith and to encourage them to make their faith an essential and integral part of their whole life. If at any time you have questions about this preparation program, please contact us at the Religious Education Office.

The Church and the world are very much in need of zealous followers of Jesus Christ. Our prayer is that the faith of these young people will be so enkindled with the power of the Holy Spirit, that they will go forth with the courage of the Apostles to lead others to the joyful and saving knowledge of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. May God bless you and your families.

*Come! O Holy Spirit
Fill the hearts of your Faithful
and enkindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your spirit, O Lord, and they shall be created,
and You shall renew the face of the earth.
O God, you did instruct the Hearts of the faithful
by the Light of the Holy Spirit.
Grant that in the same spirit we may be truly wise,
and ever rejoice in his consolation,
Through Christ our Lord, Amen.*

In Christ,
The Religious Education Staff

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Parental Involvement

Parents' involvement in preparation for this Sacrament is VITAL. Please make every effort to remind, encourage and insist that your child fulfill THEIR SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION and HAND IN ALL OF THEIR CONFIRMATION REQUIREMENTS ON TIME. Frequent confession as a family is also strongly recommended. Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children. They bear witness to this responsibility by giving good example to them.

Length of the Confirmation Program

A period of preparation of one year is recommended in this program. The Pastor or the Director of Religious Education may adjust the time of preparation according to the legitimate needs of the candidate.

Attendance Policy (Sacramental Prep Classes)

Attendance is mandatory for all students in sacrament preparation classes. Students preparing for a sacrament who have three or more unexcused absences will not be recommended to the Pastor for the respective sacraments.

Sacred Triduum

The final days of Lent, leading up to Easter, are the most holy days of the Liturgical Year, as we celebrate and participate in the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Each candidate should attend the Holy Thursday Mass, the Good Friday Liturgy, and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday when they will receive the sacraments if properly prepared and recommended. The Church centers the rest of the year's liturgies on these three days.

CONFIRMATION REQUIREMENT INFORMATION

MINISTRY PROJECT (Dec 30th 2010 and Jan 2 2011)

Every candidate for confirmation must show a willingness to share in the mission of the Church in spreading the Gospel and in serving the world. This is in imitation of Christ who came not to be served, but to serve and to give his life for the redemption of souls.

Our Lady of Angels will require service from each candidate. This service will take the form of a class project on December 30th 2010, and January 2, 2011 here at Our Lady of Angels. The confirmation candidates will help to set up and clean up the parish center hall for the Christmas around the World celebration. The participants are to dress appropriately for work.

CANDIDATE APPLICATION (yellow form) (due by January 09, 2011)

Students must fill out the Confirmation Candidate Application. The information will be used for official Confirmation records. A parent and candidate must sign the application agreeing to fulfill the requirements in preparation for receiving the sacrament of Confirmation.

BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE (due by January 09, 2011)

The Church requires proof of Baptism for Confirmation and First Communion. A copy of each candidate's baptismal certificate must be on file in the Religious Ed Office. It is imperative that the **address** of the church where your child was baptized be on the certificate. After Confirmation we will update our records and send the Confirmation information to the parish where your child was baptized.

If you do not have a copy of your child's baptismal certificate, you will need to request a copy from the parish where he/she was baptized. If your child was baptized through the Military Ordinariate you may write or call them at the address below to obtain a copy.

Archdiocese for the Military Services
United States of America
P.O. Box 4469
Washington, D.C. 20017-0469
Phone: 202-719-3605 FAX: 202-269-9022

via e-mail <http://www.milarch.org/sacramental/index.html>

If your child was baptized at Our Lady of Angels, you still need to provide a copy of the baptismal certificate **so that your child's Confirmation can be recorded properly.**

If your child was baptized outside of the United States the address of the church of baptism must be provided by the parents.

If the baptismal certificate is neither in English nor Spanish, a copy of the translation must accompany the certificate.

LETTER OF INTENT (gold form) (due by Jan 09, 2011)

The Letter of Intent is a promise to follow the Precepts of the Church both now and after Confirmation, including the continued study of the faith, and faithful attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. The candidate and his/her parent must sign the Letter of Intent.

THE SPONSOR PROGRAM

Candidates for Confirmation, as for Baptism fittingly seek the spiritual help of a sponsor. To emphasize the unity of the two sacraments, it is appropriate (but not necessary), that this be one of the baptismal godparents. Sponsors take on a lifelong commitment to help their candidate fulfill the obligation for this sacrament.

A sponsor must:

Be 16 years of age or older.

Be a practicing Catholic.

Have received all three Sacraments of Catholic Initiation: *Baptism, Communion, & Confirmation*

Be eligible to act as a sponsor in accordance with Church law.

Receive Communion at the Confirmation Mass.

PRAY FOR YOUR CANDIDATE CONTINUALLY

SPONSOR AFFIDAVIT (green form) (due Jan 09, 2011)

The sponsor affidavit form must be completed by the sponsor. The form must be signed by the sponsor's Pastor and contain the Parish Seal.

PROXY (In lieu of sponsor)

In the event that the sponsor cannot attend the Confirmation ceremony in person, a proxy, explicitly designated by the sponsor, who fulfills the sponsor qualifications, may act in place of the sponsor. A parent may be a proxy; however, **a candidate's parent may not be the sponsor.** If the Confirmation candidate has a proxy, a SPONSOR AFFIDAVIT must be submitted for both sponsor and proxy.

CONFIRMATION NAME (tan form)

Part of the rite of confirmation is the naming of the candidate by the Celebrant of the Sacrament. Each candidate has the liberty of choosing his or her confirmation name, in keeping with the nature of the sacrament as granting the candidate adult status in the Church. The candidate may choose a new name, or keep the name given at baptism. Either way, the name **MUST** be that of a saint of the Catholic Church. Please pray and do serious research in determining your saint. This will be your patron saint forever! The confirmation name is provided on the saint report research worksheet.

SAINT REPORT RESEARCH WORKSHEET (tan form) (due by Jan 16th 2011)

Each candidate must submit a completed saint report research worksheet. This worksheet is included in the red confirmation folder. The form is for gathering information about your saint. Your saint report worksheet must be turned into the religious education office. The office has many books and other information on the saints of the Church.

FAITH CONVERSATIONS (purple form) (due Jan 16, 2011)

Each candidate must meet with his or her sponsor at least two times before confirmation. We offer questions for the sponsor and the candidate to discuss during these meetings. These can be found in the red confirmation folder. If a sponsor lives out of town, the questions may be discussed over the phone or via email. The questions must be completed and turned into the Religious Education office by the due date scheduled.

MARRIAGE/VOCATION WORKSHOP (January 23, 2011 6:30-8:00 pm)

This is a workshop on vocations to the priesthood/religious life and to marriage. In order to see the various possibilities of living out one's confirmation within the life of the Church, it is necessary to learn what the Church understands about vocation.

RETREAT (October 17, 2010; from 10:00am – 8:00 pm)

Each candidate must participate in the Youth Rally as part of their Confirmation retreat. This is a very important part of the spiritual preparation for Confirmation.

FINAL EXAM

Religious Ed students will take the exam during class time. See the Study Guide for information that will appear on the exam.

PENANCE

One should receive the sacrament of Penance in order to be cleansed for the gift of the Holy Spirit. More intense prayer should prepare one to receive the strength and graces of the Holy Spirit with docility and readiness to act. (Catechism of the Catholic Church: 1310)

CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL (Palm Sunday, April 17, 2011 at 6:30 pm in the Church) All candidates and their sponsor or proxy must attend the rehearsal.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION (April 23, 2011 at 8:00 pm)

The Pastor will administer the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation) at a special Easter Vigil Mass on Holy Saturday. A reception will follow in the Hall. IF on the day of Confirmation the candidate is SICK, please call our office and we will discuss make-up options.

APPROPRIATE CLOTHES FOR YOUNG WOMEN

Floor or knee length dress or skirt. Please dress modestly. Blouse or dress should cover the chest and back. No Spaghetti straps.

APPROPRIATE CLOTHES FOR YOUNG MEN

Dress pants, (no jeans) dress shirt (long or short sleeve), tie, dark dress shoes. A suit is appropriate but not necessary.

CONFIRMATION ROBES

The Arlington Diocese requires confirmation robes to be worn during the Confirmation Mass. These robes are lent to the confirmandi by Our Lady of Angels parish, and returned after the reception. (It will be up to the Pastor if they will be required for the Easter Vigil.)

CONTACT INFORMATION

Religious Education Office: 703-494-3696

Email: religioused@olacc.org

www.ourladyskids.org

FAX: 703-494-3117

Please do not wait until the last week to finish your projects.

A deadline will be established and will be strictly enforced.

This will ensure the staff has time to coordinate the projects and ceremony.

Thank you for your cooperation.

(09/2010)