

Homeschool Preparation for Confirmation at St. Peter Parish

The Sacrament of Confirmation in today's practice is the last of the Sacraments of Initiation. Preparation for any Sacrament is important. The one who receives any Sacrament should understand it, desire it, and be disposed to its sanctifying grace. It is primarily the duty of parents (as well as the duty of pastors) to take care that children who have reached the use of reason are prepared properly for the first reception of Sacraments. At St. Peter Parish, we affirm that parents are the primary educators of their children. While we offer various catechetical opportunities to support this duty of parents, it is ideal that they prepare their children for Sacraments. Even so, before Sacraments are conferred, the Pastor of a parish has the responsibility to exercise vigilance to assess the readiness of candidates for Sacraments.

The age the Sacrament of Confirmation is given is determined by the Diocesan Bishop in each diocese. In the Archdiocese of Omaha, this age is 13 years old. However, if persons younger than 13 can show understanding, desire, and the proper disposition toward Confirmation, a request can be made through the Pastor to the Archbishop to offer Confirmation at an earlier age but not younger than seven years of age (unless in danger of death).

Timeline and Requirements for Homeschool Preparation for Confirmation

By October 1 all those who expect to be confirmed in the spring at St. Peter Parish must be registered with the St. Peter Catechism Office. There is a registration form online and in this packet.

By January 31 an interview must be scheduled with Fr. Broheimer to take place in the month of February. These interviews may happen earlier but absolutely not later than February. To schedule the interview, call the Parish Office 402-341-4560. The study guide to the Confirmation interview and a sponsor form can be found in this packet or on the parish website.

Before March 1, at the interview and no later the following must be given to Fr. Broheimer. No one is assured Confirmation unless these have been given to Fr. Broheimer at the interview.

1. **A letter** addressed to Archbishop Lucas asking to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and why the candidate wants to receive it.
2. **A short biography of the Saint** name chosen for Confirmation. It is a custom in the Church to take a new name whenever there is a new state in life such as when one takes vows in a religious community or is elected Pope; taking a Saint's name at Confirmation is a way of showing a new life with this Sacrament. That said, using a Saint's name for Confirmation is not mandatory.
3. **The sponsor form.** There may only be one sponsor for Confirmation. It must be a person who has received Baptism, Confirmation, and First Communion, and is a practicing Catholic. The pastor of the sponsor must verify this information on the form.
4. If the candidate was not baptized at St. Peter, you must supply a **baptismal certificate**.

The date of the Confirmation Mass is typically determined by the Archbishop's Office, however, due to his schedule he sometimes delegates Confirmation to Pastors or Deans. **This year Confirmation will be celebrated on _____.** The Candidates for Confirmation typically wear white for the Mass, a white dress for girls and a white shirt for the boys. White clothing is not mandatory, however.

For non-parishioners: The pastor of St. Peter Parish has no right or responsibility to assure the preparation of a candidate or the reception of Confirmation to one who is not actually a parishioner. This means families and candidates who do not attend St. Peter at least three of four weeks in a month are not considered to be parishioners of St. Peter if they do not live within the territorial boundaries of the parish. Simply registering with the parish does not make one an actual parishioner. For non-parishioners to be confirmed at St. Peter, a letter from the candidate's pastor stating he gives his permission for the candidate to receive Confirmation at St. Peter and he attests that the candidate is prepared to receive this Sacrament. The registration must still be completed by October 1, and a baptismal certificate, sponsor form, letter to the Archbishop, Saint's biography must all be submitted by March 1. The interview is not necessary because the pastor of the candidate's parish will testify that the candidate is prepared and disposed. Please contact catechism.sp@gmail.com with any questions you may have.

Registration for Sacraments – Spring (Family)

Family Name _____

Address

- Street _____
- City, State, Zip _____
- Home Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

Registered at St. Peter's Parish? Yes No – Name of Parish _____

Father's Name _____

- Cell Phone Number _____

Mother's Name (Maiden Name) _____

- Cell Phone Number _____

List of Children's Full Names Receiving a Sacrament

(You must fill out a child form for each one listed.)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Parent's Responsibilities

- Provide documentation of sacraments and sponsor information (needed for Confirmation)
- Attend practice and confession for the sacrament. Dates and times will be emailed to those registered and posted in the church bulletin.

Emergency Contact

- Name _____
- Relationship to Child _____
- Phone Number _____

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

***** **Office Information** *****

Family Number _____ Assigned by Parish

Registration for a Sacrament (Individual Child)

Child's Full Name: _____

First

Middle

Last

- Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____
- Male _____ Female _____
- Is child baptized? Yes No
 - If yes Date of Baptism _____
 - Church _____ City _____ State _____
 - Do we have a copy of the baptismal certificate? Yes No

Note: A certificate of baptism MUST be provided in the fall if child is receiving

✓ which Sacrament you are requesting for your child

Confession / First Holy Communion

Confirmation

Has child received First Holy Communion Yes No

If Yes:

Date of First Holy Communion: _____

Church _____ City _____ State _____

Child's Responsibilities

- Confirmation
 - Interviews with Father Broheimer will be scheduled by **January 31st** with the parish office and completed by **February 28th**.
 - Letter to the Archbishop – Due by **March 1st**
 - Saint name and why he/she was chosen
 - Why he/she wants to be confirmed
 - Biography on Saint Chosen and Sponsor form signed by priest for sponsor's parish – **Due by March 1st**
 - Participate in practice / rehearsal with sponsor
- Confession
 - Interview with Father Broheimer must be scheduled with the parish office no later than **October 31st** and completed in **November**.
- First Holy Communion
 - Successfully complete First Holy Communion test held on Wednesday, March 6th at 5:30pm or Saturday, March 9th at 10:30am.
 - Participate in practice / rehearsal and Confession
 - First Communion will be either **April 13th at 5:00pm** or **April 14th at 9:30am**. Parents will inform catechism office by **March 18th** on what day their child will receive.

CONFIRMATION INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

It is not preferred that the student preparing for Confirmation simply memorize these answers. It is most important to have a general understanding of the topics listed here and an ability to talk about them with Father.

MEMORIZED PRAYERS

- **Apostles' Creed**
- **Our Father**
- **Hail Mary**
- **Glory Be**
- **Hail Holy Queen**
- **The 20 Mysteries of the Rosary**

TRINITY

- **Who made the whole world?** God
- **How many gods are there?** One
- **How many persons in that one God?** Three
- **What are these Divine Persons names?** The Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit

SOTERIOLOGY

- **Which one of the Divine Persons became a human being?** The Son
- **What do we call that event or process by which God became man?** The Incarnation
- **What do we call Him?** Jesus
- **What did Jesus do for us?** He died for us to save us from sin and eternal death and to reveal the love of the Father

MORALITY

- **What is sin?** A word, act or desire contrary to the eternal Law of God.
- **What was the original sin?** The sin of Adam and Eve when they disobeyed God and ate from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil
- **What is the difference between mortal and venial sin?** Mortal sins are grave matter that are committed with full knowledge and deliberate consent that deprive of us sanctifying grace and, if unrepented, lead us to hell. Venial sins are essentially different from a mortal sin and either its matter is less serious or it lacks full knowledge and consent.
- **List the Ten Commandments:**
 1. I am the LORD your God: you shall not have strange Gods before me.
 2. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.
 3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's day.
 4. Honor your father and your mother.
 5. You shall not kill.
 6. You shall not commit adultery.
 7. You shall not steal.
 8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
 9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.
 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.
- **What are the Beatitudes (Mt. 5:3-10)?**
 1. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
 2. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
 3. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
 4. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
 5. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.
 6. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
 7. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
 8. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

- **What are the precepts of the Church?**
 1. You shall attend Mass on Sundays and on holy days of obligation.
 2. You shall confess your sins at least once a year.
 3. You shall humbly receive your Creator in Holy Communion at least during the Easter season.
 4. You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church.
 5. You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church.
- **What are the Holy Days of Obligation in the United States?**
 1. Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8th)
 2. Christmas or Nativity of the Lord (Dec. 25th)
 3. Mary, Mother of God (Jan. 1st)
 4. Ascension Thursday (40th day after Easter)
 5. Assumption (Aug. 15th)
 6. All Saints Day (Nov. 1st)

ECCLESIOLOGY

- **On what day did Jesus definitively send the Holy Spirit?** On Pentecost, the 50th day after Easter
- **What are the four marks of the Catholic Church? One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic. What is the meaning of each of the four marks?**
 1. **One** because the Church is inseparable, shares one faith and one baptism, and is the one Mystical Body of Christ
 2. **Holy** because the Church is the Mystical Body of Christ which is holy, because the founder is holy, and because the Lord pours out grace through the Church
 3. **Catholic** because the Church is universal and open to all peoples of every time and place
 4. **Apostolic** because the Church is founded on the Apostles and the transmission of the Faith continues through their successors the bishops and because the Church has an apostolic or missionary calling to go out to all the world

SACRAMENTS

- **What is the definition of a Sacrament?** A Sacrament is a visible sign instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church to give grace.
- **List the seven Sacraments.** Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders and Matrimony
- **What are the form and the matter of Sacraments?** The form of the Sacraments is the words used. The matter is the substance of the Sacrament (or the “stuff” of the Sacrament) and how it is used. In Baptism the form is the words, “I baptize you in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” The matter or substance is the water which is poured or into which the person is immersed.

CONFIRMATION the most important section – study this first and best

- **What is Confirmation? [must be answered in full]**
 - Confirmation is a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit like that of Pentecost.
 - This outpouring impresses on the soul an indelible character and produces a growth in the grace of Baptism.
 - It roots the recipient more deeply in divine sonship, binds him more firmly to Christ and to the Church and reinvigorates the gifts of the Holy Spirit in his soul.
 - It gives a special strength to witness to the Christian faith.
- **Who instituted Confirmation? Jesus.**
- **What are the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit (Isaiah 11:2)?**
 1. Wisdom
 2. Knowledge
 3. Understanding
 4. Counsel
 5. Fortitude
 6. Piety
 7. Fear of the Lord (Awe or Respect of God)
- **What are the 12 Fruits of the Holy Spirit?**

1. Love	7. Generosity
2. Joy	8. Faithfulness
3. Peace	9. Gentleness
4. Patience	10. Self-control
5. Kindness	11. Modesty
6. Goodness	12. Chastity
- **What is the form and matter of the Sacrament of Confirmation?**

Form (the words): “**Name**, be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.”
Matter (substance or “stuff” and how it’s used): the anointing with Sacred Chrism oil on the forehead
- **What oil is used in Confirmation?** Sacred Chrism is oil mixed with balsam and consecrated by the bishop; it is used in Confirmation, Holy Orders, consecration of altars and churches
- **Who is the ordinary minister of Confirmation?** The ordinary minister of Confirmation in the Latin Rite is the bishop. Priests may be delegated to confer this Sacrament under special circumstances.

PERSONAL

- **Which saint did you choose for your Confirmation name and why?**
- **Why do you want to be confirmed?**

St. Peter Catholic Church – 709 S 28th St – Omaha, NE 68105 – 402-341-4560
Sponsor Form for Baptism or Confirmation

Name of the person to be baptized or confirmed: _____

For Confirmation only one sponsor is allowed of either gender. For Baptism one sponsor, male or female, is sufficient, but there may be two, but in this case one of each gender. Sponsors must be at least 16 years of age, Roman Catholic, confirmed, and have received the Eucharist and live a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken (Code of Canon Law 873, 874). They may not be under a canonical penalty nor may they be either the father or mother of the person to be baptized or confirmed.

Please check all the boxes that apply to you.

- I am at least 16 years old. (Can. 874, §1, 2)

- I am Roman Catholic who is a participating member of the following parish:

- I am willing to be a sponsor for the Sacrament of Baptism or Confirmation, and I am not the parent of the one to be baptized or confirmed. (Can. 874, §1, 1 and 5)

- I have received all three Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist. (Can. 874, §1, 3)

- I worship regularly at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days and give witness to my faith by partaking in Holy Communion and by participating in the life of my parish.

- I am single or married through that Catholic Church and am not cohabiting with a person of the opposite gender outside of the Sacrament of Matrimony.

I affirm by my signature that the above statements are true:

Your signature _____ Date _____

Your name printed _____

Your address _____ Telephone _____

To be completed by the proposed sponsor's pastor:

I testify that the person listed above is a registered member of my parish and to my knowledge fulfills the canonical and moral requirements to serve as a sponsor for either Baptism or Confirmation.

Pastor _____ Date _____

Parish _____ City _____

(parish seal)