

Confirmation



*Confirming
My Commitment
to Christ*

*Immaculate
Heart of Mary
Parish
2017*

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Confirmation Schedule.....	Page 1
Welcome & Program Overview	Page 2
Participation & Attendance/Absences.....	Page 2
Program Directors & Contact Information	Page 3
Leaders & Assistants.....	Page 3
Sponsor Information	Page 3-4
Confirmation Name.....	Page 4
Covenant Form.....	Page 4
Service.....	Page 4
Retreat - Spirit Day.....	Page 5
Enrollment Sunday.....	Page 5
Letter to the Pastor.....	Page 5
Reconciliation.....	Page 5
Interview.....	Page 5
General Information & Procedures	Pages 6-7
Arrival & Dismissal, Bibles, Attire, Cell Phones, Fees	
Frequently Asked Questions	Pages 7-9
Basic Catholic Teachings & Beliefs.....	Pages 9-13
<u>REQUIRED FORMS:</u>	
Sponsor Form & Qualifications.....	Pages 14-15
Confirmation Name - Guidelines & Worksheets.....	Pages 16-18
Covenant Form - Sample.....	Page 19
Guide to Writing a Letter to the Pastor Requesting the Sacrament.....	Page 20
Service Hour Form	Page 21
Confirmation Candidate Information Sheet.....	Page 22



IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY CHURCH CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE FALL-2017

- August 20** Parent/Candidate ORIENTATION – 6:30pm – 8:30pm
NOTE: *Please bring this evening or mail ahead:
-Confirmation Candidate Information
-Confirmation Name
- Confirmation Sponsor Verification
- August 27** Candidate - Session 1 6:30pm - 8:30pm
- September 3** NO SESSION – (Labor Day Weekend)
- September 10** SPIRIT DAY RETREAT - Notre Dame Motherhouse,
Park Hills - *11am - 5pm, Sunday Mass celebrated
- September 17** Candidate – Session 2 6:30pm – 8:30pm
- September 24** * MASS W/PARISH at 6:00 PM
Candidate Session 3 - following Mass – 8:30pm
- October 1** Candidate - Session 4 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Fr. Rottman - "Sin in Our Lives"
- October 8** ENROLLMENT SUNDAY – with Sponsors
6:30pm – 8:30pm
- October 15** Candidate - Session 5 - Fr. Rottman: "Sin in Our Lives"
6:30pm – 8:30pm *Deadline: Letter to Fr. Rottman
- October 22** Candidate - Session - 6 - Sacrament of Reconciliation
6:30pm – 8:30pm
- October 29** Candidate – Session 7 - INTERVIEWS - 6:30pm-8:30pm
- November 5** CONFIRMATION PRACTICE - w/Sponsors in Church,
7:00pm – 8:30pm *Deadline: Confirmation Service Form
- November 7** CONFIRMATION MASS – 7pm
Candidates and Sponsors arrive, 6:30pm

****All sessions begin in Britt Hall. Sessions are scheduled 6:30 – 8:30pm every Sunday evening unless otherwise noted.**

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PROGRAM

WELCOME & PROGRAM OVERVIEW

IHM parish is excited and grateful that you, as candidates, are participating in the sacramental preparation program for Confirmation. We pray that participation in the program will be grace filled and life giving for candidates, their parents, and sponsor.

The Confirmation program is the immediate preparation for the sacrament. It focuses intensely on prayer and being open to the Holy Spirit. It is open to all parishioners who are sophomore age or older.

The preparation program is a personal and communal process within the parish family. The weekly sessions are led by trained adults from the parish who love both the faith and sharing that faith with teenagers. Each session includes small group discussion, interactive experiences, prayer, and reflection.

PARTICIPATION & ATTENDANCE

The program provides the tools needed to make a prayerful and informed decision about Confirmation. Candidates are expected to take the program seriously and attend all components of the program, which include:

1. Sunday evening sessions (refer to the Confirmation schedule)
2. Spirit Day Retreat
3. Enrollment with Sponsor (Oct 8) & connect with sponsor (as determined most appropriate by the candidate and their sponsor)
4. Service (refer to pages 4 & 21)
5. The Sacrament of Reconciliation (session 6)
6. Write a letter to the Pastor, Fr. Rottman, asking to be confirmed (see page 20)
7. Attend Sunday Liturgy weekly (note attendance at weekly Sunday Mass is not included in the weekly meeting time except for session 3)

ABSENCES

If an absence is absolutely necessary (illness, funeral, etc.) contact Sister Armella (prior to missing -if possible). Those candidates with Unexcused absences will need to be re-evaluated for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

In addition to Sunday Mass attendance and the preparation program, candidates are strongly encouraged to review the Basic Catholic Teachings included in this handbook (see pages 9-13) These are teachings presented in past religious education programs and are those which every Catholic should know and understand. It is wise to review these teachings by ways of a trivia game night with several candidates, families, sponsors or in the family evening meal rituals, reviewing a few questions a night.

PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Immaculate Heart of Mary Church-Confirmation Program

Sister Armella Pietrowski, Director of Religious Education
Office: 689-5010, ext. 225, or e-mail: srarmella@ihm-ky.org
Contact Sister Armella regarding absences, paperwork, fees, etc.

Angie Poat, Confirmation Coordinator - Cell: 859-992-7628,
or e-mail: apoat@shdhs.org - Contact Angie Poat regarding program content.

Father David Ludwig, Spiritual Director-Office: 689-5010, ext. 231, or
email: dludwig@ihm-ky.org-Contact Fr. David for any spiritual questions or
concerns.

LEADERS & ASSISTANTS

Arko, John

Anderson, Lois

Bessler, Laurie

Bessler, Tom

Bessler, Vince

Bose, Therese

Buckley, Jay

Cherry, Stephanie

Culbertson, Dwight

Dooley, Jan

Fields, Lonnie

Foltz, Jim

Gillcrist, Stephanie

Grome, Julie

Herbstreit, Tim

Holloway, Mary

Lawrence, Rick

Loos, Geri

Ludwig, Father David

Madden, Sarah

McGinnis, Joe

Metzger, David

Neiheisel, Carol

Rieselman, Shari

Tippett, Lisa

Tobergte, Dan

Wagner, Teri

Warner, Yvonne

Watson, Jenny

Williams, Lynn

ADDITIONAL PROGRAM INFORMATION

SPONSORS

Sponsors maintain a valuable relationship with their candidate and serve as a support and role model in the faith. It is up to the candidate to utilize and develop that relationship to its full potential. Candidates must take the initiative to reach out to their sponsor and make meaningful connections. There are many activities a candidate and their sponsor can do together such as service, attending Mass, or an event sponsored by the church or diocese, discussing topics that concern both parties as well as those that produce joy. Please take advantage of email, Catholic apps, & social media to communicate, especially if the candidate and sponsor are separated by distance.

IF the candidate's sponsor lives out of town and cannot attend the Enrollment Sunday on October 8, another person may stand in their place. This should be someone other than a parent. The qualifications for the person who is “standing in” are the same as the sponsor: a good listener, role model, and an active practicing Catholic. (See pages 14-15 for guidelines and responsibilities of sponsors.)

Sponsors will receive an email from the Confirmation staff in early September regarding their role. Please ensure that the staff receives a complete and accurate Name, Email, and Mailing Address for the candidate's sponsor on the Confirmation Candidate Information Sheet that is due on August 20 (see page 22 or go to IHM website (www.ihm-ky.org) if an additional form is needed).

CONFIRMATION NAME

Bishop Foy's will confirm the candidates utilizing their chosen Confirmation name. The Saint's name chosen is a powerful sign of the communion of saints. It is also the candidate's personal intercessor whom they can call upon any time in their life. (See page 16-18 for Guidelines and Worksheets for choosing a Confirmation name).

CONFIRMATION COVENANT FORM

The Covenant signifies a holy relationship between Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish and the Candidates. Both parties are partners in this process, pledging their prayer, commitment, and the best of their resources. (See page 19 to review in order to be ready to pledge by signing the form on opening night of the Confirmation program).

SERVICE

It is strongly encouraged to complete the 6 hours of required service within the parish community, and also reach out to non-profit agencies and/or to the disadvantaged in the local community. Service opportunities are often provided by Life Teen, St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Diocesan Pro-Life office, diocesan ministries, such as Mary Rose Mission and the Rose Garden Mission, and Family Promise. (Service may be done with friends, family, sponsors, etc.)

Need additional ideas? Candidates should consult the bulletin, ask one of our parish staff members, a Confirmation leader, their sponsor, or others for ideas (but don't wait until the last minute). Please do not use service hours that have also been submitted to be counted for school or club requirements. A service log is to be kept and turned in no later than November 5 (see page 21 or go to IHM website if an additional form is needed).

RETREAT - SPIRIT DAY

The retreat is Sunday, September, 10 at Notre Dame Academy Motherhouse in Park Hills. It starts promptly at 11:00 am and ends at 5:00 pm. Candidates are to be dropped off and picked up at Notre Dame Motherhouse (across the parking lot from the High School). Fr. Nick Rottman will celebrate Sunday Liturgy during the retreat. Candidates are asked to bring a brown bag lunch. Desserts and drinks will be provided. The day will be active and outdoors, weather permitting , and please be modest and appropriate in your clothing choices.

ENROLLMENT SUNDAY

Enrollment Sunday for candidates and sponsors is Sunday, October 8 during the regular evening session from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Confirmation Sponsors or “stand ins” are asked to accompany candidates for this interactive session. The session begins in Britt Hall and ends in Church. Sunday Mass obligation should be fulfilled prior to Enrollment, as Mass is NOT included in the evening session.

LETTER TO THE PASTOR

All candidates are required to write a letter to the pastor, Fr. Nick Rottman, requesting the sacrament of Confirmation and why they wish to receive this sacrament. This letter must be typed at home and brought to the evening session on Sunday, October 15. (guidelines on page 20)

RECONCILIATION

In preparation for the reception of Confirmation, the sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated on Sunday, October 22 during the regularly scheduled Confirmation session. Attendance is necessary, even if you have recently received the sacrament.

INTERVIEW

Candidates will meet with one of their small group leaders on October 29 for an "interview" that will last approximately 5 - 8 minutes. It is an opportunity to discuss any overall thoughts and desires about being confirmed, any potential concerns that have arisen, and to thank the small group leader. This is very informal and not something to fear.



GENERAL INFORMATION

ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

Arrival: Candidates are to be dropped off at the lower parking lot/Britt Hall by 6:30pm. Candidates must stop by the check in table to pick up a name tag and then look for their small group table. **Dismissal:** Last names beginning with A – M will be dismissed at 8:30pm via the main entrance doors by the Church; Last names beginning with N – Z will be dismissed at the lower parking lot by Britt Hall.

BIBLES

It is required that candidates bring their (Catholic) Bible each week. Bibles are available to purchase for \$10.00 if needed.

ATTIRE FOR MEETINGS & THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Each time the candidates, sponsors, parents, leaders and Confirmation staff gather we are a sign and symbol of the body of Christ at work. In respect to our mission and goals, please remember that everyone is entering a sacred space each time they attend a Confirmation event (whether it is a meeting, retreat, prayer service, service project or Confirmation Liturgy). In light of this, please wear appropriate clothing:

Meetings/ Retreat/Service: Refrain from wearing hats or caps, shorts and shirts that are too tight or short, sleeveless tops, and clothing that has inappropriate messages.

Attire for receiving the sacrament of Confirmation for Candidates and Sponsors. Gentlemen must wear a dress shirt, tie, dress pants, dress shoes and socks (if possible wear a sport coat or suit). Ladies, must wear a Church appropriate dress or dress slacks and dress blouse/shirt. Keep MODESTY in mind. (Flip flops, short skirts, tight clothing, sleeveless or low cut tops are not permitted).

CELL PHONES

Cell phones are not to be seen or used by candidates for texting or phone calls during meeting times, retreats and group service projects. Those who violate this policy will have their phone taken and returned at dismissal.

CONFIRMATION FEE

A fee of \$50 is asked of each candidate and their family. If you are unable to pay the entire amount, a minimum of \$25 is due on the first evening. The balance is to be paid by the end of October. This fee covers expenses for supplies, guest speakers, Spirit Day, certificates, Confirmation reception, etc.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Why is Confirmation important?

Confirmation is the final Sacrament of Initiation into the Church and it is efficacious, meaning it is effective, it does what Jesus and the Church promises it will do:

1. Bonds one with Christ and the Church
2. Strengthens one with the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith
3. Empowers one to call upon the name of Christ and not be ashamed of the power of the Cross
4. Solidifies and increases the grace (divine life) given at Baptism

Why does the Confirmation preparation program and the celebration of the sacrament take place within the parish?

Candidates are being confirmed into Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, our parish community (not into a school, club or specific ministry). The parish is their primary faith community. Therefore, it is fitting that the immediate preparation and spiritual formation for the sacrament take place in the parish. Not only are candidates catechized, but they are mentored and prayed with as they develop their prayer life, listening to and surrendering to, the Holy Spirit. This ensures that they not only know about Christ, but that they truly know Him.

The secondary goal of the program is to draw candidates into the life, ministry, and participation of the Church. This is a very large goal in a short time period and, frankly, the Confirmation staff would love more! But since we are confined in the amount of time we have, we anticipate that IHM will reach out and incorporate the newly confirmed into the life and ministry of the parish. We pray that the newly confirmed will also seek avenues of growth and involvement.



How do I know if I am ready? Can I delay Confirmation?

The candidate's desire to celebrate the sacrament is the primary requirement to receive the sacrament. The decision belongs to the one being confirmed, not a parent or sponsor. This decision should be made after completing the entire program and with much prayer. To delay celebrating the sacrament should not be based on whether or not the candidate “knows everything” about the faith, but whether one has the desire within their heart and is ready to freely accept the call to become more incorporated into the life of the Eucharistic community. Candidates will indicate their intent to be confirmed during an informal interview with their small group leader on October 29.

SPECIAL NOTE TO CANDIDATES - If you are struggling with this question, please talk with one of our priests or confirmation coordinators. Additionally, if you struggle with significant aspects or teachings of the faith, please talk to us! Your concerns will remain private and we will remain non-judgmental. You are important to us and will do our best to help you!

For a few years, parents were able to be their children's Confirmation sponsors. Why is this no longer an option for the person about to be confirmed?

The new code of Canon Law, while pointing out that the sponsor is charged with encouraging the confirmed person to act as a true witness to Jesus Christ (Canon 892), states that the parents of the confirmed person are not to act as sponsors (Canon 875). The new code's position is based on the Second Vatican Council's calling for a revision of the sacrament of Confirmation so that a more “intimate connection” between Confirmation and Baptism can be seen (Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, #71). At the Baptism of their child, the parents do not take the role of godparents (sponsors). Thus, parents should not take the role of sponsors at their son's/daughter's Confirmation.

Is this the end of Religious Education?

No!! Please No!! The reception of Confirmation is not a graduation from one's faith. The sacrament is a step an individual takes to completing one's initiation into the Church and another aide to cooperate with the graces one needs to live a holy life. The “yes” to the Holy Spirit in Confirmation is to be followed by many other “yeses” to God throughout one's lifetime. Thus, religious education/formation is a lifelong process. There are multiple opportunities for spiritual, educational, social, and service involvements within the parish after Confirmation that are waiting. (See next page)

Sadly, some people do not return to Church after Confirmation. This is a tremendous loss, both to the Church and to those who do not return. Please continue to receive and use the gifts of God including weekly sacramental participation and religious formation.

When Is The Most Appropriate Time For Confirming Those With Special Needs?

Teens with special needs should be confirmed with their peers. Adults with special needs should be confirmed with other adults. While the celebration of the sacraments normally takes place in the context of the larger parish community there may be exceptions. The length of the Eucharistic liturgy and excitement connected with this event combined with the special needs of some persons may limit appropriate and meaningful participation on the part of those to be confirmed and their parents/families.



BASIC CATHOLIC TEACHING

ALL CANDIDATES FOR CONFIRMATION ARE REQUIRED TO KNOW THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION AT LEAST IN AN ELEMENTARY WAY

1. There is one God.
2. There are three Divine Persons in God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. God the Father created all things.
4. Human beings were given responsibility for the care of all of God's creation.
5. Men and women are created in the image and likeness of God.
6. God has revealed and is continuing to reveal Himself to humankind.
7. Important sources of Divine Revelation are the Scriptures and Tradition.
8. Men and women sinned and opened the world to evil and sin.
9. God always loves all people and cares for them. God serves as the Ultimate One to rely on and will remain faithful.
10. People respond to God's presence through prayer.
11. Jesus was born in Bethlehem about 2,000 years ago. The INCARNATION is celebrated at Christmas.
12. Jesus is fully human and fully divine.
13. Mary is the mother of Jesus. The Church honors Mary in a special way.

BASIC CATHOLIC TEACHING

(Continued)

14. Jesus suffered and died for all people to show God's love. Jesus' death is remembered in a special way on Good Friday.
15. Jesus arose from the dead. Christians celebrate this on Easter Sunday. The death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus are called the Paschal Mystery.
16. After His resurrection, Jesus ascended into heaven. This is celebrated forty days after Easter
17. Jesus promised eternal life to those who followed him.
18. Jesus is the WAY, the TRUTH and the LIFE.
19. Jesus promised he would come again.
20. The Apostles were Jesus' followers and witnesses to the resurrection.
21. The Holy Spirit came to the Apostles on Pentecost in tongues of fire.
22. Followers of Jesus today are called Christians. The baptized followers are called the Church, or the people of God.
23. Christians work to bring the kingdom of God to fulfillment.
24. The Church worships God through the liturgical celebration of the Sacraments and the Liturgy of the Hours (the praying of the psalms).
25. The sacraments of the Catholic Church are: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Holy Orders, Anointing of the Sick and Matrimony.
26. A sacrament is an effective sign through which Jesus Christ shares God's life and love with us.
27. The Catholic Church highly values the word of God through Sacred Scripture as we listen to the Word of God at every sacramental celebration.
28. The sacraments of Initiation are Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. The sacraments of Healing are Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick. The sacraments of Service are Matrimony and Holy Orders.
29. At Baptism, a person becomes a member of the Church, receives the Holy Spirit and is freed from original sin.
30. Confirmation is the sacrament in which we are sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit and are strengthened to give witness to the good news of Jesus.
31. The Gifts of the Spirit are: WISDOM, UNDERSTANDING, RIGHT JUDGMENT, COURAGE, KNOWLEDGE, REVERENCE & THE SPIRIT OF WONDER & AWE IN GOD'S PRESENCE.
32. LITURGY is the official public worship of the Church. The Liturgy includes the ways we celebrate the Mass and the other sacraments.

BASIC CATHOLIC TEACHING

(continued)

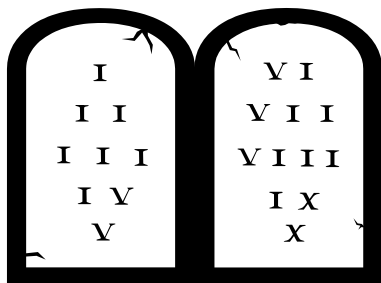
- 33. LITURGY OF THE WORD** is made up of readings from the Old and New Testaments, Responsorial Psalm, Gospel, Homily, Creed, and Prayer of the Faithful (it is the first major part of the Mass).
LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST is the second major part of the Mass. It is made up of the Presentation and Preparation of the Gifts, the Eucharistic Prayer, and Holy Communion.
- 34.** During the Liturgy of the Eucharist, the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ.
- 35.** Temptations are the inclinations which a person or a group of persons experience urging them to weaken or break their relationship with God or other persons.
- 36.** SIN is the human activity, freely chosen, which breaks or weakens the relationship with God and with others.
- 37.** God loves all people at all times and always wishes them to be reconciled with Himself. The Church celebrates God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- 38.** The two Great Commandments are:
- 1.** Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and with all your mind.
 - 2.** Love your neighbor as you love yourself.
- 39.** The Pope is the Bishop of Rome, the successor of Peter, and the servant of God.
- 40.** The Bishop is the chief pastor of the diocese.
- 41.** The pastor is the shepherd of the parish just as the bishop is the shepherd of the diocese.
- 42.** The Liturgical seasons of the Church year are: **ADVENT, CHRISTMAS, LENT, the TRIDUUM (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday), EASTER and ORDINARY TIME.**
- 43.** The Marks of the Church are: **ONE, HOLY, CATHOLIC, and APOSTOLIC.** These four identifying qualities inform people of the kind of community Jesus began and calls us to be.
- 44.** Each person has a **VOCATION** or call to serve others. There are many vocations: **MARRIED, ORDAINED, RELIGIOUS, AND SINGLE PERSONS.**
- 45.** Our preparation for living a life of service begins at Baptism and is renewed in the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Jesus was speaking: "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you." John 14:25-26.

CATHOLIC BELIEFS

The Ten Commandments

1. I am the Lord, your God, who brought you out of slavery. Worship no god except me.
2. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.
3. Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day.
4. Honor your father & mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not tell lies against your neighbor.
9. You shall not want to take your neighbor's wife or husband.
10. You shall not want to take your neighbor's possessions.



The Beatitudes

Happy are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of God belongs to them!

Happy are those who mourn; God will comfort them!

Happy are those who are humble; They will receive what God has promised!

Happy are those who do what God wants; God will satisfy them fully!

Happy are those who are merciful to others; God will have mercy on them!

Happy are the pure in heart; They will see God!

Happy are those who work for peace; They will be called children of God!

Happy are those who are persecuted because they do what God wants; The kingdom of heaven belongs to them!

CATHOLIC BELIEFS

The Laws (Precepts) of the Church

- 1. Celebrate Christ's resurrection every Sunday (or Saturday evening) and on holy days of obligation by taking part in Mass and avoiding unnecessary work.**
- 2. Lead a sacramental life. Receive Holy Communion frequently and the sacrament of Penance, or Reconciliation, regularly. We must receive Holy Communion at least once a year at Lent-Easter. We must confess within a year, if we have committed serious, or mortal sin.**
- 3. Study Catholic teaching throughout life, especially in preparing for the sacraments.**
- 4. Observe the marriage laws of the Catholic Church and give religious training to one's children.**
- 5. Strengthen & support the Church: one's own parish, the worldwide Church, & the Holy Father.**
- 6. Do Penance, including refraining from eating meat & fasting from food on certain days.**
- 7. Join in the missionary work of the Church.**

Holy Days of Obligation

On these days, Catholics must celebrate the Eucharist just as on Sunday.

- 1. Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (January 1)**
- 2. Easter**
- 3. Ascension (40 Days After Easter)**
- 4. Assumption of Mary (August 15)**
- 5. All Saints Day (November 1)**
- 6. Immaculate Conception (December 8)**
- 7. Christmas (December 25)**



CHOOSING A SPONSOR

Young people do not journey alone within the Christian community. Along the way, they make ties with certain people who demonstrate, in their own lives, what it means to be Catholic. A sponsor is one of those people with whom one can discuss faith issues, turn to for guidance and ask for prayer. The Candidate's sponsor will stand with them during the Enrollment Sunday meeting on October 8, and present them to the bishop during the Confirmation Ceremony on November 7. We pray that candidates will continue to be influenced by their sponsor long after the celebration.

“A faithful friend is a sturdy shelter, He who finds one finds a treasure.”
Sirach 6:14

The qualifications of choosing a sponsor are:

- * Must be at least 16 years old
- * Must be an active practicing Catholic who has received Confirmation and Eucharist.
- * Must not be bound by a canonical penalty (e.g. he or she may not be divorced and remarried without an annulment).
- * May not be the candidate's parent.

Sponsors are required to complete the Confirmation Sponsor Verification Form stating that they are active members of their parish. This form, which must be signed by your sponsor's parish pastor, (see next page or IHM website [www.ihm-ky.org] if an additional form is needed) MUST be submitted by August 20.

Suggestion: An appropriate choice for the candidate's sponsor (connecting Baptism and Confirmation) may be their Godparent (if he/she meets the above criteria). Candidates should pray about their choice and enjoy the opportunity to connect in faith!

Need help finding a sponsor? Contact the Religious Education Office at 689-5010, Ext. 225 or the Youth Ministry Office at 689-5010, Ext. 254.

DEADLINE for Choosing a Sponsor : August 20.



Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
5876 Veterans Way
Burlington, KY 41005
Phone: 859-689-5010 ext. 225

CONFIRMATION SPONSOR VERIFICATION FORM

For Immaculate Heart of Mary High School Sophomores

(Must be received by IHM Church no later than August 20, 2017)

I, _____, a registered member of the parish of
Sponsor Name
_____, have been asked to stand as a sponsor for
Parish Name
_____, as he/she receives the Sacrament of Confirmation.
Candidate Name

As a practicing Catholic, I appreciate that this request is an important opportunity for me to witness to my faith and provide a good example of Catholic life. I have prayerfully considered what I have been asked to do. I promise, with God's help, to be the best sponsor I can be. Therefore, I now affirm:

- ___ That I am at least 16 years of age;
- ___ That I am a practicing Catholic in good standing with the church;
- ___ That I am not the parent of the Confirmation Candidate;
- ___ That I have completed my own Christian initiation through reception of the most Holy Eucharist and the Sacrament of Confirmation;
- ___ That, if I am married, I was married according to the laws and teachings of the Catholic Church;
- ___ That I will do all in my power to be a model of Catholic living by participating in the worship of the Church community at Mass every Sunday and on Holy days of Obligation; by properly supporting the work of the Church; and by exhibiting my own sense of charity and social justice in how I live with and influence others.

I am prepared to assist the person I am sponsoring in living the Christian life by my own actions, concern and encouragement. I will do my best to attend the Candidate Sponsor Night, the Confirmation Rehearsal, and the Confirmation Mass.

Date

Signature of Sponsor

I certify that _____ is a registered, ACTIVE parishioner of

Parish.

Below is the signature of the pastor attesting to my good standing at the parish I attend. This is verified by the parish seal.

Date

Pastor's Signature

Parish Seal

****Please return this form from your parish to the Office of Religious Education, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 5876 Veterans Way, Burlington, KY 41005 / or E-Mail to srarmella@ihm-ky.org***

CANDIDATES: CHOOSING A CONFIRMATION NAME

A name identifies us in a unique way, not just our physical selves, but who we are as a person. It is also a part of our religious history.

When you were born, your parents chose your name. At your Baptism you were called by name, christened to become a child of God. Your first name is your “Christian name” and indicates your membership in the Christian community.

It is a long tradition of the Catholic Church for Confirmation Candidates to choose a patron saint’s name as a Confirmation name. You need to decide (choose for yourself) if you are going to be confirmed with your given/baptismal name or if you are going to choose a new Confirmation name. Note the following:

** You may use your baptismal name (first or middle name) as a confirmation name IF your baptismal name is a saint’s name or a derivative of a saint’s name.*

** If your baptismal name is not the name of a saint you must choose the name of a saint for your confirmation name, one who you admire and can imitate and call for intercession.*

The saint's name you choose represents the direction you feel your faith life is taking. It could also represent a strength or attribute you feel you need. It is important and necessary to learn something about the saint you choose before you decide on that name. Choosing a name should not be based on the sound of the name, how it fits with your other names, or only because it is the name of a friend or relative.

Whether you decide to stay with your Baptismal name or pick a new name, take the time to research and explore the root meaning of the name, for as Scripture says “Yahweh calls each of us by name.” Check out these web sites: americancatholic.org; catholic.org; usccb.org; catholiconline.com; lifeteen.com

DEADLINE for Choosing a Confirmation Name : August 20
(see form on pages 16-18 or IHM website if you need an additional form)

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE – PARISH COVENANT

CANDIDATE:

Understanding that I am still in the decision-making process about whether or not to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation, I do choose to commit myself to this preparation program. In doing so:

1. I will do my best to take this decision seriously. I plan to attend each session and participate in all activities.
2. I will do my best to pray daily for the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
3. I will make every effort possible to attend mass weekly.
4. I understand that the retreat day (SPIRIT DAY) is required. If a serious problem should arise with attending the retreat, I will talk this over with the Confirmation coordinator immediately and we will solve the problem together.
5. I understand that attendance at all scheduled sessions and events are vital. If I have any unexcused absences, I will need to be re-evaluated for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation .
6. I will use my talents in the service of others by completing my six hours of service.
7. I will do my best to meet/communicate regularly with my sponsor.

PARISH:

1. The parish will supply Confirmation leaders who will guide you through the preparation program and assist you in integrating what you learn into your faith life.
2. Prepared leaders will be at each session willing to share their faith, willing to listen to you and willing to assist you in whatever way they can.
3. The parish community, leaders, and coordinators promise to support you with the most powerful force in the universe – DAILY PRAYER.
4. SPIRIT DAY will give you an opportunity to experience the faith of your peers, to search in your own mind and heart what God is asking of you in the present and help you achieve an understanding of how the Holy Spirit can become an integral part of your life.
5. The preparation program is not designed to be boring or dull. Everyone involved is excited about your presence.

Pastor's Signature

Director's Signature

Coordinator's Signature

Candidate's Signature

CANDIDATES: LETTER REQUESTING THE SACRAMENT

You are free to respond to God's call to live your faith more deeply – to worship, witness and serve as a confirmed Christian. If you wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, write a letter of request to your pastor, Fr. Nick Rottman stating your desire. Your letter should follow these guidelines.

GREETING

Begin your letter with the greeting: *Dear Father Rottman*

BODY OF THE LETTER

Paragraph 1: Introduce yourself. Tell something about your family, your background.

Paragraph 2: Request the sacrament. Give several reasons why you would like to be confirmed.

Paragraph 3: Explain how you have prepared for the sacrament of Confirmation. It is important that you tell about very specific parts of your preparation: your prayer life, your celebration of the other sacraments, your service for others exercised at home and within the parish, etc.

Paragraph 4: Tell how you will continue to carry out your life of service to God and others through the power of the Spirit. Tell how you plan to make your confirmation in the faith real and alive in the future.

CONCLUSION

Conclude your letter and write your complete signature.

Closings:

*Your friend in Christ, or God bless you, or Sincerely,
or Peace be with you, (or any closing of your choice)*

Signature: Your full name: *Jon Joseph Monohan*
Megan Marie Fisher

CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Christian service is so crucial to the way Christians live, that parents, teachers, or mentors instill the practice of service into our lives at an early age. Our Confirmation preparation program asks candidates to recognize the service they already do and try to find new ways to use their talents and interests to make a difference in their neighborhood, parish, or civic community as they prepare for Confirmation. The months of June, July and August will offer the candidate opportunities for getting a head start on the six hours of service required in the Confirmation preparation program. A log is attached for listing service hours and must be signed by the person for whom the service is rendered. The final date for the completion of the **6 hours of service is Sunday, November 5, 2017.**

NAME: _____

CONFIRMATION SERVICE HOURS

DATE	HOURS	TYPE OF SERVICE	SIGNATURE

Total of 6 hours required before or by November 5, 2017

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE INFORMATION SHEET – 2017

1.) **CANDIDATE’S FULL NAME:** _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)

NOTE: (Please Use Full Given Baptismal Name; No Nicknames)

Family Address: _____
(Street)

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone Number: _____ Family Cell: _____

E-mail Address: _____

2.) **CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE INFORMATION:**

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____

Place of Birth: _____
(City) (State)

Father’s Name: _____

Mother’s Name: _____
(First) (Maiden)

High School Attending: _____

3.) **CANDIDATE’S CHURCH OF BAPTISM:** _____
(Name of Church)

Address of Church of Baptism : *(*Please Provide Complete Address Below)*

(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

Date of Baptism: _____
(Month) (Day) (Year) *(*Please Be Accurate)*

4.) **CANDIDATE’S CONFIRMATION SPONSOR:** _____
(Name)

Email Address: _____
(Please print)

Address of Sponsor: _____
(Street)

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Confirmation “Stand in” for Sponsor: *(If Applicable)*

Name: _____

5.) **YOUR CHOSEN CONFIRMATION NAME:** _____
(One Name Only, Please)

Confirmed By: Most Rev. Roger Joseph Foy

Date of Confirmation: November 7, 2017

****THIS INFORMATION IS DUE ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 20, 2017 NO EXCEPTIONS!**