

Candidate's Name:



The Sacrament of Confirmation

Candidate, Parent, & Sponsor Agreements

***All agreements must be signed
by November 15, 2015***

“ You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere to the ends of the earth.” Acts 1: 8



CANDIDATE AGREEMENT:

A JOURNEY TO THE FATHER LED BY THE SPIRIT THROUGH JESUS

As a candidate for Confirmation 2016 of St. Raphael's parish, in understanding this journey preparing me to confirm my Baptismal commitment to Jesus and to continued growth in faith, I agree to:

1. make this period of preparation one of my highest priorities.
2. place my talents at the service of others with a spirit of love and compassion.
3. pray for myself and all those involved in this time of preparation that each of us would be touched in a personal way by the Spirit of Jesus.
4. accept personal responsibility for my decision to be Confirmed in Jesus' way of life.
5. faithfully meet the Candidate Requirements asked of me.

IN THIS COMMITMENT I ASK THE HELP OF JESUS, MY FAMILY, SPONSOR, CATECHISTS, FRIENDS, AND COMMUNITY.

*Recognizing the great gift which God has given to all of us in the Sacrament of Confirmation and desiring to receive it and become a life-long member of the Catholic Church,
I agree to meet the following requirements:*

Participation in:

Weekly Class (including journaling & make-up work), Sunday Mass and Holy Days, Special Events, the Sacrament of Reconciliation (frequently), the Church Community, Retreat Experiences, Practices, the Confirmation Mass, and other events I'm expected to attend.

Knowledge of:

the Roman Catholic faith, Catholic prayers, Catholic social teachings.

Completion of:

Any Information Forms, Faith Sharing Activities, and Christian Service Hours.

Responsible for:

Providing forms/baptismal records, writing request letters to the Bishop, choosing and meeting with a sponsor and mentor, keeping my family informed, faith sharing activities, Christian service hours (20 for Confirmation year), and all communications regarding Confirmation.

Desire to:

Be confirmed in my faith, pray to the Holy Spirit to be well prepared for Confirmation, and do all that I can to live as a follower of Jesus Christ and faithful members of the Catholic Church.

Candidate signature _____ Date _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN AGREEMENT:

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF PARENTS:

The initiation of children into the Sacramental life is ordinarily the responsibility and concern of Christian parents. They are to form and gradually increase a spirit of faith in the children with the help of catechetical instructions. The role of parents is also expressed by their active participation in the celebration of the Sacraments, especially Sunday Mass.

Parish programs are designed to help them fulfill their responsibility. Therefore, parents are encouraged to be actively involved in the development and implementation of their parish Confirmation program. It is especially important that they witness their faith in their children, support the leadership of the parish, and foster and encourage candidate participation.

After years of love and challenges, you have brought your child to the point where they may choose to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. In being present and supportive, you have shown your child and others that you believe in the work of God through the Church. Know that there may be a point where your child will choose to be Confirmed or not. This must be the choice of the candidate. To receive the Holy Spirit in your life through this Sacrament is an individual decision. We ask you to prayerfully consider if your child is interested, ready, and/or willing to ask for this most holy gift. This must be a decision of their heart and not of any obligation or tradition. Making decisions about personal faith are difficult. Again, with your support, example, and love, this experience could lead your child to a deeper relationship with God that will sustain them all their life as well as continue to strengthen your love and devotion to your faith.

I have read the material regarding Confirmation preparation with my student and understand my role as one who will encourage my youth, yet not "carry" them through this process. I will do my best to involve our family in supporting our candidate and will avoid scheduling family events that would conflict with this time of preparation. I will help my candidate to take Confirmation seriously and will help them to honestly judge his or her understanding and readiness to celebrate this Sacrament. I agree to support my son or daughter in all that is required to prepare for Confirmation and to pray for him or her during this time of preparation.

Parent/Guardian signature _____

Date _____

Phone Number (h) _____ (c) _____

E-Mail _____

*If NOT Baptized at St. Raphael in Springfield, you **must** provide a copy of the Baptismal certificate by November 15, 2015.*

SPONSOR AGREEMENT:

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SPONSOR:

Sponsors bring the candidates to receive the Sacrament, present them to the bishop for anointing, and will help them to fulfill their baptismal promises faithfully under the influence of the Holy Spirit whom they have received. The quality of faith of the adults who live with, work with, and teach candidates is a very important part of the Confirmation preparation. The most powerful influence on the candidates growth in faith is the witness of and relationship with believers within a parish community.

Sponsors are encouraged to interact with the candidate, sharing faith and service during the time or preparation. Ideally, the sharing of faith would continue between the sponsor and the confirmed person as he or she grows older. To sponsor someone in a Sacrament is an honor and a challenge. How do we pass on the faith we have in God to another? Some times it is difficult for us to have the faith we need through the day, let alone share it with someone else. However, the Church calls us all to go out and tell others of the love of Christ that we have found, and being a Confirmation sponsor is a wonderful opportunity to share your life with God with a candidate. The expectations the Church has for a sponsor are serious and important. Your presence as a faithful adult makes a difference.

Requirements: Sponsors must...

- be 16 or older and sufficiently mature for this responsibility.
- be a Catholic who has received the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist, and Confirmation.
- lead a life in harmony with the faith and be in good standing with the Church.
- A sponsor in good standing participates in Sunday Mass. They also celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation on a regular basis as well as serve in the parish ministries.
- be willing to help their candidate in their faith journey.
- involved in the process of catechesis.
- not be one of the candidates' parents.
- be able to take the role of sponsor and participate in events through the year. This includes meeting with the candidate to discuss faith at Confirmation classes. It also includes Confirmation practices and the Mass of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Because of this need to participate, we ask that you consider sponsors who may live near by.

I have read the material concerning the role of the sponsor and understand the commitment asked of me. I satisfy the requirements and accept this role on behalf of the community. I will fulfill this role to the best of my ability by promising to make myself available to my candidate as a spiritual companion and friend during their preparation. I will take this Sacrament seriously and strive to encourage and challenge my candidate to grow in a committed relationship to Jesus Christ.

PLEASE PRINT:

Candidate's name _____

Sponsor's Name _____

Sponsor signature _____ *Date* _____

Sponsor Information:

Phone # _____ *E-mail* _____

Address _____ *City* _____

State _____ *Zip* _____ *Home Parish* _____