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## **Confirmation:**

Confirmation deepens our baptismal life that calls us to be missionary witnesses of Jesus Christ in our families, neighborhoods, society, and the world. . . . We receive the message of faith in a deeper and more intensive manner with great emphasis given to the person of Jesus Christ, who asked the Father to give the Holy Spirit to the Church for building up the community in loving service.

~from the *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*

*The reception of the sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace. . . . “By the sacrament of Confirmation [the baptized] are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit.”*

~ from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 1285, citing LG, no. 11

Confirmation is NOT the final step in one’s religious education. Rather, it is the culmination of the first step. Confirmation is the first opportunity a Candidate has to take charge of their own faith; to decide for themselves that they want to live their lives as a Catholic Christian. Confirmation is the beginning of a life-long journey to develop a closer relationship with God.

## **Rite of Confirmation:**

The Rite of Confirmation begins with a reaffirmation of the baptismal promises. The Bishop then extends his hands over the candidates and blesses them while recalling the gifts of the Holy Spirit’s presence. After the blessing the bishop calls each candidate by name (using the name of the Saint he/she has chosen as their role model and guide) and anoints the candidates individually on the forehead with Sacred Chrism using the words, “(Name) be sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

The essential elements for this Sacrament are:

The Laying on of Hands, and the Sacred Chrism.

### **Dress Code for Confirmation Mass (and Mass in general):**

Please remember when you come to Mass you are entering the House of the Lord and must be properly clothed, regardless of the weather or other events you may be planning on attending after the service. The Sacred Liturgy requires everyone attending Church to be attired appropriately for worship and to receive the Eucharist. Parishioners should give great attention to their manner of dress as a demonstration of their love and respect for God.

Dress modestly and appropriately before God. One should always wear clothes that are modest. For example: inappropriate shorts, sweats, halter tops, low cut blouses, t-shirts, and the like are a distraction and diminish the reverential aspect of the Mass.

Although you will be wearing robes, please dress accordingly. Girls should wear modest dresses of an appropriate length, and their shoes should be sensible (i.e. no extremely high heels). Boys should wear dress pants, shirts, and shoes. **Please remember to iron the robes before Confirmation!**

### **Service:**

Service to the Church and Community is an integral part of being a Catholic Christian. Both 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be required to complete service hours, and service projects for 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

### **Roles:**

There are many people involved in the Confirmation. Each of those people have a very distinct role to play.

#### Parents:

- Are the primary educators of their children.
- Are responsible for the initiating of their children into the sacramental life of the Catholic Church.
- Serve as role models for their children as to how a Catholic Christian is to live his/her life.
- Nurture their children in faith and should encourage their children to reflect on and thoughtfully consider the decision to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

- Are asked to assist their child with the immediate preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation through prayer, study, and Christian service.
- Can emphasize the importance of the Sacrament of Confirmation by taking an active role in the child's preparation.
- Should stress the initiation aspect of the Sacrament by encouraging their children to continue learning more about their faith.
- Should help their child in understanding that service hours and projects are the beginning of a life committed to Christian service to others.
- Should assist the candidate in choosing a suitable sponsor and saint. They should not however make these choices for them!

Sponsors:

- Are the personal representative of the Church to the Candidate/Confirmandi.
- Help the Candidate/Confirmandi feel at home among other Catholics, by continually reminding them that he/she is an official Witness of Christ by his/her Sacrament of Confirmation.
- Are companions and guides who must be "available" to the walk with their Candidate on their journey to Confirmation. They should be someone who the Candidate can easily talk to and who is willing to help the Candidate learn more about his/her faith.
- Are called on to be "a Friend" whom a candidate can trust, turn to, and talk things over with.
- **Are not a catechist!** They are not responsible for imparting the teachings of the Church. Nevertheless, they will likely be asked questions by the Candidates, who will seek their opinion. They will not be able to answer every question, and that is fine.

**A Sponsor must meet the following requirements:**

- Be at least 16 years old.
- Be a practicing Catholic who has received all the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation).
- Be in good standing with the Church.
- Be someone other than a parent (father or mother) of the Candidate.
- Complete the necessary commitment and verification forms and return them by the designated date. The verification form must be signed by the home parish of the Sponsor and affixed with the parish seal.

**Saints:**

- Are a role model for the Candidate.
- Embody characteristics that the Candidate would like to see in them selves.
- Are advocates for the Candidates. The Candidate should pray to their Saint asking him/her to pray for them and take the Candidates needs and concerns to Jesus and God the Father.
- Are not just a “name” that the Candidate chooses because he/she likes it. The Candidate should have a real relationship with the saint they choose. They should pray to their saint regularly and ask them for guidance and assistance.
- Are the heavenly counterpart of the Sponsor. Both assist the Candidate on their journey to becoming a fully initiated Catholic, and then continue to be with them as they grow in their love of God throughout their lives.

**Catechists:**

- Catechize (teach) the Faith of the Catholic Church, both by word and example.
- Let the word of God echo through their life.

- Share their faith and guides the Candidates to learn how to apply and live their faith.
- Inspire the Candidates to be more active in their faith.
- Offer examples and opportunities to the Candidates of to further develop their relationship and love of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

Candidates:

- Must freely choose to be confirmed and make their decision known. In other words, being Confirmed **MUST** be the Candidates choice, **NOT** their parents!
- Must be in a state of grace (able to exercise his/her responsibilities of the Christian life freely and joyfully!)
- Must have adequate knowledge of the Catholic Faith and have participated in the required class sessions, prayer opportunities, and retreats as designated by the Faith Formation Program.
- Must be practicing their faith.
- Should attend Mass and receive the Sacrament of Eucharist and Reconciliation regularly.
- Are responsible for completing all required assignments and service projects.
- Must be aware of the initiation aspect of the Sacrament of Confirmation and be committed to continuing the faithful practice and study of their religion and faith.
- Must be willing to participate in the Confirmation process.

Bishop:

- Is the ordinary minister of the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- Is a successor of the Apostles, whom Jesus Christ gave the authority to impart to the baptized by the laying on of hands the gift of the Holy Spirit that completes the grace of Baptism.



## **Candidate Review Guide**

### Seven Sacraments:

The real signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us by the Holy Spirit.

#### **Sacraments of Initiation**

Baptism  
Confirmation  
Eucharist

#### **Sacraments of Healing**

Reconciliation (Penance) (Forgiveness)  
Anointing of the Sick

#### **Sacraments of Service**

Matrimony (Marriage)  
Holy Orders (Ordination)

### Sacramentals:

A blessed object or action used within a Sacramental Rite of the Church in order to involve God's blessing and help.

Some examples of sacramentals are: Holy Water, Blessed Candles, Crucifixes, Rosaries, Scapulars, Anointing Oils, the Sign of the Cross, Statues, Miraculous Medals, Palms, Ashes, etc.

### Works of Mercy:

The actions by which we help our neighbors in their bodily (corporal) and spiritual needs

#### **Corporal**

Feed the hungry  
Give drink to the thirsty  
Clothe the naked  
Visit the sick  
Shelter the homeless  
Visit the imprisoned  
Bury the dead

#### **Spiritual**

Help the sinner  
Instruct the ignorant  
Counsel the doubtful  
Comfort the sorrowing  
Bear wrongs patiently  
Forgive all injuries  
Pray for the living and the dead

Gifts of the Spirit:

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit help Christians live their lives more fully committed to Christ. These gifts are:

1. Wisdom
2. Understanding
3. Counsel/Right Judgement
4. Fortitude/Courage
5. Knowledge
6. Piety/Reverence
7. Fear of the Lord/Wonder and Awe in God's Presence

Fruits of the Spirit:

Perfections that the Holy Spirit forms in us as the first fruits of eternal glory.

Charity	Generosity
Joy	Gentleness
Peace	Faithfulness
Patience	Modesty
Kindness	Self-Control
Goodness	Chastity

Duties of a Catholic Christian (Precepts of the Church):

The minimum effort we must make in prayer and living a moral life. As Catholics, we should strive to live of faith, growing in the love of God and neighbor that far surpass the minimum requirements.

1. Attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation
2. Confession of sins at least once a year
3. Reception of Holy Communion at least once a year during the Easter Season
4. Observance of days of fast and abstinence
5. Providing for the needs of the Church

**Days of Fast** (for Adults):

Ash Wednesday & Good Friday

**Days of Abstinence** (for all those over the age of 14):

Ash Wednesday & All Fridays in Lent

Ten Commandments:

A special expression of natural law made known to us by God's Revelation to Moses on Mt. Sinai after he freed His people from enslavement in Egypt.

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 Sabbath (Lord's) Day
4. Honor your father and your mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not steal.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
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 property.

Great Commandment:

The fulfillment of the Ten Commandments, given to us by Jesus:

*"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. . . . You shall love your neighbor as yourself."*

(Mark 12:30-31)

The New Commandment:

Given to his disciples by Jesus before his death on the cross:

*"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another."* (John 13:34)

Beatitudes:

In the Sermon on the Mount, found in the Gospel according to Matthew (5:3-10), Jesus teaches us how to live a happy life in the love of Christ.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn,  
for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,  
for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful,  
for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart,  
for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of  
righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Virtues:

Gifts from God that help us to live in a close relationship to Him. If not used, they can be lost or neglected.

**Theological Virtues** (the most important):

Faith      Charity      Hope

**Cardinal Virtues:**

Prudence      Justice      Fortitude      Temperance

### Holy Days of Obligation:

Days, other than Sundays, on which we celebrate great events in the lives of Jesus, Mary, and the saints. Catholics are obligated to attend Mass on these days.

**Mary the Mother Of God** - January 1

**Ascension** - Forty days after Easter (sometimes celebrated on the 7th Sunday of Easter).

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary** - August 15

**All Saints** - November 1

**Immaculate Conception** - December 8

**Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ** - December 25

### **Prayer Guide**

#### What is Prayer:

*“For me, prayer is a surge of the heart; it is a simple look turned toward heaven, it is a cry of recognition and love, embracing both trial and joy.”* St. Thérèse of Lisieux

*Prayer is the raising of one’s mind and heart to God or the requesting of good things from God.”*

St. John Damascene

Prayer is a “vital and personal relationship with the living and true God” (CCC, no. 2558). Prayer is Christian “insofar as it is communion with Christ” (CCC, no.2565), and a “covenant relationship between God and man in Christ” (CCC, no. 2564).

#### Types of Prayer:

There are many types of prayer; many ways that we can join in communion with Christ.

**Adoration** - An act by which we glorify the God who made us. We adore God from whom all blessings flow.

**Petition** - A prayer that takes many forms: to ask, to implore, to plead, to cry out. In each case, it acknowledges how much we depend on God for our needs, including forgiveness and persistence in seeking him.

**Intercession** - Prayer that we make on behalf of the needs of others.

**Thanksgiving** - Flowing from the Church's greatest prayer, the celebration of the Eucharist, we are called to thank God for all the gifts we have received, including our joys and sorrows, all of which, through love, work towards our benefit.

**Praise** - The form of prayer which recognizes most immediately that God is God. . . . It shares in the blessed happiness of the pure of heart who love God in faith before seeing him in glory.

All the above descriptions come from the United States Catholic Catechism for adults, pp. 467-468.

#### Forms of Prayer

**Vocal Prayer** - Spoken or sung prayers

**Meditative Prayer** - Use of our minds to ponder the will of God in his plan for our lives.

**Contemplative Prayer** - A gaze of faith fixed on Jesus, an attentiveness to the Word of God, a silent love" (CCC, #2724)

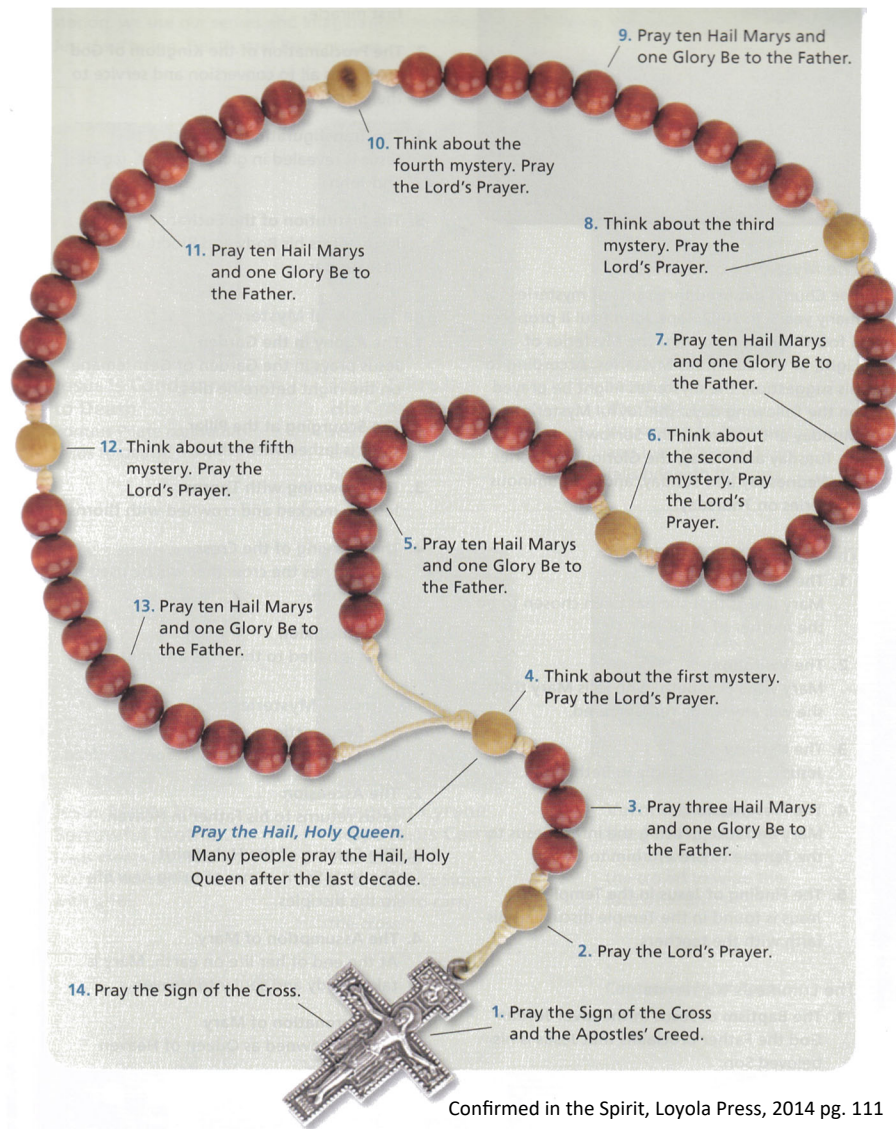
#### Traditional Prayers:

Prayer can be done with any words that come to mind. However, sometimes it is difficult to choose our own words to fully communicate with God exactly what we want to say. In those times, we can resort to traditional prayers, knowing that God knows what is kept in the silence of our hearts. Here are many traditional prayers that we can use in these times:

#### The Holy Rosary:

The Holy Rosary helps to pray to Jesus through Mary. When praying the Rosary, we think about the special events in the lives of Jesus and Mary, called mysteries.

## How to Pray the Rosary



## Prayers of the Rosary

### Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father  
and of the Son  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

### Apostles Creed

I believe in God,  
the Father Almighty,  
Creator of Heaven and Earth;  
and in Jesus Christ,  
His only Son our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified,  
died and was buried.  
He descended into Hell;  
the third day He rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into Heaven and sits at the right  
hand of God, The Father almighty;  
from thence He shall come to judge the living  
and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the Communion of Saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body and life  
everlasting. Amen

### Our Father

Our Father,  
who art in Heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on Earth as it is in Heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us  
from evil. Amen



Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou amongst women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
Now and at the hour of our death. Amen

Glory Be

Glory be to the Father, And to the Son, And to  
the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is  
now and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen

Hail, Holy Queen

Hail, Holy Queen, Mother of Mercy,  
our life, our sweetness and our hope.  
To thee do we cry,  
poor banished children of Eve.  
To thee do we send up our sighs,  
mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.  
Turn then, most gracious advocate,  
thine eyes of mercy toward us,  
and after this our exile  
show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb,  
Jesus.  
O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

## Mysteries of the Rosary

### Joyful (Mon. & Sat.)

1. The Annunciation
2. The Visitation
3. The Nativity
4. The Presentation
5. The Finding of Jesus  
in the Temple

### Glorious (Wed. & Sun.)

1. The Resurrection
2. The Ascension
3. The Coming of the  
Holy Spirit
4. The Transfiguration
5. The Institution of the  
Holy Eucharist

### Sorrowful (Tue. & Fri.)

1. The Agony in the Garden
2. The Scourging at the Pillar
3. The Crowning with Thorns
4. The Carrying of the Cross
5. The Crucifixion

### Luminous (Thurs.)

1. The Baptism of Jesus in the  
Jordan River
2. The Wedding Feast at Cana
3. The Proclamation of the  
Kingdom of God
4. The Assumption of Mary
5. The Coronation of Mary

## Other Prayers

### **Act of Contrition**

My God,  
I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.  
In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good,  
I have sinned against you whom I should love  
above all things.  
I firmly intend, with your help,  
to do penance,  
to sin no more,  
and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.  
Our Savior Jesus Christ  
suffered and died for us.  
In his name, my God, have mercy.

### **Confiteor**

I confess to almighty God and to you,  
my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned,  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done  
and in what I have failed to do,  
through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels, and Saints,  
and you my brothers and sister to pray for me  
to the Lord our God.

### **Divine Praises**

Blessed be God.  
Blessed be His Holy Name.  
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man.  
Blessed be the name of Jesus.  
Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.  
Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of  
the Altar.  
Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.  
Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.  
Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.  
Blessed be her glorious Assumption.  
Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.  
Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.  
Blessed be God in His angels and in His Saints.  
May the heart of Jesus, In the Most Blessed  
Sacrament, be praised, adored, and loved with  
grateful affection, at every moment,  
in all the tabernacles of the world,  
even to the end of time.  
Amen.

## **Gloria**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to men of good will.  
We praise You.  
we bless You.  
we adore you.  
we glorify You.  
we give You thanks for Your great glory.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son.  
Lord God,  
Lamb of God,  
Son of the Father:  
you Who take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
You Who take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.  
You are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.  
For you alone are the Holy One.  
You alone are the Lord.  
You alone are the Most High Jesus Christ.  
with the Holy Spirit  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

## **Grace (Prayer Before Meals)**

Bless us, Oh Lord, and these thy gifts,  
which we are about to receive,  
from thy bounty, through Christ, Our Lord.  
Amen.

### **Guardian Angel Prayer**

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's  
love Commits me here, ever this day, be at my  
side to light, to guard, to rule and to guide.  
Amen.

### **Memorare**

Remember,  
O most gracious Virgin Mary,  
that never was it known that anyone who fled  
to thy protection,  
implored thy help,  
or sought thy intercession,  
was left unaided.  
Inspired by this confidence I fly unto thee,  
O Virgin of virgins,  
my Mother.  
To thee do I come,  
before thee I stand,  
sinful and sorrowful.  
O Mother of the Word Incarnate,  
despise not my petitions,  
but in thy mercy hear and answer me.  
Amen.

### **Morning Offering**

O Jesus,  
through the immaculate heart of Mary,  
I offer you all my prayers, works, joys,  
And sufferings of this day.  
For all the intentions of your Sacred Heart,  
In union with the holy sacrifice of the Mass  
throughout the world,  
In reparation for my sins,  
And for the intentions of the Holy Father.  
Amen

## Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,  
maker of Heaven and Earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from Heaven,  
and by the Holy Spirit  
was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into Heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

### **Prayer for the Sick**

Lord, our God, You sent your Son into the world  
To bear our infirmities and to endure our sufferings.  
I pray for \_\_\_\_\_, your servant who is sick,  
I ask that your blessing will give him/her  
strength to overcome his/her weakness  
through the power of patience and the comfort of hope.  
And that with your aid he/she will soon be  
restored to health.  
I ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

### **Prayer of St. Francis**

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace:  
where there is hatred, let me sow love;  
where there is injury, pardon;  
where there is doubt, faith;  
where there is despair, hope;  
where there is darkness, light;  
where there is sadness, joy.  
O divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek  
to be consoled as to console,  
to be understood, as to understand,  
to be loved as to love,  
For it is in giving that we receive,  
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
and it is in dying that we are born into eternal life.

### **Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel**

St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle.  
Be our protection against the wickedness and  
snares of the devil.  
May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do thou,  
O Prince of the heavenly hosts,  
By the power of God, cast into hell Satan,  
and all the evil spirits, who prowl about the world,  
Seeking the ruin of souls. Amen

## Important Dates

Requirement	Due Date
Sunday Mass Attendance _____	Every Sunday
Always write your name on an offertory envelope and drop it in the collection basket, or turn in a signed bulletin with your name on it if you go to Mass at another church.	
Confirmation Meeting _____	Oct. 6 , 2024
Confirmation Covenant Agreement _____	Oct. 6, 2024
Holy Fire - Encounter with Christ ____	Saturday, Nov. 2, 2024
Sponsor Commitment & Verification Forms _	Dec. 1 & 2, 2024
Advent Reconciliation Service _____	Monday, Dec. 2, 2024
Saint Name and Report _____	Jan. 5 & 6, 2025
C2 - Letter of Request for Confirmation to Fr. Mark _____	Feb. 2 & 3, 2025
C2 - Robe Measurements _____	Mar. 2 & 3, 2025
C2 - Interview with Fr. Mark _____	March 2025
Lent Reconciliation Service _____	Mar. 10, 2025
Service Hour Completed _____	Apr. 27 & 28, 2025
C2 - Fruits of the Spirit & Service Hours Reflection Paper____ _____	Apr. 27 & 28, 2025
C2 Service Project or Day of Reflection ____	May 12 or 13, 2025
C2 Service Project or Day of Reflection ____	May 19 or 20, 2025
Confirmation Rehearsal _____	Sunday before Confirmation
<b>Student &amp; Sponsor must be present</b> _____	after 10:30 a.m. Mass
Celebration of Confirmation _____	T.B.A.

NOTE: All forms are available on the All Souls website:  
[www.allsoulscatholicparish.org](http://www.allsoulscatholicparish.org)