



IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND FORMS FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION AT ST. THERESA PARISH

This file contains:

- Information for the Sacrament of Confirmation
- Important Dates
- Holy Fire Confirmation Retreat (October 27) and Permission Slip (Due Sept 20)
- Sponsor Information (Due November 3, 2018)
- Letter of Intention (Due November 17, 2018)
- Confirmation Name (Due December 15, 2018)
- Confirmation Seating (Due December 15, 2018)
- Service Hours (Due February 2, 2019)

There is a lot of information included in this packet. It is important to read until the end. You might choose to save and/or print this information and refer back throughout the year.

This year, you will be preparing to receive the third Sacrament of Initiation, Confirmation. Confirmation is the completion of the Baptismal grace, where you are more perfectly bound to the Church, and enriched with the strength of the Holy Spirit. At Confirmation, you will be sealed as a witness for Christ, and you will be called to spread and defend the faith by words and actions. It is important to discern your readiness and pray about this decision.

The desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation is a grace that comes from God. It should be received when you are ready. After Confirmation, learning about the Faith does not end. Now, it is your responsibility to continue to learn about the faith, attend Mass, and receive the Sacraments regularly. As Catholics, we are called to **attend Mass every Sunday and on holy days of obligation**. We even have the availability to receive this Sacrament on a daily basis. Every time you receive Communion, you strengthen your intimate union with Christ.

Sunday Mass times at St. Theresa:

Saturday: 5pm (vigil)

Sunday: 7:00am, 8:30am, 10:00am, and 11:30am

*once a month Sunday evening LIFT Mass at 5:00pm)

As you prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, you should be able to recite the following prayers: *Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Act of Contrition, and Apostles and/or Nicene Creed*. You should be aware of: The Holy Days of Obligation, The Seven Sacraments, The Gifts of the Holy Spirit, The Ten Commandments, the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy.

Important Dates on the Journey to Confirmation

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time & Location</u>	<u>Activity</u>
Tues, September 11, 2018	St. Theresa Lower Dolan Time: 7:00pm – 9:00pm	Confirmation Kick-Off and Presentation by Rev. Timothy Monahan, Director of Vocations Student and Parent Informational Meeting
Thurs, September 20, 2018		DUE DATE: Holy fire Permission Slips
Sat, September 22, 2018	St. Theresa (outside) 8:00am	SERVICE OPPORTUNITY: Trot for Theresa 5k www.trotfortheresa.com www.signup.com/go/sskLvOd
Sat, October 20, 2020	St. Theresa Church and Lower Dolan 1:00pm – 4:30pm	SERVICE OPPORTUNITY: Northwest Families for Life – March for Life www.NorthWestFamiliesforLife.weebly.com
Sat, October 27, 2018	Meet: St. Theresa Dolan Lot Time: 7:45am – 4:00pm	Confirmation Retreat/Holy Fire Event at UIC Buses will leave the Dolan Lot and will return to St. Theresa by 4:00pm ** Note: Sunday Mass is not included in the retreat
Sat, November 3, 2018		DUE DATE: Sponsor Information Sponsors will be contacted with information
Sat, November 17, 2018		DUE DATE: Letter of Intention Formal Request for the Sacrament Letters will be mailed to the Bishop
Sat, December 15, 2018		DUE DATE: Confirmation Name, Seating Request
Sat, February 2, 2019		DUE DATE: Service Hours Due All students are asked to complete a minimum of 24 hours of service during the year – at least one hour in each of the following: Family, Church, and Community ** Hours can be turned in as completed
Tues, February 5, 2019	St. Theresa Church 7:00pm – 8:30pm	Confirmation Rehearsal All Confirmation Students and Sponsors
Sat, February 9, 2019	St. Theresa Church 9:30am and 1:30pm	Confirmation Liturgy with Bishop Rassas 9:30am Confirmation: Salvetti (STS Room L4) Hillenbrand (RE Tues 4:30pm Room L4) Fong (RE Tues 6:30 Room L4) Feerick (RE Sun Pauline Center) 1:30pm Confirmation: O'Malley (STS Room L5) Vandercar (RE Tues 4:30 Commons A), Goldstein (RE Sat 9:00 Commons A)
February 10, 2019 and following		Confirmation Mystagogia

LIFT Monthly Sunday Evening Teen Masses at 5:00pm in Church:

Sun, Oct 14, 2018	Sun, Nov 18, 2018	Sun, Dec 9, 2018	Sun, Jan 13, 2019
Sun, Feb 10, 2019	Sun, March 10, 2019	Sun, April 7, 2019	Sun, May 5, 2019

Holy Fire Confirmation Retreat

October 27, 2018 7:45am – 4:00pm



Holy Fire is The Confirmation retreat for St. Theresa, which is a one-day experience of dynamic speakers, music, and the Sacrament of the Eucharist. At Holy Fire, young people will be called to embrace their baptism and engage with the relevant and powerful Gospel of Jesus. Dynamic keynotes, mass and music include Paul J. Kim, Deacon Harold Burke-Sivers, Cardinal Cupich, Noelle Garcia, and Josh Blakesley Band. They will share the Gospel, their faith journey, and how important their baptismal call in to their lives. Reconciliation, Eucharistic Procession, Eucharistic Adoration, Renewal of Baptismal Promises, and Mass are all included in the event. Mass at Holy Fire is daily Mass and does not fulfill our Sunday obligation.

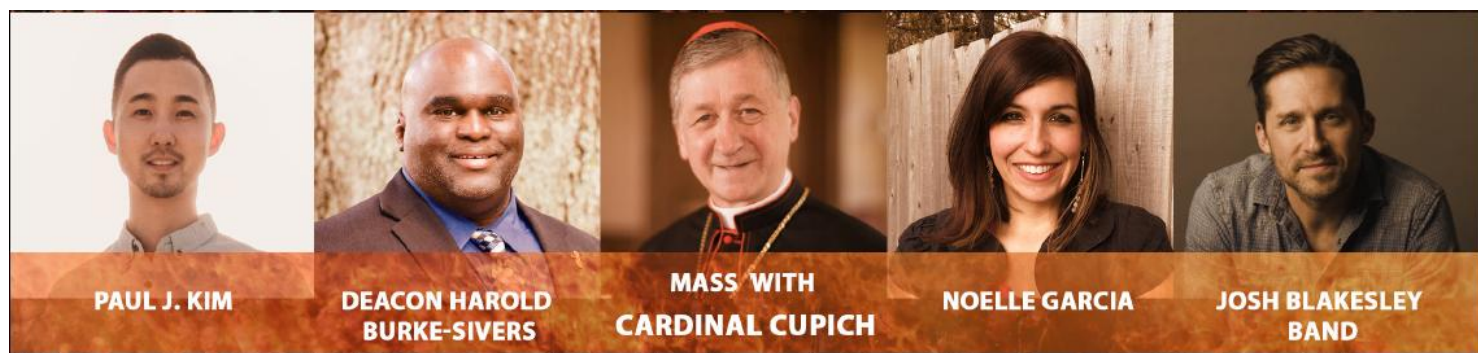
Transportation via bus from St. Theresa to UIC and returning to St. Theresa is included in the provided time. All students are expected to participate in a Confirmation retreat as part of the preparation for the Sacrament. It is important to arrive on time and stay with the group as we enter and exit the arena.

Vendors will be available during the lunch break if you are interested in purchasing Catholic merchandise.

The Youth Code of Conduct is available on the parish website: sttheresachurch.org/confirmation

If you want more information about Holy Fire, visit: <https://pvm.archchicago.org/events/holy-fire>

All permission slips are due to the Religious Education Office no later than Thursday, September 20, 2018.



**ST. THERESA CONFIRMATION RETREAT
PERMISSION SLIP and REGISTRATION FORM**

PLEASE RETURN BY THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2018

Activity:	St. Theresa Confirmation Retreat: Holy Fire Catholic Young Event		
Cost:	Covered By Confirmation Fee	Lunch:	Bring a Bag Lunch with you
When:	Saturday, October 27, 2018	Time:	7:45am – 4:00pm
Where Meet:	7:45 am St. Theresa Dolan Center Lot (455 N. Benton St, Palatine, IL 60067) Heading to the UIC Pavilion via Bus (525 S Racine Ave, Chicago, IL 60607)		

For more information, please call Elizabeth Vogt at 847-359-2846 x 111

STUDENT NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

STREET: _____ CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL _____ BIRTHDATE: _____

SCHOOL: _____ GRADE IN SCHOOL: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____ RELATIONSHIP: _____

CELL PHONE: _____ HOME/WORK PHONE: _____

ALTERNATE EMERGENCY CONTACT: _____ RELATIONSHIP: _____

CELL PHONE: _____ HOME/WORK PHONE: _____

I request that St. Theresa Parish and School allow my child to participate in the Confirmation Retreat: Holy Fire Catholic Youth Event. The event is sponsored by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry, Inc (NFCYM) and Declan Weir Productions, Inc (DWP). I understand this is a one-day religious education event sponsored by NFCYM and DWP at a venue controlled by neither NFCYM or DWP. In the event of an emergency, I grant permission for emergency medical care to be administered. I have received the Holy Fire Youth Code of Conduct. I understand that my child will be transported via bus to and from the event. I also give permission for my child's image to be used on the media communication from St. Theresa Parish and School.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Printed Name

Signature of Participant

Date Signed

SPONSOR

In ancient times when the majority of new members of the Church were adult converts, the sponsor played a very important and practical role. He or she saw that the convert was properly instructed, often giving the instructions personally. Likewise, the sponsor attended to the convert's spiritual growth in much the capacity of a spiritual director. The sponsor helped the person develop a prayer life and correct moral faults. Equally important, the sponsor introduced the convert to the other members of the community, its fellowship, and its ministry. In this way, the sponsor's role actually continued after the initiation ceremony so that the new member would not only feel at home but become firmly established within the community. This same practice holds true today in the RCIA program.

A sponsor should be chosen because he/she is an exemplary, active member in the Catholic faith community. This sponsor should be equipped to oversee the candidate's catechetical preparation and spiritual development and guide the newly initiated in assuming an active role in the life and fellowship of the faith community.

Ideally, the candidate's Baptismal Sponsor (godparent) continues his/her work as a guide by being the Confirmation sponsor as well. However, you do not have to choose your Baptismal Sponsor as your Confirmation Sponsor. To be practical, keep in mind that the sponsor is to be present to the candidate and with the candidate during the time of preparation. Please remember and see the importance of keeping this communication even after receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation is not something you receive and forget about, but is another beginning in your faith life.

The Church requirements for sponsors are:

- Sponsor must be practicing Catholic (other than a parent) who has sufficient maturity for this role (sponsor should be at least 16 years of age)
- Sponsor must be fully-initiated Catholic (has received Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation) who lives a Christian way of life
- Sponsor should be an individual who takes an active interest in the Confirmand's faith

Please remember to pray about this decision. Once you have chosen your sponsor, complete and return the **Sponsor Information Form**. You are asked to select your sponsor early in the year so your sponsor can be involved in the preparation process. It is important to include the name and address of your sponsor on the form. Sponsors will be contacted by the parish.

Confirmation Sponsor Information Due: November 3, 2018.

Confirmation Sponsor Information

Due: November 3, 2018

Candidate Information

Name of Confirmation Candidate: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Home Parish: _____

Date of candidate's baptism: _____ Church of Baptism: _____

Address of Church where Baptized: _____

Godparents: _____

First and last name of candidate's father: _____

First name and maiden name of candidate's mother: _____

Sponsor Information

Sponsor's name: _____

Sponsor's Address: _____

Sponsor's email address (if applicable): _____

Sponsor's Parish (including city and state): _____

Letter of Intention to the Parish Community

Due: November 17, 2018

The official request for the Sacrament of Confirmation is a Letter of Intention. You are asked to write a letter of Intention to Bishop Rojas and the St. Theresa Parish community requesting the Sacrament, why you want to become a fully initiated Catholic through Confirmation. This letter will be sent to Bishop Rojas and will be included in your file. Letters can be submitted to your teacher/catechist or emailed to: elizabethv@sttheresachurch.org. Please take this assignment seriously.

Greeting

Dear Bishop, Fr. Tim Fairman, and St. Theresa Parish,

Body of Letter

Introduce yourself – tell something about your family, your background

Request the Sacrament – give several reasons why you want to be Confirmed.

Explain what the Sacrament of Confirmation means to you and how you have prepared for Confirmation through prayer, service, Sacraments.

If you have selected a Confirmation name, share the name and why you selected it.

Share the sponsor you have selected and why.

Include how you plan to continue your faith journey after you receive Confirmation.

Conclusion

Conclude the letter and sign your full name

Accepting a Confirmation Name

Due: December 15, 2018

There are several people in the Bible who received a name after being changed in a remarkable way or after receiving a new mission from God. Abram - Abraham, Simon - Peter, Saul - Paul

When you receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, your life will be changed forever, and you will receive a new mission from God (to spread the faith by word and deed).

You may accept a new name or keep your Baptismal name. If you accept a new name, it is to be a name of a recognized saint of the Catholic Church. The saint whose name you receive will serve as a patron and a model for you. You will have a special relationship with this saint, and this saint can intercede and pray for you.

If you keep your Baptismal name (first or middle name of a recognized saint), you are expressing the relationship that exists between Baptism and Confirmation, unifying the Sacraments of Initiation. Spend time in prayer. Once you accept your Confirmation name, you will need to find out more about the life of that saint and complete the following information:

Your Name	Saint's Name (derivative receiving)
Saint's Feast Day	Information About the Saint – family, occupation, life/death
Virtues this saint practiced in life	What attracted you to this saint
How the saint will help you grow in your faith even after Confirmation	

Request for Seating at Confirmation Liturgy

We are very blessed to have a large Confirmation program at St. Theresa. It is a special experience to have your family next to you at the moment of Confirmation. In order to accommodate all Confirmation candidates being seated at the end of a pew, assigned seating is for the candidate, immediate family, and sponsor. Immediate family consists of parents and siblings of the Confirmation candidate.

The sponsor's family, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, friends, etc. are asked to sit in the unreserved pews. Unreserved seating will be available on a first-come basis, but we anticipate more than enough available seating.

Please complete this form and return to the Religious Education Office by **December 15, 2018.**

Candidate's Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ Candidate's Height (for robes): _____

Number of seats to be reserved
(including candidate, sponsor, parents, siblings): _____

Do you have a trained altar server in your family who is interested in being an altar server at the Confirmation Liturgy? If so,

Name of Altar Server: _____ Grade: _____

Name of Altar Server: _____ Grade: _____

Do you have a trained Extraordinary Minister of Communion in your family who is interested in assisting with Communion during the Confirmation Liturgy? If so,

Name of Eucharistic Minister: _____ Contact #: _____

Name of Eucharistic Minister: _____ Contact #: _____

St. Theresa may take photographs to use in the parish bulletin, the parish website, and other parish social media. If you do not want your child(ren)'s picture taken, please contact the Religious Education Office.

GUIDELINES FOR SERVICE PROJECTS

Why are you asked to complete service hours for Confirmation?

Joyfully serving others is one of the ways we show that we are Catholic. Completing service hours is not “just for Confirmation,” but one of the ways we as Christians and as Catholics are called to follow Christ. As a baptized Catholic, you will soon be fully initiated into a Church that expects you to love and serve others.¹ Who knows, you might even enjoy it!

How many service hours must I complete?

You are asked to complete a minimum of 24 hours from January 2018 – January 2019.

You should not receive payment for your volunteer service.

There is a minimal requirement of one hour in each of three categories: Family, Church, Community. Please submit a separate service hour form for each different type of service completed. If you go to the same place, help the same person multiple times, you can submit one form for all the dates for that service.

What would be some examples of service opportunities in each of the categories?

Family Service – service starts in the family. This is going over and beyond your usual chores.

You can do something individually for someone in your family, or complete a family service project.

Examples: helping with yard work cheerfully, cleaning out the garage without complaining, baby-sitting for free for parents or aunts and uncles, visiting or helping an older relative, etc

Church Service – we are all part of the Church family, so by volunteering in the Church, you are helping to strengthen the Church, grow in your faith, and help others grow in their faith.

You can do this individually, with your family, or with a small group.

Examples: attending parish missions and speakers, spending time in Adoration, Religious Education aide for younger students, Children’s Liturgy of the Word volunteer, Jesus Day 2nd grade retreat volunteer, VBS volunteer, helping with any of the various ministries in the church, LIFT service opportunities available for Confirmation students, rehearsals/practices for liturgy (Mass does not count), visiting a seminary/monastery/convent for formal prayer or religious activities, etc

Community Service – we are part of the community and can use opportunities to promote the Gospel.

Examples: volunteering at a nursing home/hospital, serving as a teacher’s aide, helping in the school store, teaching dance lessons, help coach sports teams, work with area charitable organizations, volunteer at Feed My Starving Children or a food pantry, help with school fundraisers, etc

Things to Remember:

Sign up for the service opportunity beforehand, so the organization/person knows you are coming.

Sign up for an activity only if you are committed to serving. The organizers are counting on your help.

Only bring a friend if that friend is signed up to help with the activity as well, and remember you are there first and foremost for the service activity.

Please remember, you are going there to earn service hours – no one owes you service hours.

When participating in a service activity, arrive on time, introduce yourself, and let the person in charge know you are there to help. Be sure to bring a service hour report with you. When you are finished completing your service activity, kindly ask for a signature. Be polite and treat everyone with kindness and respect. Additional forms are available on the parish website.

If you have questions on a service activity or have a service opportunity you would like to share with others, please contact Elizabeth Vogt at 847-359-2846 Ext 111 or elizabethv@sttheresachurch.org.

¹ Adapted from “Catholic Parent Know How: Preparing Your Child – Confirmation” *Our Sunday Visitor* #R112

St. Theresa Confirmation Preparation
SERVICE HOUR & PARTICIPANT REPORT

Complete a separate report for each service project or activity. Please print legibly.

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Project Title/Activity Name: _____

Dates: _____

of Hours Earned for Project: _____ Please Circle One: Family Church Community

Describe the project/activity: _____

Supervisor: _____ Phone # or e-mail address: _____

Supervisor Signature: _____

MY REFLECTIONS ON THIS SERVICE:

SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

Counsel the Doubtful
Instruct the Ignorant
Admonish the Sinner
Comfort the Sorrowful
Forgive all Injuries
Bear Wrongs Patiently
Pray for the Living and the Dead

CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

Feed the Hungry
Give Drink to the Thirsty
Shelter the Homeless
Clothe the Naked
Visit the Sick and Imprisoned
Bury the Dead
Give Alms to the Poor

My service benefited others by: _____

The Work of Mercy Connected to my Service is: _____

How did you see Jesus in the places you went and in the people you served? _____

“Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.” Mt. 25:40