

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PACKET

Checklist of materials and due dates:

- ☐ Confirmation Candidate Registration Form
 - Due on/before January 3, 2026

- ☐ Baptism Certificate (*if outside of Most Holy Trinity or the former parishes of St. Ann's, St. Bernadette's, or St. Mary's*)
 - Due on/before January 3, 2026

- ☐ Candidate Commitment Form
 - Due on/before January 3, 2026

- ☐ Sponsor Card or Letter of Eligibility
 - Due on/before April 4, 2026
 - *obtained from parish of the sponsor*

- ☐ Confirmation Name Report
 - Due on/before March 7, 2026

- ☐ Letter to the Bishop
 - Due on/before March 7, 2026

- ☐ Service Log
 - Due on/before May 2, 2026

Information Concerning the Sacrament of Confirmation 2025-2026

GUIDELINES FOR PARISH PREPARATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE FOR CONFIRMATION IN THE DIOCESE OF SCRANTON

- ***Age considerations***

- Young people in 9th grade or above are invited to participate in a process of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Direct preparation for Confirmation takes place at the parish where the young person presently worships and/or is registered. Catholic schools do not offer preparation programs for Confirmation, and eligible young people will celebrate Confirmation in their own parish.

- ***Sponsors***

- Sponsors for Confirmation must meet the requirements as in Canon Law:
 - At least sixteen years old and have received all three sacraments of initiation;
 - Lead a life in harmony with the Catholic faith;
 - Not bound by any penalty of the Church;
 - Not the parent of the person to be confirmed
- In addition, the sponsors must be able to participate in the preparation process and willing to serve as a guide, confidante and listener. This assumes the local residency of the sponsor and that he or she has a positive and comfortable relationship with the candidate.

- ***Enrollment process/ Celebration Dates and Host Parishes***

- Annually, parishes will be asked to enroll the candidates who are seeking Confirmation within the given year. Based on this response, a specific number of Confirmation celebrations will be scheduled with Host Parishes, and the dates/locations published well in advance. In this way, most celebrations will include candidates from several parishes together.

- ***Interactions with Presiding Bishop***

- It is no longer necessary – but encouraged – to prepare students by having them memorize a fixed set of “questions for the Bishop.” However, the Bishop will still interact with them either before Mass or during the homily, and will invite them to respond to such questions as:
 - What does receiving the sacrament of Confirmation mean to you?
 - What is one way you have seen the gospel message of Jesus being lived out in your parish?
 - How do you intend to put your faith into action over the next few years?
 - What gifts do you want to share with your parish community?
 - How can your parish community continue to support you in your faith journey?

- ***Confirmation Name***

- It is most appropriate to be confirmed with one’s baptismal name, thereby reaffirming and bearing witness to the unity of the sacraments of initiation and the baptismal promises. Whether the young person is confirmed with his/her baptismal name, or chooses a new name for Confirmation, they are also strongly encouraged to have a very clear reason for the choice and how the patron saint or namesake provides them a model of lived faith.

- ***Service Hours***

- The purpose of service hours for Confirmation is not simply to attain a certain number of hours but to grow in the virtue of charity, and emphasis and build community. The requirements are:
 - 10 hours in Community
 - 10 hours in Parish
 - Service projects with class
 - Or any combination thereof

- ***Sacramental Catechesis***

- Each parish is tasked with the immediate preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation. The parish program is responsible for:
 - Promoting Knowledge of the Faith
 - Promoting Participation in Liturgy and Sacraments
 - Integrating Moral Formation and Life
 - Teaching to Pray

- Initiation into the life of the Church
 - Promoting Missionary Spirit
 - In order to cover these six key areas, Most Holy Trinity Parish will hold six mandatory catechetical preparation classes and a mandatory class retreat for the sacrament of Confirmation. Each class will begin with the 4pm Mass on Saturday and conclude at 6:00pm at the Parish Center. Attendance is mandatory and failure to participate will delay the reception of the sacrament.
 - Class dates will be announced at the parent meeting.
- ***Dress Code***
 - Confirmation is not graduation. Being Catholic means that learning to love God more deeply is a lifelong process and commitment. To help dispel the notion of the sacrament as graduation, gowns will no longer be worn.
 - The following are minimal diocesan guidelines for attire:
 - ***Young Men*** should wear dress slacks, dress shirt with tie, and dress shoes. A suit jacket may also be worn, but is optional. Shoes should be sensible for safety when walking. No jeans, sneakers or flip flops.
 - ***Young women*** should wear attire appropriate in length and style. Dresses or blouses will have a modest neckline with no bare shoulders. Shoes should be sensible for safety when walking. No jeans, sneakers or flip flops.

Most Holy Trinity Parish



CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE REGISTRATION 2025-2026

TO BE COMPLETED WITH FAITH FORMATION
REGISTRATION FORM

Candidate Full Name: _____
First Name Middle Name Last Name

Address: _____
Street Address City ZIP

Date & Place of Birth: _____
Date Place of Birth

Date & Place of Baptism: _____
Date Name of Parish

Parish Street Address City State Zip

Father of Candidate: _____
First Name Middle Name Last Name

Maiden Name of Mother: _____
First Name Middle Name Maiden Name

Sponsor for Confirmation: _____
First Name Middle Name Last Name

Parish of Sponsor: _____
Name City State ZIP

Confirmation Name: _____

Pastor Signature: _____



CANDIDATE COMMITMENT

“For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”

—Jeremiah 29:11

As a baptized Catholic, I am preparing for reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation, by which I will be more perfectly bound to the Catholic Church and enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the Faith as a witness of Christ.

As a candidate for Confirmation, I promise the following:

- I will approach my Confirmation journey with an open mind and an open heart.
- I will attend and will fully participate in the sacramental preparation program.
- I will be respectful of the leaders and facilitators of the program and show appreciation for their time and effort.
- I will show respect to those in my class who are on the journey with me.
- I will attend Mass every Sunday and on all holy days of obligation.
- I will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before my Confirmation.
- I will accept more responsibility in my family, parish, and community by putting my talents and gifts at the service of others.
- I will commit to daily prayer, praying especially for growth in faith, hope, and love.

As I make these promises, I ask God to give me the grace to be open to His plans for my life — plans He reveals to me in prayer, in my talents and aspirations, and in the encouragement of those who know and love me. I place myself in the loving embrace of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in asking for help in fulfilling this commitment.

Name of Candidate (Print)

Signature of Candidate

Date

Witnessed by: _____
Signature(s) of Candidate's Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s)



CONFIRMATION NAME

As a candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation, you have two options concerning the choice of a Confirmation name:

- 1. Stay with your present Baptismal name (your first name).** This shows the sacramental connection with the first and second part of your initiation into the Catholic Church – Baptism and First Eucharist. To stay with your baptismal name would demonstrate that you feel there has been a continual growth in your faith and you now wish to make this formal through Confirmation.
- 2. Select a saint's name symbolizing a new beginning in your faith life and a connection with that particular saint.**

Selecting a Saint's Name

When taking a name other than your baptismal name, the candidate for Confirmation selects the name of a person who has officially been declared a saint, blessed, or venerable by the Church or a person who is one of the faithful from the Bible.

How to select a Saint's name?

1. Life-time saint friends.

Candidates should recognize that they are not simply choosing a name they like, but they are asking a saint to be their friend for the rest of their lives. We call these life-time saint friends "patrons." Patrons help us live as Christians both through their praying for us (intercession) and their good example (witness). (cf. CCC 2156, 956)

2. Read stories about the Saints.

More than likely, candidates are not too familiar with many saints. Take time read the lives of the saints. There are many different books on saints. The internet also has many different websites on the saints. One place to start is to search websites such as the following:

- <http://www.catholic-forum.com/saints/indexsn1.htm>
- <http://www.catholic.org/saints/calendar>
- <http://gnm.org/saintscalendar>

You might start your reading with a saint that has similar interests. Sometimes, patrons are chosen because of their feast day falls on your birthday ... e.g. if your birthday is November 3, you would chose Martin for St. Martin de Porres. Sometimes, patrons might be chosen because of family ties, e.g. a grandfather's name is Mark, grandpa is a great person, so you would choose St. Mark. You might even start with your own baptismal name. There are many different starting points for choosing a particular saint. Ultimately, the patron chosen should be someone that you want to imitate in his/her love for Christ and others.

Confirmation Name Report Form

After finding a saint that inspires your faith, complete the form below.

What saint have you asked to be your friend? _____

When is his/her feast day? _____

Of what is he/she the patron saint? _____

Where and when was the saint born? _____

Name two ways that the saint was a disciple and witness of Jesus Christ?

1) _____

2) _____

Why did you choose this saint to be your friend? _____

PLEASE PRINT

Candidate's Name: _____

First Name

Last Name

Candidate's Confirmation Name: _____

Parent's Name: _____

First Name

Last Name

Parent's Signature: _____

Date Signed: _____

Role and Responsibility of Catholic Sponsor

A Sponsor is someone who gives spiritual guidance and encouragement to the person who is preparing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation; someone who will help the candidate live out his/her baptismal promises now and in the future

What are the requirements to be a sponsor for Confirmation?

Can. 893 §1. To perform the function of sponsor, a person must fulfill the conditions mentioned in can. 874.

§2. It is desirable to choose as sponsor the one who undertook the same function in baptism.

Can. 874 §1. To be permitted to take on the function of sponsor a person must:

1. be designated by the one to be baptized, by the parents or the person who takes their place, or in their absence by the pastor or minister and have the aptitude and intention of fulfilling this function.
2. have completed the sixteenth year of age, unless the diocesan bishop has established another age, or the pastor or minister has granted an exception for a just cause;
3. be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received the most holy sacrament of the Eucharist and who leads a life of faith in keeping with the function to be taken on;
4. not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared;
5. not be the father or mother of the one to be baptized.

§2. A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community is not to participate except together with a Catholic sponsor and then only as a witness of the baptism.

The **Sponsor** will need to obtain a **letter of eligibility** / sponsor card from the parish in which he/she is currently registered and active. Additionally, sponsor will need a copy of his/her **Confirmation certificate** (obtained from the parish of Confirmation or Baptism).



Letter to the Bishop

THIS IS ONLY A SAMPLE
Write the Letter in Your Own Words.

Date _____

Your Excellency, I, _____(*your full name*) _____, a member of Most Holy Trinity Parish in Cresco, Pennsylvania, ask you, Most Reverend Joseph Bambera, to confirm me as a full member of the Roman Catholic Church.

I want to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation because ... (*what does this Sacrament mean to you? What does being Catholic mean to you?*)

I have prepared for the sacrament by ... (*your service, prayer, studies, etc.*
– *not just this year but over the years*).

I have chosen _____(*sponsor's name*)_____ to present me to you on the day of my Confirmation and to witness to my commitment. I have made this choice because ... (*what is it about this person that draws you closer to Jesus and your Catholic Faith?*).

You will seal my commitment to Jesus and His Church by anointing me with oil and calling me by name. The name I wish to be called at my Confirmation is _____(*your chosen Confirmation name*)_____. I have chosen this name because ... (*what you learned when you did your saint report and why this name, this saint, is meaningful to you*).

I understand that when confirmed I will receive the fullness of the gifts of the Holy Spirit which I should use to help build up the Church. I wish to use my gifts and share in the building up of the Church by ... (*how do you feel called to be a better disciple of Jesus Christ, to serve the Catholic Church?*).

Sincerely,

Ideas for Service Hours

Volunteering with the younger Faith Formation classes

Contact Barb Page or Eileen Ziobro through the church office at 570-595-3100

Leave a message with Jo Ann, or whoever answers the phone, and Mrs. Page or Mrs. Ziobro will get back to you.

Volunteering at Trinity Treats Coffee Shop

Contact: Stephanie Thompson 570-872-4594 text or leave a message

Pocono Mountain Ecumenical Hunger Ministry (Food Pantry)

Contact: Lorraine Naiko 570-839-7200 leave a message

The Giving Tree

Contact: Cheryl Lynott (570) 350-6724

Making Cards - by hand - for the elderly in our church and/or for the First Holy Communion class.

Cards MUST be home made. Decorations and sentiments all done by hand.

25 cards will equal 2 hours. Drop finished cards off to the church office Attn to Barb Page with your name on them.

These are just a few ideas. You can volunteer with the church and/or your community in other ways, too. Just keep in mind that in order to count as service hours, you must be providing a service above and beyond your regular "chores". If you're not sure if an activity would be considered as service, please contact Mrs. Lynott or Mrs. Thompson to confirm.

Confirmation Service Log

Candidate's Name: _____

*Community – 10 hours**

Description	No. of Hours	Signature of Supervisor	Phone No. of Supervisor

*Parish – 10 hours**

Description	No. of Hours	Signature of Supervisor	Phone No. of Supervisor

Class Project(s)

Description	Signature of Supervisor

***Or a combination of hours thereof.**