

ST. GERTRUDE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Religious Education Program – Sacrament of Confirmation

Dear Confirmation Candidate,

To process your request for the sacrament of confirmation, please fill out the following forms:

- a) *How to choose your Saint's name* FORM-1
- b) *How to write a letter to the pastor requesting the Sacrament of Confirmation* FORM-2
- c) *Sponsor information* FORM-3
- d) *Sacramental Record* FORM-4
- e) *Service Logs* FORM-5

- Please, follow the instructions of each form and complete them.
- Send back an envelope containing **all forms**.
- Pay full attention to the dress code.

Remind your parents to:

- Include a copy of your baptismal certificate if you were not baptized at St Gertrude.
- Remember that both Confirmation Retreats are mandatory.
- Contact us if you have any questions.

Thank you in advance for sending your envelope on time.

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St. Gertrude Church

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a) How to choose your Saint's name (confirmation name)

The first thing to understand is *why* you are being asked to choose a saint.

As we go through our sacramental preparation for Confirmation, Confirmation saints are chosen to be a person we want to be like.

Through the process of canonization, when someone is declared by the Church to be a saint, the Church is proclaiming that this member of the faithful practiced heroic virtue during their life on earth, 'the Church recognizes the power of the Spirit of holiness within her and sustains the hope of believers by proposing the saints to them as models and intercessors' (CCC 828).

To aspire to be like a saint is the same as trying to imitate an actor, musician, or athlete; a confirmation saint is someone cool who we want to be like! You may have a famous actor, musician, or athlete that you really admire for his/her talents and skills. What many people don't realize is that there are good people to look up to within our Catholic Church for us to try to be like as well. In choosing a confirmation saint, we are choosing a special saint-friend to whom we can model our lives while here on earth.

On your confirmation day you will be called by your saint's name also known as Confirmation name. Please, pick a saint to emulate for his/her holiness. Once you have chosen a Saint (Male or Female Saint), complete the questions from **FORM-1**. Use a SIMILAR extra sheet of paper if it is needed.

b) How to write the letter to the pastor requesting the Sacrament of Confirmation

Below is an outline of the letter you will be writing to Rev. Richard Prendergast, Pastor of St. Gertrude Church. The following statements need to be answered in full.

- 1 First paragraph, introduce yourself and include information about yourself and your family.
- 2 Second paragraph, explain why you would like to be confirmed, and what Confirmation means to you.
- 3 Third paragraph, something you have learned in preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation.

- 4 Fourth paragraph, something you have learned during your ministerial service. (service hours)
- 5 Fifth paragraph, the reason you have chosen your sponsor
- 6 Sixth paragraph, the reason you have chosen your Confirmation name.
- 7 Seventh paragraph, closing remarks (thank you for taking time to read my letter, I look forward to your approval of my request to be confirmed, etc.)
- 8 Your name and signature.
- 9 Place and Date

Please, use **FORM-2** to write down your letter. If you need an extra sheet use the same kind of paper. Questions regarding this assignment, please call (773) 764 3621 or send an email to: eescamilla@stgertrudechicago.org

Dress Code for Confirmation Candidates

While the church greatly respects the uniqueness and individuality in each of its members, it holds that modesty is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit and that “Teaching modesty to children and adolescents means awakening in them respect for the human person.” (CCC 25234)

It is in the spirit of fostering respect for each other and for the sanctity of the Sacrament of Confirmation that we set forth a code of dress consistent with our culture’s view of modesty. Semi-formal, modest attire is appropriate to the solemn beauty of this occasion.

Young Men

Attire: Any color suit or sports coat, dress shoes, pants, and long sleeve shirt (tie is optional)

Young Women

Attire: Any color modest dress, skirt and blouse, pants suit or dress pants and blouse (dress or skirt must be knee length or longer; chest, back and shoulders must be covered); dress shoes. Also, when fixing your hair, your forehead must be uncovered for the anointing.