

# Confirmation Information Booklet

## For Holy Name of Jesus

Within the Archdiocese of Mobile, Archbishop Thomas J. Rodi, via prudential judgment, has decided to move the age of Confirmation to the 11th grade. Starting in the 9th grade, students are eligible to commit to a two year process of formation which will consist of the following components:

- Catechesis
- Parish Involvement/Service
- Spirituality/ Prayer

While these are the requirements for the Archdiocesan program, how these are fulfilled is left up to the individual pastors. In response to this challenge, I have created the following Confirmation Program

In this booklet you will find a detailed description of the program requirements as well as forms that should be filled out and turned in to the Confirmation Coordinator, Katie Bexley. We ask that you please familiarize yourself with the requirements so you can better understand what is expected of you over this two year program.

Should you have any questions regarding the confirmation program please do not hesitate to ask our Confirmation coordinator or email [youth@holynameofjesus.org.in](mailto:youth@holynameofjesus.org.in). We look forward to working with you during this 2 year period and are excited that you have chosen to grow in a deeper relationship with Christ and to become a full and active member in his Church

In Christ,

Fr. Patrick Arensberg  
Pastor  
Holy Name of Jesus Church

## **Catechesis:**

Each Student must have adequate knowledge of the faith in order to receive Confirmation; therefore, they must participate in an approved catechetical formation program. In the process of catechetical instruction each student will fall into one of the following categories:

1. **McGill-Toolen Students:** Catechetical Instruction is fulfilled by passing your Theology courses.
2. **Homeschoolers:** Catechetical Instruction is fulfilled if your homeschooling program has an approved Catechetical Component. Present your program to the Director of Religious Education at your parish for approval.
3. **Other Private School and Public School Students:** Catechetical instruction is fulfilled by your participation at Mass and supplemented by attending Youth group, Wednesday Nights 6:30 pm in the Youth Room or attending RCIA classes Tuesday Night at 7:00pm

## **Service:**

Each confirmation candidate will be required to be an active member of Holy Name of Jesus. Along with weekly attendance at Mass, membership of the parish is also seen in service. Therefore each confirmation candidate will be asked to serve the parish in some way. Examples of service include, but are not limited to: Altar serving, Youth group attendance, cleaning around the parish grounds, teacher aid at CCD classes, etc. Special parish service projects are available, but must be approved by the pastor.

## **Spirituality/Prayer**

This most important component will be accomplished in 3 ways:

1. Attend Mass **EVERY SUNDAY** and Holy day as well as frequent confession
2. Must attend the interview at the conclusion of the 2-year program

### **I.** Attend Mass every Sunday as well as frequent confession.

- The Mass schedule at Holy Name is as follows:  
5:30pm Saturday Vigil Mass                      2:00pm Sunday  
8:00am Sunday  
10:30am Sunday

- Confession is heard on Saturday from 4:30pm-5:15

### **II.** **Participate in One Annual Catholic Retreat**

- The Parish Confirmation retreat will take place on **Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at 6pm**. It is our hope that you attend this retreat in order to build community amongst your Confirmation classmates.
- If a candidate is unable to attend the confirmation retreat, they will be required to participate in another Catholic Retreat/Pilgrimage experience. Examples include, but are not limited to:

- Archdiocesan SEARCH Retreats
  - November 11-13<sup>th</sup> (Camp Baldwin, Elberta)
- Alabama Catholic Youth Conference (ACYC)
  - February 17-19, 2017
- March for Life Pilgrimage- Jan 25-29 2017
- Life Teen Covecrest Summer Camp
- Steubenville-Atlanta Youth Conference

**III. Must attend the interview with the Pastor** - At the end of 2-year program, confirmation candidates must be interviewed by the Pastor before they are confirmed

## **Other Requirements:**

**Sponsor:** A sponsor is required for the person being confirmed. Parents cannot be sponsors for their own children, although they may be proxies. Any Catholic, sixteen years of age or older, can be a sponsor if he or she has received the Sacraments of Confirmation and the Eucharist, and is practicing the faith. Good choices for a Confirmation sponsor would be one of the candidate's Godparents to show the close connection between Baptism and Confirmation or a confirmed Catholic whom the candidate admires and who bears witness to the gospel in his or her everyday life. There may be one or two sponsors. Sponsors do not have to be the same gender as the candidate.

**Confirmation Name:** Candidates are encouraged to use their baptismal name in the rite, once again showing that Confirmation is an affirming and strengthening of the commitment of Baptism. However, a saint's name, other than your baptismal name may be selected as an option. During the interview, the Candidate will be asked which saint they have chosen and to provide a brief summary of that saint's life as well as importance to the Church and to the candidate

**Administrative Paperwork:** The following documentation must be provided to the Confirmation Coordinator:

- a. Annotated Copy of Baptismal Certificate from Baptismal parish
- b. Sponsor Agreement/Eligibility Form
- c. Confirmation Candidate Information Sheet
- d. Inscription Promise

# Confirmation Registration Form

\_\_\_\_\_ Parish

*Information on this form is held in confidence and is not shared without your permission.*

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## I. CONTACT INFORMATION

First: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
(include city, state and country)

Name of Father: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Mother: \_\_\_\_\_

Teen lives with: \_\_\_\_\_  
(if different than above)

Full Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## II. RELIGIOUS HISTORY

1. Where were you baptized? \_\_\_\_\_  
(include church name, city, state)

2. Date of your baptism: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Check all other sacraments you have already received:

Penance (Confession)

First Communion

## III. SPONSOR (If you do not know who your sponsor will be, please leave blank.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Inscription Promise

I, \_\_\_\_\_, a member of  
Holy Name of Jesus in Semmes, Alabama, desire to affirm my belief in Jesus and  
His Church through the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Therefore, I ask to become a candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation and to enter  
the program of preparation being offered to me by my parish.

To the best of my ability, I agree to take part in the learning sessions and activities that  
are a part of the program of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

I accept the responsibility to open my mind and heart to the activities of the Holy Spirit  
during this time of preparation.

Candidate's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witnessed by Parent \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## —Sponsor Eligibility Form—

I have been asked to be the Confirmation sponsor for the following individual:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Confirmation Candidate's Name)

In establishing proof of my ability to meet the Canonical requirements for sponsorship, I hereby promise the following to be true and accurate:

- I am a baptized member of the Catholic Church and have received the Sacraments of Confirmation and the Eucharist.
- I am at least sixteen years of age.
- I regularly attend Sunday Mass, holy Days of Obligation, and worthily receive the Eucharist at least once a year during the Easter season.
- I am a registered member of a Catholic parish and I fulfill the obligations to my parish to the best of my ability.
- If married, my marriage is a sacramental marriage recognized by the Catholic Church.

In addition, I intend to support the person begin conferred this sacrament by my prayers, by my continued interest in his/her Catholic growth, and by the Christian example of my daily life.

*I do solemnly declare that I fulfill all the requirements listed above to act as a Sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation.*

Printed name of Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

I am a registered member of \_\_\_\_\_ Catholic Parish which is located in

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.  
(city) (state)

*Attestation by Pastor of acceptable fitness for sponsorship based on all requirements above:*

Rev. \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

(Pastor)

**CODE OF CANON LAW**  
**(PROMULGATED JANUARY 25, 1983)**  
**BOOK IV. THE SANCTIFYING FUNCTION OF THE CHURCH**  
**PART I. THE SACRAMENTS**  
**TITLE I. BAPTISM**  
**CHAPTER IV. SPONSORS**

CANON 872 Insofar as possible, a person to be baptized is to be given a sponsor who assists an adult in Christian initiation or together with the parents an infant for baptism. A sponsor also helps the baptized person to lead Christian life in keeping with baptism and to fulfill faithfully the obligations inherent in it.

CANON 873 There is to be only one male sponsor or one female sponsor or one of each.

CANON 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.

**TITLE II. THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**  
**CHAPTER IV. SPONSORS**

CANON 892 Insofar as possible, there is to be a sponsor for the person to be confirmed; the sponsor is to take care that the confirmed person behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligation inherent in this sacrament.

CANON 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.

## CANDIDATE DOCUMENTATION / REQUIREMENT CHECK-LIST

- Registration form
  
- Catechetical Requirement  
Program (Circle One)
  - A. McGill-Toolen
  - B. Home school
  - C. Youth Group
    - Registered for Youth Ministry Program
  
- Annotated Baptismal Certificate (if baptized in a different parish)
  
- Inscription Promise
  
- Candidate Information Sheet for Parish Registry
  
- Sponsor Agreement/Eligibility Form
  
- Saint Name: \_\_\_\_\_
  
- Catholic Retreat
  
- Parish Service Projects

Communication will be distributed via the following avenues:

1. Emails from the Confirmation coordinator ([youth@holynameofjesus.org.in](mailto:youth@holynameofjesus.org.in))
2. Parish Mass and Bulletin announcements

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask:

Fr. Pat Arensberg: [frpat@holynameofjesus.org.in](mailto:frpat@holynameofjesus.org.in)

Katie Bexley: [youth@holynameofjesus.org.in](mailto:youth@holynameofjesus.org.in)

Phone: 251- 649-4794

### Resources

**The following will be good resources for you and your family to use during the Confirmation process:**

- *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. 2nd ed
- *The New American Bible*. Saint Joseph ed.
- Miller, Michael J.. *Youcat English: Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church*.
- *Compendium, Catechism of the Catholic Church*.
- Trigilio, John, and Kenneth Brighenti. *Catholicism for Dummies*. New York: Wiley Pub., 2003.