

THE CONFIRMATION INTERVIEW

LOGISTICS

- If you haven't done so, sign up on the MSHS Bulletin Board for one of three dates in the summer: June 29 (FULL), July 13, or August 3, between 7:00 - 8:30pm.
- Interviews are conducted on a first-come, first-served basis -- this means that there will be approximately 8 interviewers in Creedon Hall. The first 8 Candidates to arrive go in first; after that, every time a Candidate finishes and comes out, the next person in line goes in.
- The interviewers are primarily current and former catechists, but may also include one of our priests or deacons.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the interview is to give you the opportunity to articulate for yourself, in your own words, what the sacrament of Confirmation is and why you are choosing to receive it. It also gives you the opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

Be assured that the purpose of the interview is not to "pass" or "fail" you. We are here to help you, so if it becomes clear in the interview that there is something important you don't know or understand, we will follow up with you to make sure you do before you receive Confirmation.

PREPARATION

You should reflect on what you have studied and done in the last year to prepare for the sacrament, and your personal thoughts/feelings about receiving the sacrament.

Questions for reflection include:

- What is the meaning of the sacrament of Confirmation?
- Why do you want to be confirmed? (*get beyond clichés like "to become an adult in the Church..."*)
- Why do we choose a Confirmation sponsor? Who did you choose as a sponsor and why?
- Why do we choose a Confirmation name? Which saint name did you choose and why?
- What kind of service did you do for your Pentecost Project? Why? Did you encounter Christ in others through your service? How?
- How might you want to serve in the Church and/or community after Confirmation?
- What are the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit (listed on next page) that are strengthened in the sacrament of Confirmation?
- What gift or gifts of the Holy Spirit do you feel you need most at this time in your life?
- What does the word disciple mean? What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus? What does that look and feel like in your daily life?

The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

In Baptism, we receive the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit. In Confirmation, these gifts are strengthened in us so that we may have the help we need to be disciples of Jesus.

- **Knowledge.** The gift of knowledge is the ability to comprehend the basic meaning and message of Jesus.
- **Understanding.** The gift of understanding is the ability to comprehend how we must live as followers of Jesus
- **Wisdom.** Through wisdom the ups and downs of our lives take on deeper meaning and purpose.
- **Right judgment.** The gift of right judgment is the ability to know the difference between right and wrong and then to choose what is good.
- **Courage.** The gift of courage enables us to take risks and to overcome fear as we try to live out the Gospel of Jesus. The Spirit gives Christians the strength to confront and ultimately overcome the many challenges they face.
- **Reverence (also known as Piety).** Through the gift of reverence, we can come before God with the openness and trust of small children, totally dependent on the One who created us.
- **Wonder and Awe (also known as the Fear of God).** Though we can approach God with the trust of little children, we are also often aware of God's total majesty, unlimited power, and desire for justice.

