

Confirmation 2018 Information Meeting April 18/19, 2016 (Revised June 27, 2016)

Confirmation 7th Grade Requirements

○ What is Stewardship?

- As Confirmed Catholics we are responsible to lead a life in service to others, our Church, our environment and our community.
- This is the beginning, not the end, of putting your faith into action.
- Ministry is not something to quickly do and be done with.
- Before receiving the sacrament of Confirmation, you will be asked which Parish Ministry you will stay involved with.

○ Confirmation Parish Service

- 7th graders are required to complete at least **6 parish service hours** that benefit Our Lady of Lourdes Church and its parishioners
- **7th Grade hours are accumulated between June 1, 2016 and May 2, 2017**
- Some service opportunities are:
 - Music Ministry Choirs
 - Alter Serving – earn 1 hour per mass served; must have your booklet signed at the mass you serve by the presiding priest or deacon. Cannot be used for your Parish Ministry Project.
 - Church Decorating
 - Baking for meetings, special events
 - Green Thumb – spring, summer, fall watering and weeding
 - Youth Mass – 1.5 hours
 - Youth Group Projects
 - Babysitting for *Evening of Welcome* and other parish functions
 - Parish Events; Egg Hunt, St. Francis of Assisi Day, St. Nick Party, etc.
 - Teen Stations of the Cross

- **Confirmation Service Worksheets** – Worksheets given at registration on May 2/3, 2016.
 - **All worksheets are due on May 2, 2017 and no earlier please.**
 - Complete a worksheet for each parish event you volunteer for.
 - The worksheet must be signed by a ministry volunteer.
 - By May your worksheets must add up to at least 6 parish service hours.
 - Please return the worksheets completely filled out.

- **Parish Ministry Participation Project** - Worksheets given at registration on May 2/3, 2016.
 - **This project is due on May 2, 2017.**
 - There are over 40 parish ministries. Look on the parish website under “Resources” for a description of each parish ministry.
 - Choose a ministry you have not volunteered for before.
 - Volunteer for 1-1/2 hours in a volunteer lead parish ministry.
 - Interview the Ministry Leader of the ministry you volunteered for
 - Fully complete the 2 worksheets.
 - This project can be counted toward your 6 required parish service hours.
 - Some volunteer lead Parish Ministries are:
 - Green Thumb
 - Blood Drive
 - Knights of Columbus
 - Noah’s Ark
 - Special Needs
 - Shepherd’s Meal
 - Starfish

- **Spiritual Requirements** -Candidates must attend 2 spiritual events other than required weekly mass and Holy Day masses. Worksheets given at registration on May 2/3, 2016
 - **Both worksheets are due May 2, 2017**
 - Some suggestions are:
 - Attend All Souls Day Mass
 - Participate in or attend a Stations of the Cross
 - Attend a triduum mass (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday)
 - Visit a Catholic Shrine
 - Attend an Adoration
 - Attend a Catholic Retreat

○ **Catholic Faith Basics Evaluation**

- Candidates will be evaluated on their knowledge of the Catholic Faith.
- **Evaluation is given during Faith Formation class on April 2, 3 or 4, 2017.**
- Candidates must complete the evaluation to continue on to Confirmation Prep Class in 8th grade.
- A study guide will be provided.
- Candidate and parent will meet with Fr. Len if candidate do poorly.

Submission of 7th Grade Confirmation Paperwork

- All paperwork must be submitted on time
- **All paperwork will be collected together in the candidates red folder on May 1/2.**
- Folders will be returned the following week.
- Do not turn in paperwork early.

Candidates Responsibility

- Stewardship Service Time and all Confirmation work are the responsibility of the candidate.
- Candidates are responsible for getting signatures for their time.
- Candidates should get in touch with me with any questions.
- Candidates not parents are to make contact with ministry leaders for their project.
- When I learn about service opportunities I will send out an email however my emails should not be your only source for finding opportunities. In these emails please note the contact person for each event as in many cases I am not the one you need to contact when volunteering.

Contact Info – Thank you for your understanding.

- Please contact me with any questions or concerns, during work hours, at my work phone or email.*
 - sacraments@ollwhs.org
 - 908-534-2319 (ext. 20)

* When you see me outside of the parish and outside office hours please respect my personal and family time. Please do not contact me on my personal cell, home phone or personal email. Please do not be offended if I ask you to email me at work when you approach me outside of my work hours with a question.

Choosing a Sponsor

Sponsor Certificate Sample

- Read the front and back of the sample “*Certificate & Guidelines for Sponsors at Confirmation*” in its entirety.

The Purpose of a Sponsor

- Spiritual mentor – choice not to be taken lightly – someone who devotedly practices the Catholic faith
- Someone who will remain forever an active confidant in the candidate’s life.
- Someone to seek council on life and faith questions other than parents.

Criteria

- Must be at least 14 years old.
- Must have received the sacraments of Baptism, Communion and Confirmation.
- If married, must be married by a Catholic priest.
- May be either male or female.
- Cannot be a biological parent.
- ***Must be a practicing Catholic* - attends weekly Sunday mass and Holy Day masses**

FYI

- If a sibling is away at college and attends mass while there a note is required from the campus priest saying that they attend weekly mass regularly. Also ensure that they attend mass when home for holidays and summer.
- Siblings 23 yrs. or older can register as a separate parishioner of the OLL parish.

Notes on Sponsors from Our Lady of Lourdes Church

- Parishioners are not automatically approved.
- **The certificate must be submitted to the parish office and approved by Fr. Len before it is given to me.**
- Do not give me a form before it has been approved by Fr. Len.

Sponsor Certificate Form will be given out at next year’s registration in May 2017 and will be due at the first Confirmation Prep Class in September 2017.