

DIOCESAN CONFIRMATION RETREAT 2 ANSWER SHEET (Turn into DRE/Catechist after completion)

Questions from “Why is Confirmation Important?”:

1. In what ways is Confirmation the beginning of your faith life?
2. Go to <https://www.catholic.com/magazine/print-edition/the-seven-gifts-of-the-holy-spirit> and review the article on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Choose one Gift that is your favorite or one Gift that you would like to pray for and practice on. What about the particular gift you chose do you think will bring you closer to Jesus Christ?
3. Name some specific ways that you can keep the presence of the Holy Spirit and His gifts alive and strong in your life.

Questions from “What Does Confirmation Mean to You?”:

1. Now that you have completed (or are close to completing) the classroom requirements to receive the Sacrament, have you had the chance to think about what it is that Confirmation means to you?

2. Have your mom and/or dad, grandma and/or grandpa, sponsor tell you about what Confirmation means to them (please choose your sponsor and at least 1 other to interview). Ask them questions such as why was this Sacrament important to them? What do they remember about receiving the Sacrament? What Gifts of the Holy Spirit have they really relied on or worked on? What struggles have they encountered in living their faith since their Confirmation? What is one thing that they wish someone would have told them about Confirmation before they were confirmed?

3. Having taken part in the above interviews, find a half-an-hour of quiet that is free from phones, television, interruptions (as much as possible) and truly consider the question, “What does Confirmation mean to me?” One suggestion for this time of prayer is that once in your quiet place, be silent for a couple of moments, then quietly but audibly announce the question, then wait and listen to what comes to your mind and heart. Repeat this process several times over the course of the half-an-hour long prayer session. Don’t forget to use your journal if it helps you.

Questions from “How to Live Your Confirmation Now?”:

1. How do we know that we are living out our Confirmation? Share ways that you, both parent and child, are still living out your Confirmation today. What are the ways that others can see Jesus Christ alive in you? Consider some ways in your own life that could benefit from the presence of Jesus Christ being intentionally invited into your life. Take some time to discuss this together as a family.

2. Of the 6 Precepts listed above in B, which of these are most challenging to you? Which of the 6 listed could you personally or together as a family take on to grow in your commitment to Jesus Christ and the Church? Mindful of God's great generosity to us, how can we better respond to the grace of God's generosity to us? In what different ways?

3. Spend some time with your confirmand child to make a list of prayers you will commit to saying daily to help you "pray without ceasing". Hold each other accountable by asking each other, "Did you remember to say your prayers daily today?"

4. Look over the Works of Mercy. As a family, draw-up a plan to practice 2, one Corporal and one Spiritual, over this next year. In your plan, set a regular time in which you pray, practice the particular Work of Mercy, discuss how you encountered Jesus through this Work, and close with prayer.

5. Individually, read Matthew 25:31-46. What do you notice about this story? How does this Parable relate to your own life? What scares you about this Parable? After reflecting on these questions by yourself, come together as a family and discuss your answers.