

ST. LUKE THE EVANGELIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

CONFIRMATION LETTER OF INTENT

Adapted from the Diocese of Arlington

Dear Candidate,

The Sacrament of Confirmation is a completion of the Sacrament of Baptism. Through Baptism, our souls are permanently transformed when God the Father claims us as His beloved children and when He pours His Holy Spirit into our hearts, to dwell within us and teach us all truth. Through Confirmation, the Holy Spirit strengthens and seals His Gifts within us. God better equips us to serve as His missionaries in our families, communities, and the world.

To receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, the sole requirement is *the desire of the person to be confirmed*. Candidate, you must come freely, of your own volition, for your heart to be open to the Holy Spirit.

St. Paul tells the Ephesians, “In him we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will, so that we might exist for the praise of his glory, we who first hoped in Christ. In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised holy Spirit, which is the first installment of our inheritance toward redemption as God’s possession, to the praise of his glory” (1:11-14). In choosing to be confirmed, you are committing to cooperate with God’s mysterious plan for the salvation of all mankind. You are saying “yes” to a unique role that only you can fill, as God created you for this specific purpose.

Knowing this, Confirmation is not your “graduation” from the Catholic Faith; Confirmation is the springboard that will send you deeper in your relationship with God; it is the spark that will ignite your heart with confident love of the One who first loved you.

As you prepare to receive this beautiful Sacrament, completing your initiation into full communion with the Catholic Church, our Pastor asks that you write a letter expressing your desire to be confirmed and how you intend to live your Catholic Faith once you are confirmed. The purpose of this letter is fourfold:

1. to introduce you to our Pastor by describing their faith journey from Baptism up to Confirmation,
2. to express why you desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation,
3. to convey which Saint you choose for your Confirmation name and why, and
4. to inform our Pastor how you intend to grow in and live out your faith once you are confirmed.

This letter will be read by both the Director of Faith Formation and our Pastor. Candidate, take this letter seriously and write what is truly in your heart. Please use the format provided and proofread the letter for any spelling or grammatical errors. Parents and sponsors may proofread your letter, and they are not to write this letter for you. Letters are to be typed (MLA format) and submitted to the Director of Faith Formation by the first Sunday in December.