

SUPPORT SYSTEM

Candidate & Sponsor Retreat

Retreat Makeup Assignment

This is the makeup assignment for Candidates and their Sponsors who were not able to attend the Candidate & Sponsor Retreat on January 25, 2025.

Much of the Candidate & Sponsor Retreat was about deepening the spiritual relationship between a Candidate and their Sponsor. This is primarily done through conversations, asking and answering questions, and sharing our faith with each other through our actions and deeds.

Since you and your Sponsor were not able to attend the Candidate & Sponsor Retreat to share in the discussions and activities we did that evening, this packet will outline the assignments that you and your Sponsor will do together as a “makeup” in order to fully satisfy this requirement of Confirmation Preparation: there are 4 Discussions for you and your Sponsor to do together and 1 Activity (Sponsor Letter/Candidate Collage).

Complete ALL PARTS of this makeup assignment and turn them in to Mrs. Pott by March 17, 2025.

Students: if you are unable to print this packet and would like me to print it for you, I am more than happy to help, but it is YOUR responsibility to contact me with this request and then pick up the printed packet in a timely manner.

This makeup packet has been designed for you to do the discussion questions together in person (the preferred option) OR by video conferencing (i.e. FaceTime or Zoom).

This may take more than one get-together – embrace the process – make a lunch date or grab a Starbucks together, and enjoy this time you have growing deeper in your faith and in your relationship with one another.

Faith Discussion, Review/Reflection & Action Assignment

In addition to the makeup assignment, you will also have an additional online assignment to work on together with your Sponsor: Faith Discussion, Review/Reflection & Action (FDRRA).

This ONLINE assignment will be due by May 18, 2025.

In Year 2 you and your Sponsor will have 3 of these FDRRA assignments assigned throughout the year to work on together.

Please read through this entire packet and make sure that you understand all instructions. Reach out to me if you have any questions.

Blessings,
Elizabeth Pott
Confirmation Coordinator

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Sponsor "Interview"

Candidate, ask your Sponsor these questions and write their responses below...

1. Where were you born? _____

2. How many different places have you lived and where? _____

3. What is your favorite thing to do on vacation? _____

4. If you could visit any place in the world, where would you choose to go and why? _____

5. What hobby have you always wanted to pick up or learn? _____
6. Are you a morning person or a night person? _____
7. If you could meet anyone from the Bible (besides Jesus, because duh! ☺) who would it be? _____

8. When & where were you baptized? Were you a baby or did you go through RCIA? _____

9. What does it mean to be a Catholic Christian for you? _____

10. How has the Catholic faith strengthened and nourished you? _____

11. At what age did you get Confirmed and what do you remember most about it? _____

12. What did you like about your own Confirmation Preparation and what did you not understand at that time? _____

13. How has your appreciation of the Mass changed for you over your life? Was there a time when you did not like going to Mass? Do you like going to Mass now? And Why? _____

14. What does “forgiveness” mean to you? How does this understanding of forgiveness help you come to and participate in the gift of the Sacrament of Reconciliation? _____

15. What has been your experience of the Sacrament of Reconciliation? Has it been a rewarding experience for you? Why? _____

16. Do you have a favorite place and time to pray? Describe a time when it was challenging to pray and a time when you really felt God’s presence through prayer. _____

17. In what way(s) has being a Catholic Christian shaped your life? _____

18. Who has been a good role model for you in your faith life? How has this person taught you or shown you what it means to be a Catholic Christian? How has this person deepened your faith? _____

19. In what areas would you like to see more personal growth in your Catholic faith? _____

20. What is the greatest challenge of being Catholic? What is the best thing about being Catholic? _____

DISCUSSION #1

“The Journey...”

As you continue on this journey towards the sacrament of Confirmation, take a moment to reflect on these questions together.

Take turns sharing your answers for each of the questions, but please only write the **Candidate's responses** in the spaces provided below.

1. What does the sacrament of Confirmation mean to you?

2. What is a question you have about being Catholic?

3. How would you describe your relationship with God? Are you happy with where it is right now? Why?

4. What are characteristics you have seen in others that show you they are faithful Christians?

5. Together set a prayer challenge. (A way you both can pray more in your daily life).

DISCUSSION #2

“Confirmation Welcomes Us as a Sacrament of Initiation”

- ♥ Confirmation is linked to the Sacraments of Baptism & Eucharist
- ♥ Confirmation is part of our initiation into the faith community

Take turns sharing your answers for each of the questions, but please only write the **Candidate's responses** in the spaces provided below.

Scripture Reflection:

“For through faith you are all children of God in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free person, there is not male or female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”

- Galatians 3:26-29

1. What does the verse from Galatians mean to you? Why do you think it relates to Confirmation?

2. Why do you think it is important to be a part of a faith community?

3. How can you become more a part of the faith community as you prepare for Confirmation? What about after Confirmation?

4. How have you been blessed by the gifts of others in your faith community? What gift(s) can you bring to the faith community?

DISCUSSION #3

“We are Confirmed in the Name of God the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit”

- ♥ Confirmation is part of the welcoming initiative of God the Creator
- ♥ Confirmation unites us more firmly to Christ
- ♥ Confirmation strengthens us with the Holy Spirit

Take turns sharing your answers for each of the questions, but please only write the **Candidate's responses** in the spaces provided below.

Scripture Reflection:

“There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.”

- 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

1. What does the verse from 1 Corinthians mean to you? Why do you think it relates to Confirmation?

2. Name a moment when you felt the presence of God in your life.

3. What are the 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit? Which of the 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit do you feel is stronger in your personal life right now? Why?

4. How has the Holy Spirit been present in your life? How can you work on becoming more aware of the Holy Spirit?

DISCUSSION #4

“Confirmation Strengthens Us for Discipleship, Mission, and Witness to our Faith”

- ♥ Confirmation empowers us to witness to our faith
- ♥ Confirmation links us to the ministry of Christ and mission of the Church
- ♥ Confirmation initiates young people into the adventure of discipleship

Take turns sharing your answers for each of the questions, but please only write the **Candidate’s responses** in the spaces provided below.

Scripture Reflection:

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

- Acts 1:8

1. What does the verse from Acts mean to you? Why do you think it relates to Confirmation?

2. What do you think it means to be a witness for Christ? What do you think it looks like?

3. How should you show the presence of Jesus in your daily life? (ex. Actions, volunteering, words, etc. – be specific).

4. How can you show Christ’s love to people you come in contact with every day? Provide a specific response for family members, friends, teachers, and strangers.

SPONSOR LETTER / CANDIDATE COLLAGE

Step 1: SPONSOR LETTER

- The SPONSOR needs to write a letter to the Confirmation Candidate affirming their role as Sponsor and then giving the Candidate some helpful advice or suggestions on choosing/staying on the “right path” as they go through their teenage years. Please include some guidance on how God can be relied on in these (often) challenging years. You can send this letter by mail or by email. I know it’s kind of old school, but there’s nothing like getting a special letter in the mail... 😊

Step 2: CANDIDATE COLLAGE

- After reading the letter, the CANDIDATE needs to create a collage poster (on poster board) that reflects the advice that the Sponsor provided you in the letter.
- **Poster Board Size: 14” x 22”**
- On the BACK of the poster, be sure to write your FULL NAME & Group (example: Elizabeth Pott / St. Elizabeth Ann Seton)
- Your collage should be made using artful images (words & pictures) that reflect the advice provided from your Sponsor in their letter to you.
 - ❖ The art may be hand drawn or pictures cut from magazines or books or printed from the computer.
 - ❖ You need to attach a COPY of the letter so I can see how you interpreted it on your collage.
 - ❖ **Please make the collage colorful and reflective of your personality!**

Turn in your completed collage, a copy of your Sponsor’s Letter, and the completed Discussion Questions to Mrs. Pott.

- **CFF students:** Turn it in during your ONE EIGHT Night class OR in the Parish Office (with a sticky note saying ATTN: Mrs. Pott)
- **SEAS students:** Turn it in to Mrs. McAvoy-Jensen to be forwarded to Mrs. Pott OR in the Parish Office (with a sticky note saying ATTN: Mrs. Pott)

By signing below, we (Candidate & Sponsor) affirm that we have completed these discussion pages together (in-person or by video conferencing (example: FaceTime or Zoom) and the Candidate will turn in the hard copy of this packet along with the completed Collage by the due date.

If the Discussions were completed by video conferencing, the Sponsor should send in their signature using this [Google Form](#). In this case, Candidate please write in the signature box, “Google Form” once your Sponsor tells you they have completed the Google Form.

Candidate’s Signature: _____

Sponsor’s Printed Name: _____

Sponsor’s Signature: _____