

Good Shepherd Catholic Church  
Confirmation Preparation  
**Candidate & Sponsor Retreat Makeup Assignment**

**This is the makeup assignment for those who did not attend the Candidate & Sponsor Retreat on October 18, 2019.**

**This makeup assignment is DUE by December 20, 2019**

**STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS**

**STEP 1:** Candidate & Sponsor - complete the **MANDATORY ACTIVITY**.

**STEP 2:** Candidate & Sponsor - complete **ONE (1)** of the 4 remaining **SHARED ACTIVITIES** & the corresponding worksheet(s).

**STEP 3:** After the MANDATORY ACTIVITY and your chosen SHARED ACTIVITY have been completed, the poster and the appropriate worksheet(s) need to be turned in to the Confirmation Coordinator by **December 20, 2019**.

**SPONSORS:** Please continue to “check in” with your candidate throughout the year. Pray for them, talk to them, mentor them, and share God’s love with them. If you live close, set up regular lunch or dinner dates with them to just “share” with them...their life, their faith, their challenges & their joys. If you live far away, make sure that you are taking advantage of technology by calling them or using FaceTime to check in with them regularly. Being a Sponsor is all about being ***present*** in their lives. 😊

**MANDATORY ACTIVITY**

**STEP 1:** 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.

**STEP 2:** After reading the letter, the **CANDIDATE** needs to make a small collage/poster (minimum size: 11” x 14”; but no bigger than 22” x 28”) that is designed to reflect the advice that the Sponsor provided in the letter. This should be done using words & artwork. The art may be drawn or pictures may be cut from magazines or books. On the **BACK** of the poster, be sure to write your **FULL NAME**.

***Continued...***

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### **SHARED ACTIVITIES**

The Candidate and Sponsor must also choose (at least) **ONE (1) of the following** shared activities and work on it **together**, completing and turning in the appropriate worksheet(s) by December 20, 2019.

#### **Shared Activity #1**

Attend Sunday Mass together (at any Catholic parish). After Mass, introduce yourselves to the Priest that celebrated the Mass and explain that you are both attending Mass together as Confirmation Candidate and Sponsor. Complete **Worksheet #1** (attached) **together** and turn it in to your Confirmation Coordinator by December 20, 2019.

**Suggestion:** This might be a great time for the Sponsor to invite their Candidate out to lunch or Starbucks for some one-on-one time in order to complete the worksheet, share their faith, and talk about any challenges they might be experiencing and/or what they are looking forward to doing after Confirmation to grow in their faith.

#### **Shared Activity #2**

Participate in a Christian Service activity together. Complete **Worksheet #2** (attached) **together** and turn it in to your Confirmation Coordinator by December 20, 2019.

**Suggestion:** Invite your Sponsor to join you when you are performing service hours for the parish...or...contact a local non-profit and make arrangements to go and volunteer there together for a morning or afternoon.

#### **Shared Activity #3**

Visit [www.sacredspace.ie](http://www.sacredspace.ie) on **3 separate days** for a Sacred Space Experience. Sacred Space is a website visited regularly by millions of Christians from around the world. It is produced and maintained by Irish Jesuit Priests (that is why the website ends in ".ie"). Follow the guided prayer selection for the dates you visit. Both the Confirmation Candidate and the Sponsor should discuss with each other, the message of "something to think about this week" and the Bible passage together after each visit. After each discussion, the Candidate should complete **Worksheet #3 (double sided)** as you go, based on his/her conversation with their Sponsor. Once the Candidate and Sponsor have finished the website visits and conversations, and the worksheet is complete, turn it in to your Confirmation Coordinator by December 20, 2019.

**Suggestion:** This would be a good shared activity to do with a Sponsor who lives far away. This activity could be done by conversing with each other over the phone, or with Skype or FaceTime. It can also be done in person.

***Continued...***

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**Shared Activity #4**

Both the Confirmation Candidate and Sponsor should make a personal pledge to focus on improving at least one area of their own life that would be pleasing to God. They should both make a point of working hard at this for at least 2 weeks.

**STEP 1:** Both the Candidate and Sponsor should **EACH** print out and complete a copy of **Worksheet #4, page 1**. The Candidate and Sponsor should correspond with one another during the next 2 weeks (in person or via Email, phone, Skype, or FaceTime) to encourage one another to keep their commitments. I encourage you to share your specific responses and goals with one another, but if you want to keep any of your responses private, that is fine too. Each person can still encourage the other, and pray for them to reach their goals.

**STEP 2:** After the two-week period, both the **CANDIDATE & SPONSOR** should **EACH** print out and complete **Worksheet #4, page 2** and turn these pages in to the Confirmation Coordinator by December 20, 2019.

**Suggestion:** This would be a good shared activity to do with a Sponsor who lives far away. This activity could be done by conversing with each other over the phone, or with Skype or FaceTime. It can also be done in person.

**The corresponding worksheets for the SHARED ACTIVITIES are found on the attached additional pages.**

**Make sure that you have the correct Worksheet based on the Shared Activity that you and your Sponsor are completing.**

**Please read the worksheet carefully to determine if the worksheet is to be completed by the Candidate and Sponsor together, or if the Candidate and/or Sponsor are to complete separate worksheets.**

**Depending upon the Shared Activity chosen, should the Sponsor need to Email their completed Worksheet to me, please scan the worksheet as a PDF and Email it to [GoodShepherdEDGE@gscceg.org](mailto:GoodShepherdEDGE@gscceg.org).**

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**Worksheet for Shared Activity #1 – Attending Mass**

Name of the Confirmation Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Email of the Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The date we attended Mass together: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish where Mass was attended together: \_\_\_\_\_

Celebrant (Priest at that Mass): \_\_\_\_\_

**Today's Gospel was about:**

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**Today's Homily made these points:**

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**WORKSHEET #2 – Community Service**

Name of the Confirmation Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Email of the Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The Christian Service activity we worked on was:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

We performed this service at: \_\_\_\_\_

On the following date(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's thoughts/observations on this Christian Service and working on it with your Sponsor:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's thoughts/observations on this Christian Service and working on it with your Candidate:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If the two of you were to work on another Christian Service activity together, would you do this type of service again? Why or Why not?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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**WORKSHEET #3 – Sacred Space**

This Worksheet is TWO pages – complete & turn in BOTH pages.

Name of the Confirmation Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Email of the Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

1. Print both pages of this worksheet.
2. Go to [www.sacredspace.ie](http://www.sacredspace.ie) - this is done individually if the Candidate & Sponsor live far apart from each other, or together if the Candidate & Sponsor live close and can spend some one-on-one personal time together. If the Candidate & Sponsor live far apart from each other and are doing this activity remotely over the phone, etc., they need to make sure to select the same days to visit Sacred Space so that they can have a conversation on their shared experience.
3. For each Sacred Space visit, choose the daily prayer for the day that you logged on – Go through the guided prayer/reading for the dates you choose and then discuss your Sacred Space experience with your Candidate/Sponsor and complete the information below.
4. The worksheet should be completed by the Candidate AFTER EACH Sacred Space visit and their following conversation with their Sponsor about their shared Sacred Space experience.
5. Be sure to click on “need inspiration” or “prayer guide” at least once per visit.

Dates of our [www.sacredspace.ie](http://www.sacredspace.ie) visits:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Sacred Space Visit #1**

Based on the discussion between the Candidate and Sponsor regarding this Sacred Space experience, the message of “something to think about this week” was basically saying:

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**Sacred Space Visit #2**

Reading of the day (Bible passage): \_\_\_\_\_ [Book chpt:vs]

Based on the discussion between the Candidate and Sponsor regarding this Sacred Space experience and the Bible passage, what was this passage about and how does it relate to you in your lives today?

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**Sacred Space Visit #3**

Based on the discussion between the Candidate and Sponsor regarding this Sacred Space experience, and the previous two Sacred Space visits, what is your overall impression on sharing this prayer experience and faith discussions with your Candidate/Sponsor? Does it help you to explore and grow in your faith with another person? Why or Why not?

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**WORKSHEET #4 – Commitment for Personal Improvement**

- This Worksheet is TWO pages – The Candidate and Sponsor will each need to complete their own two-page worksheet.
- BOTH the Candidate and Sponsor should keep page 1 for themselves and turn page 2 in to the Confirmation Coordinator.

**Anytime I do anything to grow as a person, improve my relationship with God and the people in my life, I know that I am trying to please God and live as He wants me to live.**

**General things that might help all people to grow are listed below.**

**On a scale of 1 – 5**

(1 = you really need to work on this, and 5 = you are already doing a good job)

**rate the areas according to how they presently are in your life and then spend the next 2 weeks making great efforts to improve the areas you need to work on.**

1. Showing appreciation to my family for all of their love and support for me \_\_\_\_\_
2. Finding time for God in the busy noisy world \_\_\_\_\_
3. Being loyal to my friends \_\_\_\_\_
4. Avoiding habits I know are unhealthy \_\_\_\_\_
5. Trying to find activities that are helping me to grow as a person \_\_\_\_\_
6. Praying for myself, my family, and my friends \_\_\_\_\_
7. Finding time to do things that help the poor \_\_\_\_\_
8. Telling and showing my family that I love them \_\_\_\_\_
9. Setting goals to be more healthy (physically, mentally, and spiritually) \_\_\_\_\_
10. Taking time for spiritual personal growth each week by checking out websites like  
www.sacredspace.ie \_\_\_\_\_

Post this checklist next to your bed or somewhere you will see it so that it reminds you of things you can work on to be closer in communion with your faith family and your Father in Heaven.

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**WORKSHEET #4 – Commitment for Personal Improvement**

Name of the Confirmation Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Email of the Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For 2 weeks I made a personal commitment to improve at least one area of my life that I know God would like me to improve. I did this at the same time that my Confirmation Candidate / Sponsor worked on their own goal. We committed to check in regularly with each other during this 2 week period to provide encouragement, support, and prayer for each other.

During this time, I learned this about myself:

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During this time, I learned this about my Candidate or Sponsor:

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In reaching any difficult goal, I believe that God can help me by:

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