

CONFIRMATION 2017

SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES/PROJECTS DUE DATES

- *Dec. 20, 2016: _____ Letter to Pastor: Rev. Kevin M. Smith
- *Dec. 20, 2016 _____ Candidate Information
- *Jan. 10, 2017: _____ Confirmation Name
- *Jan. 10, 2017: _____ Confirmation Sponsor
- *Feb. 7, 2017 _____ My Stewardship Experience and Reflection

CONFIRMATION 2017

ALIVE IN OUR FAITH

Dear Confirmation Candidates, Parents, and Sponsors,

*God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin,
Given you a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit,
And welcomed you into his holy people.
He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation. As Christ was anointed
Priest, Prophet and King, so may you live always as members of his body,
Sharing everlasting life.*
(Rite of Baptism for Children)

*God is Spirit, and those who worship him must worship in Spirit and truth.
(John 4:24)*

These words are words that speak of the power we have being *Alive in the Spirit* and hence *Alive in Our Faith*. It is power that allows us to continue on the journey of the Cross. They are words that speak of God's covenant of new birth, life, and empowerment to us and of us. We journey as people who must pray for the needs of our sisters and brothers, who must speak the words of love before a world of hatred, and who must recognize the gifts God has given to us. These gifts are to be used to the best of our ability to continue the building up of His Kingdom upon earth. This is how we worship God in spirit and truth, and this is how we keep the promise of our baptism.

Again, we ask that you take some time to pray and reflect upon the journey that you are about. Ask the Holy Spirit, the Advocate of Truth, to continue being your guide and strength throughout this process.

These activities/projects will be your guide to understanding the life commitment you make to the church in the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. They will help you expand your knowledge and understanding of your baptismal life in God. They will also give you the opportunity to put into practice all that you have learned. Look at these activities/projects as milestones on a faith journey that will lead you to the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The St. Dominic parish community is praying for you during this journey. May the Cross of Jesus strengthen you and the Holy Spirit enlighten your mind and heart with God's Truth.

*CONFIRMATION 2017
CANDIDATE INFORMATION*

(Please Print Clearly)

Candidate Name _____

Confirmation Name _____

Date & Place of Baptism:

Date _____

Church _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Father's Name _____

Mother's Maiden Name _____

Sponsor's Name _____

Date Submitted _____

Candidate's Signature _____

Parent's Signature _____

CONFIRMATION 2017
OUTLINE OF YOUR LETTER TO THE PASTOR
REQUESTING THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Date

Rev. Kevin M. Smith
Church of St. Dominic
93 Anstice Street
Oyster Bay, NY 11771

Dear Father Kevin,

(Write your reasons for requesting the Sacrament. Talk about your stewardship activities and projects. Also, express why you believe that through prayer, attending Mass each Sunday and offering your time and talent through stewardship to the community you have come to understand and know how you will be a vital and active part of your parish community as a confirmed Catholic).

(Write about your Confirmation name and why you chose it).

Sincerely,

Your signature

(Please print your name clearly under your signature)

******Have your parents witness the letter with their signatures***

******This letter is to be typed or neatly handwritten on stationery and placed in an envelope addressed to Fr. Kevin. Seal the envelope as this is your personal communication with Fr. Kevin. No one else will be reading this letter. Print your name on the envelope.***

The Requirements of Sponsor

The role of *sponsor* is an important one for the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. The Church sees the *sponsor* as a fully-initiated Catholic who supports the one receiving the sacrament with example and instruction. Because of the seriousness of this ministry, the Church has the following requirements:

- The sponsor must be a fully-initiated member of the Catholic Church through Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
- The sponsor must be at least sixteen (16) years of age.
 - In this case, the Catholic who is younger than 16 must be fully initiated.
- The sponsor must have an active life of faith in the Church and provide good example.
 - Someone married outside the Church is not able to receive Communion and is not able to be a sponsor.
 - Also, a Catholic who has left the Church is not able to be a sponsor of a new member into the Church.
 - Therefore, a Catholic who has left the Catholic Church cannot be a sponsor, and cannot be a "Christian witness" if they join another Christian communion.
- The sponsor cannot be either parent.
- When there are two sponsors, they are "spiritual parents" and are to be a godfather and godmother.

Christian Witness – (A baptized non-Catholic Christian)

Provided there is one Catholic sponsor, a baptized non-Catholic Christian may serve as a Christian witness for Baptism only. This person is a *Christian witness* and not a *sponsor*.

- Requirements to be a Christian Witness:
 - at least sixteen years old
 - a validly baptized Christian
 - living an upright life
 - cannot be either parent
 - cannot be a Catholic who has left the Church
- A Christian witness may never be a non-baptized person. For example, Jewish or Muslim godparents are not permitted by universal church law.
- The notation "Christian witness" is placed under the name of the non-Catholic Christian witness in the baptismal register.



DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

TESTIMONY OF DESIGNATED SPONSOR

The role of sponsor is an important one for the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. Today some may see the role as honorary, but the Church sees the sponsor, popularly called a godparent, as a fully-initiated Catholic who actively supports the newly Baptized or Confirmed by good example and instruction in the Christian life.

In order to be admitted to the role of sponsor, the law of the Church directs that a person must be designated specifically by the parents of the infant or the individual who is to be baptized or confirmed. To be a sponsor, a person must be a Catholic, at least sixteen years of age, and have already received the Sacraments of the Most Holy Eucharist and Confirmation. In addition, he or she must be leading a life in harmony with the faith and not be bound by a canonical penalty.

I, _____, declare that I have been chosen to act as a sponsor for _____, who is to receive the Sacrament of Baptism/Confirmation on _____ at the Church of _____ in _____.

In assuming this responsibility, I testify that:

- **I am at least sixteen years of age.**
- **I have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.**
- **I am living a life in harmony with the teachings of the Catholic Church in faith and morals.**

Understanding the role of sponsor as prescribed by the Church and aware of the obligations and responsibilities of this role, I attest that I am willing and able to accept the role of sponsor in the Catholic Church.

By my signature, I solemnly swear that I fulfill all of the requirements to be a sponsor as described above. I attest to the truth of this statement, so help me God.

Date

Designated Sponsor

Parish

Pastor/Delegate

Parish Seal:

CONFIRMATION 2017

MY STEWARDSHIP EXPERIENCE AND REFLECTION

Candidate Name: _____

I understand that Stewardship is a way of life for Catholic Christians. I acknowledge that I am part of a whole faith that is asked to care for and cultivate their living environment through the action of offering myself in service to others. During this time of preparation for the reception of the sacrament of Confirmation, I have become more aware of my role and have personally experienced how I can serve my community as a Catholic. I recognize serving the needs of others as ministry in my faith.

Following is a brief description of how I have served my community during this time; the service I offered and to whom I offered this service. *You may use the following space to clearly write your response or you may type and attach a separate sheet to this page.*

Following I will share my thoughts and feelings about this time of service. I will express how I felt during and after this stewardship experience and if I would participate again and/or try new activities. *Once again, use this space or type and attach a separate sheet to this page.*
