

Confirmation 2012



Our Lady of Guadalupe Church
Parish Religious Education Program (PREP)

Confirmation Packet



Our Lady of Guadalupe Roman Catholic Church

5175 Cold Spring Creamery Road
2nd Floor Suite 5
Doylestown PA 18902
Phone: (267) 247-5374 Fax: (267) 247-5402
www.olguadalupe.org

October 4, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please note the following scheduled dates and enclosures regarding Confirmation for our 6th grade students:

- Letter for Confirmation Service Hours
- The *Permission and Release Form* – Please return to the PREP office
- Sample Form of Letter to the Bishop
- Confirmation Retreat Parent Volunteer Form
- 27 Confirmation Questions
- Choosing a Confirmation Name and Saint Project

Confirmation Rite of Enrollment – Sunday, January 22, 2012– 11:00 a.m. Mass

The Rite of Enrollment for our Confirmation students and their families will be held on Sunday, January 22, 2012 at the 11:00 a.m. Mass. Please plan to join us at mass for this very special occasion.

Confirmation Retreat Day – Monday, January 16, 2012

Please bring your child to Our Lady of Guadalupe Church.

Tuesday night PREP students will attend from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Thursday night PREP students and Home School students will attend from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Facilitator: John Paul

Assistants: Youth Group, Catechists and Parents

Confirmation Practices – Tuesday, March 6, 2012 and Thursday, March 8, 2012

Tuesday night PREP students will attend on Tuesday, March 6, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church.

Thursday night PREP students and Home School students will attend from 6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church.

Confirmandi and their Sponsors – Friday, March 9, 2012

Practice will be held at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church on Friday, March 9, 2012 from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. We understand if your child's sponsor is unable to attend due to work schedules or out of town residence. In the event the sponsor is unable to attend the practice, a parent is asked to attend as a stand in for the sponsor. A parent may not stand in as sponsor on Confirmation Day.

Confirmation Mass: Saturday, March 10, 2012 – 10:00 a.m. – Our Lady of Guadalupe Church

The Confirmation Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, March 10, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church with Bishop Fitzgerald as the Celebrant. The Confirmation candidates should arrive at St. Juan Diego Chapel at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church no later than 8:30 a.m.

Confirmation Retreat Parent Volunteer Form

We will need catechists/parents to assist at the retreat and at the Mass practice.

Sample Form of Letter to the Bishop

Your child should follow the enclosed Sample Form in writing h/her Letter to the Bishop. Please be sure to have your child's Letter to the Bishop returned to h/her PREP class on the date due.

27 Confirmation Questions

Please continue to have your child study the 27 Confirmation Questions at home.

As of this date the PREP office should have the following items on file for your child:

Baptismal Certificate
Sponsor Letter of Eligibility
Confirmation Information Form

I thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance, and I look forward to working with you in this sacramental year of your child.

Sincerely,

Meg Szewczak

Meg Szewczak
Director of Religious Education

Our Lady of Guadalupe Roman Catholic Church



5175 Cold Spring Creamery Road

2nd Floor Suite 5

Doylestown PA 18902

Phone: (267) 247-5374 Fax: (267) 247-5402

October 3, 2011

Dear Parents,

According to our records your child will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation next year. The Sacrament will be celebrated on March 10, 2012 at 10:00AM by Bishop Fitzgerald. During the summer and early fall you will be receiving information about parent meetings, retreats and practices. Please look for announcements in the bulletin and on our website.

One of the ways our Church calls upon us to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ is by performing acts of service for others.

In order to strengthen a Confirmation Candidate's commitment to a lifetime of service in the name of Our Lord, our parish requires that the candidate fulfill 15 hours of service prior to the reception of the Confirmation. Service hours can be accumulated any time from June 1st until February 27th.

There are many ways your child can share their talents and time with others. Services include but are not limited to the following:

1. Visit the sick and/or the elderly in a nursing home.
2. Read to the blind.
3. Assist an elderly neighbor with chores (for free).
4. Volunteer at the local library.
5. Volunteer for a nearby Vacation Bible School.
6. Babysit (for free).
7. Assist with clothing and/or food drives.

Enclosed you will find the Confirmation Service Hours form which is due February 28, 2012. Please use this form to record your child's service hours. An adult signature is necessary for the service to be valid.

I appreciate all your support and cooperation and look forward to your child's Confirmation.

Please call or email me at the PREP office if you have any questions.

Very Truly Yours,

Meg Szewczak

Meg Szewczak

Director of Religious Education

Service Journal

Name: _____

Date	Type of Service	Location of Service	Hours Spent	Adult Signature

Due to your Catechist by February 27, 2012

Please return on or before January 3, 2012
Our Lady of Guadalupe
Parish Religious Education Program
Parent/Guardian Permission and Release
For 6th Grade Candidate for Participation in
Monday, January 16, 2012 Confirmation Retreat

We, (I) as parent(s) or legal guardians give permission for _____(student's name) to participate in the January 16, 2012, Confirmation Retreat at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Buckingham, which includes all related programs or events. In consideration for _____(student's name) to participate in the January 16, 2012, Our Lady of Guadalupe Religious Education Program's Confirmation Retreat, we (I) and _____(student's name) hereby assume risk in full for _____(student's name) participation in the retreat, and with full knowledge release Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, the Archbishop of Philadelphia and his successors and assigns the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, and its priests, religious teachers, aides, employees, agents, administrators, and any official representatives, from any and all claims, demands, liabilities, losses or expenses for any and all personal injury, bodily injury, and/or property damage arising or related to _____(student's name) participation in the Confirmation Retreat. We (I) further agree to hold the Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish Religious Education Program, Our Lady of Guadalupe Parish, and the aforesaid persons harmless, releasing them from any and all claims, demands, causes of action, damages, liabilities, losses or expenses, as agreed herein. Except for medical payments up to \$300 or as otherwise described, and provided for by the insurer if any.

We (I) and _____(student's name) understand and agree that this Permission and release applies to this March 19, 2011 retreat and applies to any program(s) or event(s) related to this retreat.

We (I) and _____(student's name) understand and agree to abide by all rules and regulations established by Our Lady of Guadalupe Religious Education Program pertain to such retreats.

***Please sign on the reverse side of this form.**

Student's Name

Date

Parent's/Guardian's Signature

Date

Parent's/Guardian's Signature

Date

- Both parents/guardians should sign this Permission and Release. If one parent and/or guardian is out of town or otherwise unavailable, the fact should be noted on this form. If only one parent has custody, permission must be obtained from this parent with an acknowledgement that this parent is sole custodian of the child. If there is no parent and only one guardian, permission must be obtained from the sole guardian with an acknowledgement that he/she is the sole guardian.

Each student must return the signed Permission and Release in order to be permitted to participate in the Confirmation Retreat.

**Our Lady of Guadalupe
Parish Religious Education Program**

For Confirmation – March 10, 2012: **Letter to Bishop Fitzgerald**

Due by: Thursday, December 15, 2011

Turned in to: your Catechist on Tuesday, December 13 and Thursday, December 15.

Parental/Sponsor Help: requested to help to ensure properness in structure, spelling, neatness, and completeness.

Sample Form of Letter:

[The Most Reverend Michael J. Fitzgerald
Office of the Auxiliary Bishop
222 North Seventeenth Street – Room 530
Philadelphia, PA 19103-1299]

[Your Street Address
City, State Zip Code
Date]

[Dear Bishop Fitzgerald,]

- [In the body of the letter give a **short** description of yourself as a person. What are your hobbies, favorite subjects?
- Tell Bishop Fitzgerald something about your Confirmation preparation **that has affected you or your faith.**
- Your letter should be about a page long and either written neatly on good stationary or typed.
- Be respectful, but feel free to address any question you may want to ask the Bishop.
- Thank Bishop Fitzgerald for coming to administer Confirmation. You may also want to share some positive thoughts about your parish, Our Lady of Guadalupe.]

Respectfully,
[Your Signature] (First and Last Name)



Confirmation Day

Saturday – March 10, 2012

1. **Confirmation Day: Saturday, March 10, 2012: 10:00 a.m. Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Buckingham, PA.**
 - Dress:
 - **Girls** – A light colored dress or dress slacks with a white blouse and dress shoes.
 - **Boys** – White button down shirt with a collar and a tie, dress slacks, dress shoes and socks.
 - **Hair**– Neatly combed and pushed away from the forehead so the Bishop may anoint the forehead.
 - Mass Time:
 - **Candidates** – arrive no later than at 8:30 a.m. at St. Juan Diego Chapel, Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, Buckingham
 - **Sponsors** – should be at **the Church** by 9:30 a.m.
 - The **procession** will begin at 9:45 a.m.
 - **Bishop Fitzgerald** will be the celebrant.

Our Lady of Guadalupe
Parish Religious Education Program

CONFIRMATION RETREAT
VOLUNTEER FORM

Monday, January 16, 2012 – 6th Grade Confirmation Retreat Day:

_____ **YES**, I am able to assist at the Confirmation Retreat

_____ **Morning Session (Tues. PREP)** at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church

_____ **Afternoon Session (Thurs. PREP/Home School)** at Our Lady of Guadalupe Church

Name: _____

Telephone Number: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Parents, please return this form to the PREP Office by January 3, 2012 and thank you for volunteering to assist at your child's confirmation retreat. You may also respond via email to mstephans@olg.org. Thank you.

CONFIRMATION QUESTIONS

1. WHO IS A CHRISTIAN

A CHRISTIAN IS A FOLLOWER OF JESUS CHRIST.

2. WHEN DID YOU BECOME A CHRISTIAN?

I BECAME A CHRISTIAN AT BAPTISM.

3. WHAT IS A SACRAMENT?

A SACRAMENT IS AN ACTION OF CHRIST HIMSELF, AN OUTWARD SIGN OF GOD'S GRACE AND OF OUR FAITH IN HIM.

A SACRAMENT IS AN OUTWARD SIGN, INSTITUTED BY CHRIST TO GIVE GRACE. (TRADITIONAL)

4. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE SACRAMENTS?

THE PURPOSE OF THE SACRAMENTS IS TO SANCTIFY US, TO BUILD UP THE BODY OF CHRIST, AND TO GIVE WORSHIP TO GOD.

5. DO SACRAMENTS ALWAYS GIVE GRACE?

YES, THE SACRAMENTS ALWAYS GIVE GRACE IF WE RECEIVE THEM WITH THE RIGHT DISPOSITIONS.

6. WHAT IS CONFIRMATION?

CONFIRMATION IS THE SACRAMENT IN WHICH THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES TO US IN A SPECIAL WAY TO ENABLE US TO WITNESS TO JESUS CHRIST BOTH IN WORD AND DEED AS COMMITTED CHRISTIANS.

7. WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO COMES TO US IN CONFIRMATION?

THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO COMES TO US IN CONFIRMATION IS THE THIRD PERSON OF THE BLESSED TRINITY.

8. IS THE HOLY SPIRIT GOD?

YES, THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GOD?

9. IS THE HOLY SPIRIT EQUAL TO THE FATHER AND THE SON?

YES, THE HOLY SPIRIT IS EQUAL TO THE FATHER AND THE

**10. HOW DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT COME IN CONFIRMATION?
HOW DOES THE BISHOP CONFIRM?**

THE BISHOP EXTENDS HIS HANDS OVER THOSE TO BE CONFIRMED AND PRAYS THAT THEY MAY RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND ANOINTS THEIR FOREHEADS WITH CHRISM IN THE FORM OF THE CROSS. OUR CONFIRMATION BY THE BISHOP REMINDS US OF THE FIRST PENTECOST.

11. WHAT IS CHRISM?

CHRISM IS THE OIL BLESSED BY THE BISHOP ON HOLY THURSDAY. IT IS A SIGN OF THE STRENGTH THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES US TO CARRY OUT A MISSION FOR JESUS.

12. WHAT DOES THE BISHOP SAY WHEN HE CONFIRMS?

(NAME) BE SEALED WITH THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

NEWLY CONFIRMED ANSWER: AMEN.

BISHOP: PEACE BE WITH YOU.

NEWLY CONFIRMED ANSWER: AND ALSO WITH YOU.

13. WHY DOES THE BISHOP ANOINT THE FOREHEAD WITH CHRISM IN THE FORM OF A CROSS?

THE BISHOP ANOINTS THE FOREHEAD WITH CHRISM IN THE FORM OF A CROSS BECAUSE THE CROSS SHOWS THAT THE NEW TASK OF MISSION WILL SOMETIMES BE DIFFICULT AND HE/SHE MAY HAVE TO SUFFER LIKE CHRIST, HIS/HER LEADER.

14. THE EFFECTS OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION ARE:

- A) AN INCREASE IN SANCTIFYING GRACE**
- B) A SPIRITUAL CHARACTER (OR AN ACTIVE POWER) THAT HELPS THE ONE WHO RECEIVED IT TO PUBLICLY PROFESS AND DEFEND THE FAITH.**

15. HOW OFTEN MAY CONFIRMATION BE RECEIVED?

CONFIRMATION CAN BE RECEIVED ONLY ONCE. LIKE BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION IMPRINTS A SPIRITUAL CHARACTER.

16. WHAT IS THE CHARACTER OF CONFIRMATION?

THE CHARACTER OF CONFIRMATION IS A SPIRITUAL AND PERMANENT MARK THAT SIGNIFIES THAT THE PERSON CONFIRMED IS A WITNESS TO CHRIST AND DEFENDER OF THE FAITH.

17. WHY CAN BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, AND HOLY ORDERS BE RECEIVED ONLY ONCE?

BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION, AND HOLY ORDERS CAN BE RECEIVED ONLY ONCE BECAUSE THEY IMPRINT ON THE SOUL A SPIRITUAL MARK, CALLED A CHARACTER, WHICH LASTS FOREVER.

18. WHY SHOULD ALL CATHOLICS BE CONFIRMED?

ALL CATHOLICS SHOULD BE CONFIRMED IN ORDER TO BE STRENGTHENED AGAINST THE DANGERS TO SALVATION AND TO BE PREPARED BETTER TO DEFEND THEIR CATHOLIC FAITH.

19. WHAT SPECIAL PREPARATION SHOULD WE MAKE TO RECEIVE CONFIRMATION?

IN PREPARING TO RECEIVE CONFIRMATION WE SHOULD PRAY, SERVE OTHERS, AND KNOW THE CHIEF MYSTERIES OF OUR FAITH AND THE DUTIES OF A CHRISTIAN. WE NEED TO BE INSTRUCTED IN THE NATURE AND EFFECT OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION.

20. WHAT IS REQUIRED TO BE A SPONSOR AT CONFIRMATION?

TO BE A SPONSOR AT CONFIRMATION A PERSON MUST BE:

- A) A PRACTICING CATHOLIC**
- B) ALREADY CONFIRMED AND ABLE TO FULFILL THE DUTIES OF A SPONSOR**
- C) 16 YEARS OF AGE**

21. WHY ARE THERE SPONSORS AT CONFIRMATION?

SPONSORS AT CONFIRMATION PRESENT THE PERSONS TO BE CONFIRMED TO THE BISHOP FOR ANOINTING. THEY ARE TO HELP AND TO SUPPORT THE CONFIRMED PERSONS IN THEIR DAILY WITNESS TO CHRIST IN THEIR LIVES.

22. WHICH SACRAMENTS ARE CALLED SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION:

BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION AND HOLY EUCHARIST ARE CALLED SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

23. WHY ARE BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION AND HOLY EUCHARIST CALLED SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION?

BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION AND HOLY EUCHARIST ARE CALLED SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION BECAUSE CHRISTIAN INITIATION IS CELEBRATED IN BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION AND EUCHARIST. IT IS THROUGH THESE VISIBLE ACTIONS (SACRAMENTS) THAT A PERSON BECOMES A MEMBER OF THE CHURCH.

24. EXPLAIN HOW THESE SACRAMENTS OF BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION AND EUCHARIST ARE VISIBLE SIGNS OF INITIATION.

CHRISTIANS ARE REBORN IN BAPTISM, STRENGTHENED BY CONFIRMATION AND SUSTAINED BY THE FOOD OF THE EUCHARIST.

25. THE CHILD WHO IS CONFIRMED SHOULD BE ABLE TO DESCRIBE THE FIRST PENTECOST.

THE ACCOUNT MAY BE FOUND IN THE SCRIPTURES IN THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES CHAPTER TWO.

26. IN WHAT FORM DID THE HOLY SPIRIT COME UPON THE APOSTLES AT THE FIRST PENTECOST?

THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME UPON THE APOSTLES AT THE FIRST PENTECOST IN THE FORM OF TONGUES OF FIRE.

27. NAME THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ARE WISDOM, COUNSEL, UNDERSTANDING, KNOWLEDGE, FORTITUDE, PIETY AND FEAR OF THE LORD.



Choosing a Confirmation Name and Saint Project



Choosing a Saint

1. Research some Saints.
2. Consider a Saint who you think makes a good role model.
3. When you feel a connection to a Saint, choose their name and start your report.

The Report

Your report will be both written and oral.

The written report will be one page, typed, one inch margins, Times New Roman #12 font. It will include the saint's name, a brief biography and the reasons for choosing the saint. ***

The oral report will include the same content as the written report and will be presented to the class as assigned by your catechist.

***Do not copy and paste your report. It should be in your own words but remember to cite your sources.