

SAINT THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PARISH

1700 EIGHTH STREET SOUTH • BROOKINGS • SOUTH DAKOTA • 57006
605-692-8309 Evan Baumberger • Discipleship@STMBrookings.org

Dear Sponsor,

Congratulations on being chosen as a Confirmation sponsor!

This is a very exciting time for you and your candidate. The Lord has many gifts and blessings that he desires to give to us through His sacraments. These Sacraments are unique and distinct times when God bestows upon his beloved an outpouring of His love and grace. Specifically, with the sacrament of Confirmation, God himself as the Holy Spirit comes down and dwells within Confirmandi (the person receiving the sacrament).

You have the privileged opportunity to be your candidate's sponsor and to walk with them in their faith. As the sponsor, you become the primary formator for your candidate. You are a living model of faith in their lives and share your faith with them. Let this be a time where God is also calling you to live in a deeper relationship with Him. Do not be afraid for the Lord is preparing you to be Christ to them during this time of preparation. This packet will also help guide and direct you as you continue to lead your candidate in preparation.

This packet is meant to be a guide to help you lead your candidate in preparation for Confirmation.

Here is what you will find as you make your way through the packet:

- **Sponsor Checklist** - to help you keep track important due dates and expectations (**Pg. 2-A** Yellow page)
- **Candidate Checklist** - to let you know what is expected of the candidate and so you help them be on track (**Pg. 2-B** Yellow page)
- **Sponsor Covenant form** - this is to be filled out and sent back to confirm that you are capable and willing to be their sponsor (**Pg. 3** Pink page)
- **Scripture and Catechism “homework”** - meetings that you and your candidate will walk through to help them prepare and understand the sacrament of Confirmation. (**Pg. 4-5** Pink pages)
- Extra material that can help reinforce conversation that you and your candidate will have. They are also good to read for refreshing your own formation (**Pg. 6-7** White pages)

*****Any sheet that is pink must be completed turned into me by its due date.**

This is to help ensure that you and your candidate took the proper steps in preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation.

If you ever have any questions please call me, Evan Baumberger, at 605-692-8309 or email me at discipleship@stmbrookings.org

YOUR ROLE AS A CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

** more details will be provided at the sponsor meeting & in your sponsor packet

Before agreeing to be a sponsor, please understand your responsibilities:

- Every Sunday** Attend Mass (and have Daily Prayer)

- As soon as possible** Watch Sponsor Video

- April 20th** Return Sponsor Covenant and Sponsor Eligibility Certificate to Evan Baumberger

- May-October 2022** Make monthly contact with the Candidate by phone, mail, email, online video conference or in person.
(Topics for your meetings will be provided at the Sponsor meeting or in the Sponsor's video)

- October 1st** "Homework" weekly sheets due (the rest of the pink sheets)

- October 2022** Be present at the Sacrament of Confirmation Liturgy
(St. Thomas More Confirmation is generally held on a Sunday afternoon in October. We do not have a specific date yet, as the Bishop's schedule typically is set in May or June for the following academic year.)

Questions or Concerns?

Please feel free to call me at 605-692-8309 or email me at: Discipleship@STMBrookings.org
Evan Baumberger, Confirmation Director

Sponsors: Keep this sheet for your information.

2022 Confirmation Preparation Checklist

Required: 8 Items Below

- 1) **Pray and Attend Mass Weekly**
Be spiritually fed with the Eucharist!
- 2) **Baptismal Information Form** (pg. 3)
Due Wednesday, March 23rd
- 3) **Attend ALL Confirmation classes (7:30 – 9:00 PM)**
Parents must attend March 9th Class
 - If parents are unable to attend then they must attend March 23rd class.
 - If unable to attend either meeting, then parents must schedule a meeting with Evan before April 6th

Sponsors are invited to all classes

*** Homeschool/ independent study options available*

- Wednesday, March 9th – Initial Meeting
- Wednesday, March 23rd – **Baptism form is due**
- Wednesday, April 6th – **Sponsor info form due**
- Wednesday, April 20th – **Homily Reflection due**
- Wednesday, May 4th – **Saint Name due**
- Retreat **date/time?** – **Sponsors & Students**
 - **Adoration & Wild Goose Reports due**
- Fall 2022 Sunday evening class #1 (TBA)
- Fall 2022 Sunday evening class #2 (TBA)
- Fall 2022 Sunday evening class #3 (TBA)

- 4) **Choose a Sponsor** (pg. 8A & 8B)
 - **Due April 6th**
 - Sponsor's Name: _____
- 5) **Participate in a Retreat** (see last page of this packet)
My Retreat: _____
- 6) **Write a Letter to Bishop DeGrood**
 - Letter to Bishop - **Due by Oct. 1st**
 - Instructions will be given Sept 2022 in class
- 7) **Educational meeting with Fr. Terry & Parents**
 - **Must be completed by August 1st**
 - Works best in summertime
 - Sign up for a timeslot on Sign Up Genius
- 8) **Choose a saint name for your Confirmation Name**
(pg. 10A & 10B) "Confirmation Patron Saint Report")
 - Confirmation Name Report - **Due May 4th**

Also Choose 2 Additional Items Below

You can combine or "mix and match" these items.
Just make sure you cover about 12-15 hours of formation.

- 5 Homily Reflections/Journals** (pg. 4-7)
 - 3 Reflections **Due by May 4th**
 - 2 more Reflections **Due by Sept. 1st**

List the Dates of Reflections you completed below:

(If it was a Mass online, parent must sign or email to Evan)

- 5 Hours Eucharistic Adoration** (pg. 7)
Adoration is every Thurs. from 7:30 AM through Fri. 7:00 AM in the St. Thomas More Chapel
 - 3 Adoration Hours **Due by May 4th**
 - 2 More Adoration Hours **Due by Sept 1st**
- Read: "Breath of God: Living a Life Led by the Holy Spirit"** by Fr. Dave Pivonka, T.O.R.
 - Write a summary report, or chat with Evan about the book
 - **Due by Sept 1st**
- OR: Watch www.thewildgooseisloose.com**
 - Watch 5 videos & write summaries
 - 3 reports **Due by May 4th**
 - 1 more report **Due by Sept 1st**
- Write More Saint Reports**
 - Research 4 more Saints & write reports
 - 2 reports **Due by May 4th**
 - The rest **Due by Sept 1st**
- Christian Service** (pg. 11-14)
 - Total of 8 hours of volunteer service
 - Write a reflection report for each service
 - Reports **Due by Sept 1st**
- Go on Another Retreat:** _____

Another option instead of writing Reports:

You can have a 10 min chat, phone call or video chat with Evan or a Confirmation Teacher instead of writing any report.

Another option instead of writing Homily Reflections:

You can discuss with a parent, then parent text/email Evan.

Email Reports to: Discipleship@STMBrookings.org

Plan ahead for Confirmation Day!

Tentatively: Confirmation will be on a Sunday afternoon in October 2022.
The exact date will be announced in May or June, once Bishop's schedule is set. Mass details will be given AFTER all Confirmation items are turned in.

St. Thomas More Church
Confirmation Sponsor's Covenant & Eligibility Certification
(to be filled out by the Sponsor)



I, _____, a fully initiated Roman Catholic,
(please PRINT sponsor's full name- no nicknames)
baptized and confirmed in the Catholic faith, make the following agreement:

I will pray regularly for my candidate and pray with my candidate.

I will visit with my candidate as a spiritual witness, guide, and companion on a monthly basis, May – October.

I will continue to serve as a faithful role model to my candidate after Confirmation.

I agree to sponsor _____ (candidate name) for the sacrament of Confirmation.

I agree to all teachings of the Catholic Church

I will watch the Sponsor Training video

Sponsor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Sponsor's Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Sponsor's Catholic Parish Name: _____

Parish Address: _____

Pastor's Name: _____

Sponsors: Please Return by April 20th, 2022 to:

Evan Baumberger, St. Thomas More Church, 1700 8th St. South, Brookings, SD 57006
Discipleship@STMBrookings.org

Lord, Help me to pray!

See that new, nifty Bible? Open it!

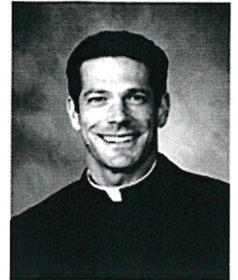
Your new Catholic Youth Bible includes a ton of prayer tips, instructions for various ways to pray, scripture indexes for dealing with various problems, and much, much more!

Dive Deeper into Sunday Mass Readings! -- Fr. Mike Schmitz →

Do you ever feel like you missed something after Mass? Like maybe there was something in the readings or the homilies that just went over your head?

Check out: <http://bulldogcatholic.org> -- click on "listen to homilies"

-amazing podcasts from Fr. Mike Schmitz, a young dynamic priest who serves the Newman Center at the University of Minnesota Duluth.



A bit of the Bible everyday keeps Satan annoyed and temptations at bay ☺

Let's face it, the Bible is HUGE. It sounds nice to read some of the Bible every day, but it's often difficult to know where to start. Here are a few ideas to help you dive in:

1) Pray with the Daily Mass readings.

- The readings for Daily Mass can be found on the website of the United States Council of Catholic Bishops: www.usccb.org. There is a calendar on the right side of the page. Click on a day to view that day's readings. (There are also video reflections for each day's Gospel)

2) Start with the Gospels

- Sometimes the easiest way to start is just by picking up a Gospel and reading a few verses a day. Commit to reading a chapter or just read until something jumps out at you. It's amazing the connections you will start to make when you see how the stories that we hear on Sunday are actually linked as one big story!

3) Pick a favorite Bible story

- Most Bibles will have some kind of index in the back where you can look up one of your favorite Bible stories. (It's also usually pretty easy to Google it ☺) When you find it, read the chapter around it to gain some context. Ask the Lord to speak to you through the story in a new way!

4) Pray with the Psalms

- Fr. Mike Schmitz recommends reading the Psalm for the day of the month. For example, if today is the 12th, I would read Psalm 12. If nothing sticks out to me, I would then add the number 30 to the day and try reading Psalm 42. If that still doesn't speak to me, I'll try Psalm 72, etc. The Psalms often speak right to what I'm feeling that day!
- This can also be done with the book of Proverbs. Proverbs has 31 chapters, so you could read the whole book in a month! ☺

Check out Smartphone or tablet apps:

- **MyParish App** – NEW for STM! Download & set your parish as St. Thomas More! Mass readings, prayers, parish calendar & parish announcements included.
- **Laudete** for iOS or Android: Mass readings, rosary, chaplets, links to Bible, daily reflections, more!
- **The Rosary** (The Holy Rosary from Google Play or iRosary for iOS)
- **Confession** (Confession for iOS and Android, or The Confession App for Android)

Scripture and Catechism Passages on Confirmation

Sponsors & Candidates:

Turn in by October 1st

Choose from these readings to discuss and pray about during your meetings.

Passages in Bold are required reading

(check passages as you complete them)

Readings from the Gospels PICK 3 (including the required Bold reading)

_____	Matt 5:1-12	Theirs in the kingdom of heaven, Beatitudes
_____	Matt 16:24-27	If anyone wishes to follow me, let him deny himself
_____	Matt 25:14-30	You have been faithful in small matters, come into my joy
_____	Mark 1:9-11	The Spirit descending upon him/ Baptism of Jesus
_____	Luke 4:16-22	The Spirit of the Lord is upon me
_____	Luke 8:4-15	Parable of the Sower
_____	Luke 10:21-24	I bless you, Father, for revealing these things to the childlike
_____	John 7:37-39	From the heart of the Lord shall flow fountains of living water
_____	John 14:15-17	The Spirit of Truth will be with you forever
_____	John 15:18-27	The Spirit of Truth will be my witness
_____	John 16:5-13	The Spirit of Truth will lead you to the complete truth

Readings from the New Testament PICK 5 (including the required Bold reading)

_____	Acts 1:3-8	You will receive the power of the Holy Spirit and be my witness
_____	Acts 2:1-33	Pentecost (descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles)
_____	Acts 8:1-17	They laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit
_____	Acts 10:1-49	The Holy Spirit came down on all listening to the Word of God
_____	Acts 19:1-6	Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?
_____	Rom 5:1-8	The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit
_____	Rom 8:14-17	The Spirit and our spirit bear witness that we are children of God
_____	Rom 8:26-27	The Spirit himself will express our plea
_____	1 Cor. 12:4-13	Gifts of the Holy Spirit
_____	Gal 5:16-25	If we live in the Spirit, let us be directed by the Spirit
_____	Eph 1:3-19	You have been signed with the seal of the Holy Spirit
_____	Eph 4:1-6	There is one Body, one Spirit and one baptism
_____	Heb 2:2-3 & 3:7-15	I will pour out my Spirit on all; harden not your hearts

Readings from the Old Testament PICK 3 (including the required Bold reading)

_____	Isaiah 11:1-4	On him the Spirit of the Lord rests
_____	Isaiah 42:1-3	I have endowed my servant with my Spirit
_____	Isaiah 61:1-9	Anointed by the Lord God
_____	Ezek 36:26-28	I will place a new Spirit in your midst
_____	Joel 2:23-3:2	I will pour out my Spirit on all

Readings from the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) or YouCat (Youth Catechism)

PICK 3

Note: Numbers refer to the paragraph numbers, not page numbers. Look for the bold print

_____	#731-737	Holy Spirit	OR: YouCat #113-120, 290
_____	#1830-1832	Gifts & Fruits of the Holy Spirit	OR YouCat sidebars at #113 & 120
_____	#1285-1292	Confirmation: Scripture & tradition	OR YouCat #203-204 & sidebar
_____	#1293-1301	Signs and Rite of Confirmation	OR YouCat #205-207
_____	#1302-1305	Effects of Confirmation	OR YouCat #203 – see sidebar
_____	#1308-1311	Confirmation preparation & Sponsors	
_____	#1315-1321	Confirmation review: In Brief	
_____	#691-701	Names & symbols of the Holy Spirit	

Sponsor Name _____ Candidate name _____

****Sponsors turn in this checklist to the Youth office at St. Thomas More by October 1st, 2022**

“Homework” for Sponsors and Candidates

Assignments:

- Meet with your candidate at least 6 times in the next 6 months (face-to-face, phone or internet video chat).
- Materials needed:
 - This Packet
 - A Bible
 - Catechism of the Catholic Church or Youth Catechism (YouCat).
 - if your candidate does not have their own Bible or Catechism, this would make great gift!

*****Don't have a copy of the Catechism? Look online:**

<https://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catechism/catechism-of-the-catholic-church>

At each meeting:

- Choose two scripture readings and one reading from the Catechism from the lists provided in this packet.
- Discuss these readings together.
- Please also make sure to ask what is going on in their life and how they are growing in their faith!!
- Make brief notes about your discussion on this sheet. (please do not reveal confidential information your candidate may have shared with you, unless they are in danger to themselves or others.)

Ask solid questions about their faith life:

- ❖ Where are you at right now in your relationship with God?
- ❖ Do you feel like you have a personal relationship with Jesus? (if not, see the gold “relationship with Jesus” sheet in the sponsor packet)
- ❖ Where is God working in your life right now? (Hint: God IS working, but your role as a sponsor is to help them recognize God in their daily life!)
- ❖ What does your prayer life look like? How do you pray, how often do you pray?
- ❖ How often do you go to Mass and Confession? Why? (if not frequently, perhaps go together!)

April 2022-Meeting 1:

Scripture passages discussed: _____

Catechism section discussed: _____

Topics covered in your conversation: _____

May 2022-Meeting 2:

Scripture passages discussed: _____

Catechism section discussed: _____

Topics covered in your conversation: _____

June 2022-Meeting 3:

Scripture passages discussed: _____

Catechism section discussed: _____

Topics covered in your conversation: _____

July 2022-Meeting 4:

Scripture passages discussed: _____

Catechism section discussed: _____

Topics covered in your conversation: _____

August 2022-Meeting 5:

Scripture passages discussed: _____

Catechism section discussed: _____

Topics covered in your conversation: _____

September 2022-Meeting 6:

Scripture passages discussed: _____

Catechism section discussed: _____

Topics covered in your conversation: _____

For Sponsors:

Please write a short description here of how you've seen your candidate grow (personally and spiritually) through the Confirmation process:

Sponsors: Please Return by October 1st, 2022 to:

Evan Baumberger, St. Thomas More Church, 1700 8th St. South, Brookings, SD 57006

Discipleship@STMBrookings.org

The Gifts Of the Holy Spirit

Gifts of the Holy Spirit enable us to live a holy Christian life.

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are:

1. **Wisdom** - desire for the things of God, and to direct our whole life and all our actions to His honor and glory
2. **Understanding** - enable us to know more clearly the mysteries of faith
3. **Counsel** - warn us of the deceits of the devil, and of the dangers to salvation
4. **Fortitude** - strengthen us to do the will of God in all things
5. **Knowledge** - enable us to discover the will of God in all things
6. **Piety** - love God as a Father, and obey Him because we love Him
7. **Fear of the Lord** - have a dread of sin and fear of offending God

Who is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is the bridge to God within you. It is the part of your mind—the part of your Spirit—that is joined with the Mind of God. The Holy Spirit is the Voice for God and acts as a reminder to all of God's children of the unconditional love that God has for them.

God loves His children so much that He wanted His children to always know that they are safe, they are loved, and they are whole. God created the Holy Spirit as a way to ensure that God's children would always know these things. God gave this Voice to His children, and this Voice is now a part of them. It is the eternal perspective of Truth, Love, and Reality that cannot be taken from God's children. It is the Voice of God instilled within and the ever-present reminder to God's children of the Truth of Who and What they are and the Love their Father has for them.

By creating the Holy Spirit, God provided a way to bring His Voice into each of His children as they went out into the world so that they could always remember the Truth of Who and What they are. The Holy Spirit's function and purpose is to bring God's Voice to each of God's children, guiding them, directing them, loving them, and restoring their thinking to God's.

Little by little, as you hear, recognize, understand, and become aware of the Holy Spirit in different ways—through your thinking, correcting a thought with this Voice, recognizing this Voice in another, sharing this Voice with a friend, and so on—the Holy Spirit is brought into the world and given to each of God's children, This Voice is recognized in each of God's children and used as a reminder for God's children of the Truth so that they can overcome the world.

The Holy Spirit was given to each of God's Children by God, put within each one, and is now a part of them. It is not to think that the Holy Spirit is separate from you, is really only a part of God, or will one day be separate, because in Truth, the Holy Spirit is a part of you. It has now been blended and melted into you. That is why it is important to recognize this Voice of God in everyone you meet because It is part of them as well.

The Holy Spirit is within each of God's children and cannot be extracted. It is there as a constant Resource,

Companion, and speaker of Truth no matter what you think you have done, what you think you are doing, or what you think you might do. This Voice for Love within you holds no judgments, never condemns, and only remembers your true Perfection. In that is the impossibility of sin or anything related to it.

It is not possible for the Holy Spirit to judge you in any way because this part of God can only see the Truth of who you are and not who you think you are. God's Voice is within your mind and is ever available to you to restore your thinking to Truth. In any moment you decide that you do not want to participate in the belief of separation—if you decide you want peace, if you decide you want to remember Who you are and What you are—the Holy Spirit is there within you waiting to join with you in Truth. It has been within you since your first step into the world and offers you an alternative to pain and suffering, to fear and loathing, to vengeance and death. This Voice for Love within you offers you Peace, Oneness, Truth, and everlasting Life.

The Fruits of the Holy Spirit

If you see apples on a tree, what kind of tree is it? What if you see oranges on a tree, what kind of tree is it? Similarly, the fruits of the Holy Spirit show the work of the Holy Spirit. A person who lives their lives regularly using the gifts of the Holy Spirit will show the fruits of the Holy Spirit. These fruits give evidence of the Holy Spirit's work in the individual's life to others and these fruits assist the Christian in knowing if they are truly living as a Christian. A Christian sees that he is often mean, angry, greedy, unhappy, and impatient, etc. needs to make some changes in order to follow Christ more consistently.

The fruits of the Holy Spirit give a foretaste of the heaven right now on earth. This taste of heaven is given to the individual and everyone that the individual encounters either directly or indirectly. In other words, people who do not know Jesus can come to know Him by encountering someone who is living as His witness.

There are twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, peace, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, self-control, joy, patience, goodness, gentleness, modesty, and chastity (cf. Gal. 5:22-23, CCC 1832). Knowing the meaning of each of these will help you see if these fruits are in your life.

- ❖ **CHARITY** - loving God above all things and loving all other people
- ❖ **CHASTITY** - purity in thought, word, and act
- ❖ **FAITHFULNESS** - following Jesus in every way
- ❖ **GENEROSITY** - willingness to give all that we have received to God and others
- ❖ **GENTLENESS** - acting towards others with the recognition that you cannot make them follow Jesus, they need to decide for themselves
- ❖ **GOODNESS** - all the qualities and virtues which make us what God wants us to be
- ❖ **JOY** - interior, unshakeable happiness
- ❖ **KINDNESS** - acting as God acts towards others, forgiving others even when they hurt us
- ❖ **MODESTY** - dress or conduct that respects others
- ❖ **PATIENCE** - seeing things and waiting in God's time; patience is the listed first in the description of love found in Scripture (cf. 1 Cor 13:4)
- ❖ **PEACE** - not only the absence of fighting and violence, but also an internal presence resulting from a friendship with God and His Family, the Church
- ❖ **SELF-CONTROL** - temperance, knowing when enough is enough, right control over ones' desires

CONFIRMATION QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

1. What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is the sacrament in which the Holy Spirit comes to us in a special way to join us more closely to Jesus and his Church and to seal and strengthen us as Christ's witnesses. It is the completion of baptismal grace. (1285/ 1316)

"When the Intercessor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father-the Spirit of truth that comes forth from the Father-he will bear witness to me, but you, too, will bear witness..." (John 15:26). (See also Acts 2:4; 8:14-17)

2. Who is the minister of Confirmation?

In the Latin Rite, the bishop is the ordinary minister of Confirmation but priests may confirm in certain circumstances when authorized by the bishop. In the Eastern Church, the priest ordinarily administers confirmation at the same time as Baptism. He uses sacred chrism consecrated by the bishop to bring out this sacrament's connection with the apostolic office. (1299, 1312-1313)

"For the one God sent speaks the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure" (John 3:34)

3. What does "confirm" mean?

To confirm means to strengthen. In Confirmation our faith is deepened and strengthened, and through this sacrament we are more perfectly bound to Christ and to his Church. (1285)

"In Christ you who heard the word of truth-the good news of your salvation-and believed it were sealed by the promised Holy Spirit, which is the pledge that we shall gain our inheritance when God redeems what is his, to the praise of his glory!" (Eph. 1:13-14)

4. How is Confirmation given?

In the Latin Rite, the bishop extends his hands over the person and anoints the forehead in the form of a cross while saying: "Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit." The person being confirmed answers "Amen," meaning, "Let it be so." The Gift is the Holy Spirit, who is the Gift of the Father and the Son to us. (1299-1301)

"Then they laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit" (Acts 8:17)

5. What makes up the sign of Confirmation?

The sign of Confirmation is made up of anointing and words. (1293)

6. What does the action of confirming tell us about the sacrament?

In the action of confirming, the anointing shows that strength and power are being received from the Holy Spirit. This anointing is a sign of our consecration to Jesus Christ. (1294, 1305)

7. What do we mean by "anointing"?

"Anointing" means "signing with oil." The blessed oil that is used is called chrism which stands for spiritual strength. The sweet-smelling aromatic substance that it contains stands for freedom from sin and the spreading of goodness. (1293-1294, 1297)

"We are the aroma Christ offers to God among those being saved and among those who are perishing. For some it is a deadly fragrance which leads to death, for others it is a life-giving fragrance which leads to life" (2 Cor. 2:15-16)

8. What do the words signify?

The words signify that we are receiving the Holy Spirit in a special way, and are being sealed or marked as Christ's witnesses. (1300)

"It is God who establishes us in Christ with you and who has anointed us, who has placed his seal on us and given our hearts the Spirit as a down payment" (2 Cor. 1:21-22)

9. What are the effects of Confirmation?

Confirmed Catholics have become full-pledged members of the Church. They have received spiritual strength and special graces to help them better witness to Christ. The confirmed have also grown in the graces and gifts first received in Baptism. This is indicated during the Confirmation ceremony when the Holy Spirit is called upon to come with his seven gifts. (1303)

"They prayed over them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for it had not yet come upon any of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus" (Acts 8:15-16)

10. What are the duties of confirmed Catholics?

Confirmed Catholics are to keep on learning about their faith. They are to live it, love it, stand up for it and share it as Christ's witnesses, (1303)

11. What do we mean when we say that a Christian is sealed as Christ's witness?

In Confirmation a Christian receives a second spiritual seal which lasts forever. The first lasting spiritual seal was received at Baptism; Confirmation seals our public commitment to Christ begun in Baptism. This seal is called a character. (1304-1305, 1317)

"I am sending the promise of my Father upon you, so stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high" (Lk 24:48-49)

12. Is Confirmation necessary for salvation?

Confirmation is not absolutely necessary for salvation, but it could be seriously wrong to neglect this sacrament because it deepens baptismal grace and brings an abundant outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist so complement one another that all three are required for full Christian initiation. Confirmation is also important for the growth of the Church. (1306)

13. How should a Catholic prepare for Confirmation?

A Catholic should prepare for Confirmation by studying the Catholic faith, by praying and by witnessing to Christ. The candidate must be in the state of grace and have the same intentions as the Church. (1309, 1310)

"They all devoted themselves single-mindedly to prayer..." (Acts 1:14)

14. What is the purpose of a Confirmation sponsor?

A Confirmation sponsor has the same duties as a baptismal godparent. The Church suggests that the baptismal godparent become the Confirmation sponsor, however, another sponsor may be chosen. A sponsor must be a good Catholic, already confirmed. (1311)

15. Is another saint's name taken in Confirmation?

A Catholic may take another saint's name in Confirmation if he or she wishes.