

St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church
Religious Education Department
Grosse Pointe Park, MI

**REQUEST FOR ENROLLMENT AS A CANDIDATE FOR CONFIRMATION
AND CONTRACT OF COMMITMENT 2011-2012**

Dear Father Brecht,

I _____, a member of St. Clare of Montefalco Catholic Church, ask to be accepted as a Candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation. In making this request, I am aware of my responsibility to prepare myself as fully as possible for the proper reception of the Sacrament and the strengthening of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Specifically, I agree to:

1. Attend and participate in the religious education classes offered for me in the religious education program or fully participating in the religion instruction in St. Clare Catholic School to the best of my ability.
2. Cooperate as fully as I can with you, my Pastor, the catechists, school teachers and my own parents in the efforts that are made on my behalf during the coming months.
3. Plan and carry out Christian Service projects as my profession of Catholic Faith:
 - a. St. Clare Elementary Students: complete 30 service hours in 7th grade, 30 service hours in 8th grade.
 - b. St. Clare Religious Education Students: complete 15 service hours in 7th grade, 15 service hours in 8th grade.
 - c. **All students are to complete a minimum of one service project with a disciple group in both 7th and 8th grade academic years.**
4. Take part in the mandatory Confirmation retreat that will be offered on December 1, 2011.
5. Attend the Confirmation Sponsor-Candidate Workshop and Rite of Enrollment Liturgy on January 14, 2012 from 4:00-7:30 p.m.
6. Write a letter to the pastor, Fr. David Brecht formally requesting to be Confirmed into the Roman Catholic Faith. The letter and a copy of my Baptismal certificate will be mailed to Fr. Brecht, and is due by February 1, 2012.
7. Complete my saint report for my Confirmation name by February 29, 2012.
8. Give special attention this year to the reading of God's word in Sacred Scripture and to regularly attend the Sacraments of Penance and Holy Communion.
9. Attend the rehearsal for Confirmation on April 26, 2012 from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in Church.
10. To be a faithful and practicing Catholic my whole life by regular attendance at weekend Mass.
 - a. Carry out the penitential practices of the Advent and Lenten Season.
 - b. Contribute to the support of the Church according to my means.

SIGNED: _____

Student

Parent

DATED: _____

Teacher/Catechist

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is a sacrament of initiation into the Catholic Church and is celebrated within the Mass. The use of the Baptismal name in confirmation better expresses the relationship between Baptism and Confirmation. Hence one who is to be confirmed is free to use his/her baptismal name instead of taking a new name or Confirmation name.

CONFIRMATION SPONSORS:

Ordinarily there should be a sponsor for each of those to be Confirmed. The sponsor brings the candidate to receive the sacrament, presents him/her to the Bishop for anointing, and will later help him/her to fulfill his/her Baptismal promises faithfully under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

Pastors will see that the sponsor, chosen by the candidate or the family, is spiritually qualified for the office and satisfies these requirements:

- a.) That he/she is sufficiently mature for this role (age 16 years or up;)
- b.) That he/she belongs to the Catholic Church and has been initiated in the three sacraments of:
 - Baptism,
 - Confirmation
 - Eucharist
- c. That he/she is not prohibited by Canon (Church) law from exercising the role of sponsor. (e.g. their marriage is in good standing with the Church.)
- d.) There is no longer a regulation determining that men be sponsors for boys and women be sponsors for girls.
- e.) Parents may not be Confirmation sponsors.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE EXPECTATION SYNOPSIS

In order that you will understand what is being expected of you this year, the following outline is prepared for you to read and refer to during the year. Please keep this form and all material in your Confirmation folder.

- 1.) **RITE OF ENROLLMENT** - All Confirmation students are officially enrolled in the Confirmation program. Enrollment form is due to the Director of Religious Education by November 1, 2011.
- 2.) **CONFIRMATION RETREAT** - December 1, 2011. An opportunity for you to reflect on the action (workings) of the Holy Spirit in your personal life and on your commitment to the Church. Permission slip and payment due to the religious education office by November 16, 2011.
- 3.) **COMPLETION OF SERVICE HOURS:**

St. Clare Elementary Students: complete 30 service hours* in 7th grade, 30 service hours in 8th grade.

St. Clare Religious Education Students: complete 15 service hours* in 7th grade, 15 service hours in 8th grade.

All students are to complete a minimum of one service project* with a disciple group in both 7th and 8th grade.

*Service ministry may not be an act that you are paid to do (e.g. babysitting for a family member or a friend for pay.) It is recommended that students choose service projects from the following areas: your local neighborhood, your parish community, a non-profit service organization (e.g. Gleaners Food Bank) or a Catholic Service agency (e.g. St. Vincent DePaul, Focus Hope, Capuchin Soup Kitchen, St. Leo's Soup Kitchen, etc.) Having a broad range of service experiences will teach our young people that we do Christian Service out of a loving gift of self, to see Christ in all of our brothers and sisters, and to bring Christ to all that we meet, most especially the poor and vulnerable, whom Jesus so closely identified with.

Service hours verification sheets are due to the religious education office by April 4, 2012.

- 4.) **LETTER OF REQUEST - AND BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE.** Your formal, written request to the pastor of St. Clare of Montefalco Church for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation.) to be mailed in along with a copy of your Baptismal Certificate to Fr. Brecht by February 1, 2012.
- 5.) **ATTENDANCE AT PENANCE SERVICES DURING ADVENT AND LENT FOR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES.**
- 6.) **ATTENDANCE AT THE RITE OF ENROLLMENT MASS AND THE CONFIRMATION SPONSOR-CANDIDATE WORKSHOP ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 2012 FROM 4:00-7:30 P.M.**
- 7.) **ATTENDANCE AT THE CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL AT CHURCH APRIL 26, 2012 FROM 7:00-8:30 P.M.**
- 8.) **CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION ON APRIL 29, 2012 AT 1:30 P.M.**

CONFIRMATION ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

1) PRAYERS - You are expected to memorize the basic Catholic prayers so they can be useful to you for your entire life. During your Confirmation Interview the priests will be asking you to recite your prayers.

2) POSITIVE BEHAVIOR AND ATTITUDE IN CLASS - This will demonstrate your maturity as a candidate for Confirmation.

3) ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION IN CLASS - this will demonstrate your readiness and willingness for Confirmation consideration. Frequent unexcused absences from religious education classes will negatively impact your readiness to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation.

4) WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AT MASS All Confirmation candidates should be attending mass each week. The priests will be asking candidates about their mass attendance during their Confirmation interviews.

4) LEARNING AND EXPERIENCING CERTAIN BASIC KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH - You are to master the material of your textbooks and apply it by putting it into practice.