

Confirmation Preparation Reflection Questions

Please submit answers to dwallace@sjtb.org or bring to your Confirmation interview.

"Insofar as possible, there is to be a sponsor for the person to be confirmed; the sponsor is to take care that the confirmed person behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations inherent in this sacrament....To be permitted to take on the function of sponsor a person must: (1) be designated by the one to be baptized, by the parents or the person who takes their place, or in their absence by the pastor or minister and have the aptitude and intention of fulfilling this function; (2) have completed the sixteenth year of age, unless the diocesan bishop has established another age, or the pastor or minister has granted an exception for a just cause; (3) be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received the most holy sacrament of the Eucharist and who leads a life of faith in keeping with the function to be taken on; (4) not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared; (5) not be the father or mother of the one to be baptized...It is desirable to choose as sponsor the one who undertook the same function in baptism" (canons 874 and 892).

- 1. Who have you chosen as your Confirmation sponsor? Why? (If you haven't chosen someone, describe someone whom you might choose or who best fits the requirements above.)**
- 2. What is your sponsor's relationship to you?**
- 3. How do you think your sponsor will "take care that the confirmed person [you!] behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations inherent in this sacrament"?**

"The sacrament of confirmation strengthens the baptized and obliges them more firmly to be witnesses of Christ by word and deed and to spread and defend the faith. It imprints a character, enriches by the gift of the Holy Spirit the baptized continuing on the path of Christian initiation, and binds them more perfectly to the Church" (canon 879).

- 4. Do you think your life will be any different after Confirmation?**
- 5. What do you think it means to be a "witness of Christ by word and deed"?**
- 6. Have you ever had to defend your faith (do apologetics)?**
- 7. Do you think you'll be ready to fulfill the obligations inherent in the sacrament?**

"In the Arlington Diocese, it is customary for candidates to take a Confirmation Name. This is to be the name of one Saint or Blessed (of the same or opposite sex) found in the Roman Martyrology. While many titles are given for Mary (e.g., Our Lady of Lourdes, Our Lady of Fatima, etc.), the Confirmation Name should be Mary." (*Diocese of Arlington Office of Faith Formation Policies and Guidelines*)

- 8. What saint's name have you chosen? (If you haven't chosen one yet, who among the saints inspires you?)**
- 9. What aspect of this saint inspires you? Or, why did you choose this saint?**
- 10. If you could ask your saint one question, what would it be?**