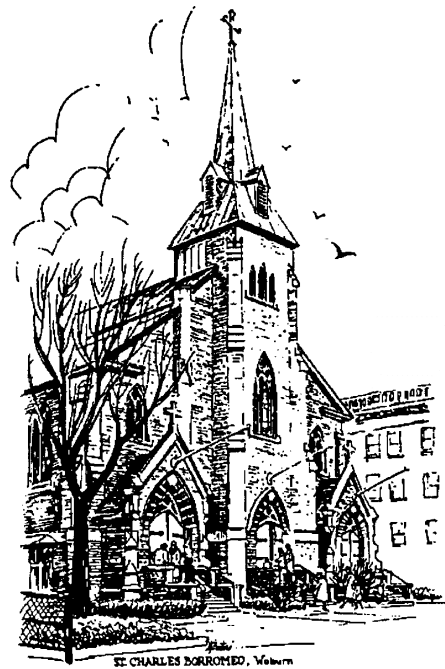


THE FAITH COMMUNITY
at **SAINT CHARLES BORROMEIO**

Sacrament of Confirmation · Requirements 2011-2012



CENTER *for* FAITH FORMATION
at **SAINT CHARLES BORROMEIO**

Rev. Timothy Shea, Pastor
Rev. Arthur MacKay, Associate Pastor
Mr. Cliff Garvey, Director of Faith Formation

Center for Faith Formation at Saint Charles Borromeo
280 Main Street · Woburn, Massachusetts 01801 · 781-933-7595
www.saintcharleschurch.net
saintcharlesborromeo.blogspot.com

SAINT CHARLES BORROMEIO

Sacrament of Confirmation Requirements 2011-2012

Welcome to Saint Charles Borromeo! Thank you for enrolling in our faith community's youth faith formation program in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Attached are necessary forms and information about the Sacrament of Confirmation, the requirements of our program, Confirmation names, Christian service projects, and the roles and responsibilities of parents, guardians, and sponsors during your preparation for the sacrament.

As part of your preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, please complete and return the following forms to the Center for Faith Formation no later than Wednesday, December 21, 2011. No exceptions!

- #1 **Candidate information**
- #2 **Confirmation name**
- #3 **Christian Service Project**
- #4 **Sponsor Information**
- #5 **Sponsor Affirmation**

After you have completed these forms, please mail them together to the following address:

Saint Charles Borromeo
Center for Faith Formation
280 Main Street
Woburn, Massachusetts 01801

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Cliff Garvey at 781-933-7595 or c_garvey@rcabcuria.org. For updated information about our youth faith formation program, please join us online: saintcharlesborromeo.blogspot.com

WHAT IS CONFIRMATION?

Confirmation is:

- A Sacrament of Initiation into the Church, together with Baptism and Eucharist. Confirmation completes the grace of Baptism by a special outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, which seal or “confirm” the baptized candidates in union with Christ and equips them for active participation in the worship and apostolic life of the Church.
- A sign of God’s special love for us.
- A profession of faith by personally proclaiming our baptismal vows.
- An acknowledgment of spiritual maturity.
- A lifelong challenge to live the way of Jesus, to pray individually and as members of the Church.
- A lifelong challenge to build up the Body of Christ, the Church, through worship, formation, evangelization, and service.
- A call to be a witness of God’s presence in the world.

CONFIRMATION: WHAT IS EXPECTED?

For Candidates, Parents, Guardians, and Sponsors

Each candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation is encouraged to know the Lord in a personal and intimate way, to experience a sense of belonging to the Christian community, and to respond to the Gospel mandate of Christian service.

Candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation are expected to:

- Attend Sunday Mass with a parent or adult guardian.
- Attend scheduled youth faith formation classes and special events.
- Participate in our annual “Evening of Reflection.”
- Complete 8 hours of Christian service to the community.
- Devote time to personal prayer and spiritual reading.
- Manifest Christian charity and kindness to others.
- Complete all necessary forms and return them to the Center for Faith Formation no later than Wednesday, December 21, 2011.

SAINT CHARLES BORROMEIO

Sacrament of Confirmation Candidate Information

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date of Birth _____ Phone _____

Date of Baptism _____ Place of Baptism _____

Date of First Holy Communion _____

Place of First Holy Communion _____

Name of Father/Legal Guardian _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Mother/Legal Guardian _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Name of Sponsor _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Complete and return this form by Wednesday, December 21, 2011.

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SAINT CHARLES BORROMEIO

Sacrament of Confirmation Confirmation Names

The tradition of selecting a saint's name for Confirmation is longstanding. For centuries, a candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation chose the name of a patron saint upon which the confirmed person could model his or her life.

Since Vatican Council II, the practice of choosing a saint's name is no longer required as part of the Sacrament of Confirmation. So, you can decide for yourself. If you decide to choose a "Confirmation Name", then please complete this form and return it, along with other necessary forms, to the Center for Faith Formation.

If you do not choose a "Confirmation Name", then you will be "called" by the name given to you by your parents at Baptism.

If you decide to choose a "Confirmation Name", please reflect upon your choice by considering the following points:

- Research the life and example of your choice.
- Consider how your patron saint will serve as a role model throughout your life.
- Consider how your patron saint will help you grow closer to Christ.
- Discuss your decision with your parent or guardian.
- Pray, reflect, and allow the Holy Spirit to guide your decision.

Your Given Name _____

Your Confirmation Name _____

Candidate's Signature _____

Parent's Signature _____

Complete and return this form by Wednesday, December 21, 2011.

SAINT CHARLES BORROMEIO

Sacrament of Confirmation Christian Service Project

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

As a candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation at Saint Charles Borromeo, you are required to complete 8 hours of Christian Service to the community. In a brief essay, please describe your service project and how it contributed both to your community and to your life of faith. You may use additional sheets if necessary.

As a member of the community of faith at Saint Charles Borromeo, Confirmation Class of 2008, this certifies that the following person has fulfilled their obligation of Christian Service, which establishes their commitment to the community and contributes to their preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Signature of Student _____ Date _____

Location of Service Project _____ Date _____

Project Supervisor _____

Supervisor's Signature _____ Date _____

Complete and return this form by Wednesday, December 21, 2011.

SPONSORS

About Sponsors

Throughout life, you have received support from your family, friends, and other caring people. They feed and clothe you. They listen to you, offer guidance, assistance, and comfort.

At Baptism, you entered the Church with support from parents and godparents. Speaking for you, they promised to raise you in the Catholic faith and watch out for you.

At Confirmation, however, you stand by yourself and renew those vows that were spoken for you at Baptism. The Church considers you old enough to assume this responsibility.

But a special person is still present – your Confirmation sponsor – who will stand with you and present you to the Bishop. This person will be a support for you as you prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The Church does not allow a parent to be a sponsor for his or her own child. However, a godparent can be a sponsor. And a man may serve as sponsor for a young woman and a woman may serve as sponsor for a young man.

About Choosing a Sponsor

When considering a person as a possible sponsor, please keep in mind that sponsor should be:

- A person who lives his or her Catholic faith;
- A person who is an example of Christian living;
- Baptized and confirmed in the Roman Catholic Church; and
- A regular recipient of the Eucharist at Sunday Mass.

A SPONSOR'S ROLE & RESPONSIBILITY

Young people choose as their Confirmation sponsor a man or woman whom they admire and respect. As a sponsor, you are asked to fulfill the minimal requirement of being present at the actual celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. However, your role as a sponsor is much richer and deeper. Please reflect upon the following points as you accompany your candidate on his or her journey of faith.

Honesty

As you know, young people need steady guidance when they feel unsure or confused about their faith. You don't have to be an expert in matters of faith or prayer, but you should speak honestly with your candidate about the struggles and triumphs that you have experienced as a person of faith. Be sure to share with your candidate how God has made a difference in your life. If your candidate asks you a question that you cannot answer, then seek the answer together.

Time

You may need to make the first move! Call, write, or e-mail your candidate just to check-in. Try to spend some time with your candidate to talk about their faith journey, their goals in life, their values, their fears, and their hopes for the future. Your time is perhaps the most precious gift that you can give to your loved one.

Prayer

Be mindful of this young person who has chosen you as his/her sponsor. Pray for your candidate daily. If possible, pray together or attend Mass together.

Presence

As a sponsor, your presence at Youth Masses and other special events is encouraged and important. Be there for your candidate. Let them know that you take seriously your role as a sponsor and that you take seriously their preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Gifts

If possible, give your candidate a religious gift of some kind. Present him or her with a personal copy of the Bible, a book about the saints, a book of prayers, or other spiritual reading. Of course, such gifts will be more personal if it also has special meaning for you.

Christian Witness

Make an effort to nurture your own faith. Commit your self to prayer and the sacraments. Your own witness to the faith is a gift that encourages your candidate to follow your example and to choose the same Christian life.

SAINT CHARLES BORROMEIO

**Sacrament of Confirmation
Sponsor Information**

Candidate's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Name of Teacher _____

Name of Sponsor _____

Sponsor's Relationship to You _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

In a few sentences, please explain your reasons for choosing this person to be your sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Explain how this person is a model of the Catholic faith for you; and how this person helps you to be a disciple of Jesus by his/her example.

Complete and return this form by Wednesday, December 21, 2011.

SAINT CHARLES BORROMEIO

Sacrament of Confirmation Sponsor's Affirmation

Candidate's Name _____

Sponsor's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Home Parish _____

I affirm that:

- I have received the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist) in the Roman Catholic Church.
- I participate in Sunday Mass and give witness to my faith in Christ Jesus by regularly receiving the Eucharist.
- I strive to live out my commitment to Christ and to His Church by my loving response to those with whom I live and work.
- I shall give my full support to _____ whom I sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation by my prayers and by the example of my life.

I understand accept the responsibility that I undertake as a sponsor.

Sponsor's Signature _____ Date _____

Complete and return this form by Wednesday, December 21, 2011.