

Each Confirmation candidate is required to write a personal letter to the Bishop requesting the Sacrament of Confirmation. The purpose of this letter is to introduce yourself to the Bishop and to explain your Confirmation preparation experience as well as to assure him that you are asking for the sacrament freely. All of the letters will be delivered to the Bishop prior to the Confirmation ceremony.

Below is a list of suggested items to include in your letter. Though the letter should contain many of the items included, **it should reflect you and be written in your voice.**

Begin your letter with "Dear Bishop"

- Tell the Bishop...
 - Who you are
 - *the parish you belong to, something about your family, where you go to school, your favorite subjects, interests, or hobbies. Make it personal. The Bishop wants to know YOU*
 - About your Confirmation journey and why you want to be confirmed
 - *what does being confirmed means to your faith.*
 - *describe the various classes, service opportunities, and projects that you have participated in over the last two years.*
 - *what gifts and talents you can bring to your parish community in the future as a result of your service experiences.*
 - What you have learned about yourself and your faith during your preparation
 - *Refer to something you learned or experienced in one or more of the following areas: classes, speakers, retreats, electives, etc.) Highlight any event that made an impression on you, or may have caused you to think or want to learn more. Have you felt the Holy Spirit's presence, guiding you in a difficult time, helping you make the often "hard," but "good" choice. Can you feel Jesus's presence with you more fully now in all situations?*
 - Your Confirmation name and why you chose it.
 - Your sponsor is and why you chose this person to be a special part of your faith journey.
- Thank the Bishop for coming to confirm you.
- End your letter respectfully, signing and typing your name at the bottom of it.
 - (ex. Respectfully Yours, Sincerely, Prayerfully, or With God's Peace.)

There is no set length for your letter. However, it should address the main topics described. Therefore, your letter should be at least four paragraphs long: 1. Introduction, 2. Your Confirmation journey, 3. Your thoughts about being confirmed, 4. Closing.

- Please type/print your letter in standard font.
- Proof-read your letter! Have someone else read it before you turn it in. Make sure you use correct grammar and spelling. *Letters that appear to have numerous spelling and grammar mistakes, and that seem to have been done quickly without much thought, may be returned to be revised. Remember that the Bishop will take the time to read every one of the letters he receives, and Bishops have been known to quote them in their homilies at the Confirmation Mass.*
- Letters need to be signed - consequently, you cannot email your final copy. *We need the original hard copy with your handwritten signature. You can drop off your letter at class or either (PJ23 or CTK) parish office.*

Your completed letters are **due by April 8, 2026.**