

## Candidate & Sponsor February Session (Make-Up)

Please watch this video and then quiz one another on what you heard!

*Some of these questions below were not actually addressed in the video but supplement it – just give your best guesses before turning to the answer sheet!*

1. What are the 3 sacraments of initiation??
2. Where do we FIRST hear about the Holy Spirit in Scripture? Then, name as many times that the Holy Spirit appears in Scripture as you can think of!
3. What are the Four Signs of Confirmation? *(This was in the video!)*
4. What are the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit? Which one do you feel like you need the most from the Holy Spirit right now?
5. The video also mentioned another practice that's customary in Confirmation – choosing a Confirmation saint. Why do we do this?

**Note** – Here's the video URL in case the link doesn't work for you for some reason (below). You can also look it up on Youtube – it's called "Confirmation" by CatholicCentral.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1v-FLo7bcTE>

Please jot down your biggest takeaways from this conversation in the space below, and initial at the end that you went through this session together. You can submit this make-up form to the Parish Office, attn: Paul, or just bring it to our March session on Sun. 3/6 or 3/10. Thank you!

## Candidate & Sponsor February Session ANSWER GUIDE

1. **What are the 3 sacraments of initiation??**

*Answer – Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation*

*'Baptism, the Eucharist, and the sacrament of Confirmation together constitute the "sacraments of Christian initiation," whose unity must be safeguarded. The reception of the sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace (God's life in us). For "by the sacrament of Confirmation, [the baptized] are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed.'" –CCC 1285*

2. **Where do we FIRST hear about the Holy Spirit in Scripture? Then, name as many times that the Holy Spirit appears in Scripture as you can think of!**

- a. In the Old Testament, the prophets – particularly the prophet Isaiah – announced that the Spirit of the Lord would rest on the hoped-for Messiah for his saving mission. *(So those who guessed the book of Isaiah are correct! Though the argument can also be made that we see the Holy Spirit appear even earlier in the book of Genesis.)*
- b. The first time the Holy Spirit is mentioned explicitly as coming to earth → The Gospels, when John baptizes Jesus in the Jordan River (Jesus = the Messiah!)
- c. But the awesome thing is... Jesus didn't want to keep the Holy Spirit to Himself. He knew how much we needed the Holy Spirit! Hence, PENTECOST happened in the Acts of the Apostles!
- d. Take a minute to retell the story of Pentecost now. (If you need to, look it up in the Bible or on your phone – just Google "Acts 2")
- e. ***Confirmation has its roots specifically in Pentecost and in the practice of the laying on of hands that was continued during the Acts of the Apostles. Confirmation is a GIFT that we RECEIVE. It's not something we earn or even a profession of faith. It's really not about us all that much – it's about the mission of God's saving work continuing THROUGH us and through our cooperation, just as the earliest Christians were critical in passing on the faith.***

3. **What are the Four Signs of Confirmation?** *(This was in the video!)*

- a. **Renewal of Baptismal Vows** *(Confirmation completes and strengthens what' was begun in our baptism)*
- b. **Laying on of Hands** *(just like the Apostles in the Acts of the Apostles – and all the earliest Christians down through the centuries)*

- c. **Anointing** (*'anoint' means 'to seal & strengthen' – in Jesus' time, anointing with oil was a practice customary among royalty, and also for those about to go out into battle.*)
- d. **Sign of Peace** (*A sign of unity & a promise that the Gifts of the Holy Spirit are only able to be used for the building up of God's kingdom*)

4. **What are the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit?**

- **Wisdom** (to know what's truly important)
- **Understanding** (to know why it's important)
- **Counsel/Right Judgment** (to judge between right and wrong & choose to do right)
- **Fortitude** (courage to persist in doing the right thing no matter what)
- **Knowledge** (to know God and God's plan of salvation)
- **Piety/Reverence** (to know that the God who created the universe deserves our love and praise)
- **Fear of the Lord** (having the right perspective of God's almighty power and our role in His creation)
- These gifts give us strength to spread and defend our faith.
  - **Sponsors – can you share an example of a time you needed to do that? How did the Holy Spirit help you?**
  - **Candidates – which gift do you feel like you need the most from the Holy Spirit right now?**

5. **The video also mentioned another practice that's customary in Confirmation – choosing a Confirmation saint. Why do we do this?**

- a. God has a unique mission for each one of us. So when we say that Confirmation is our "personal Pentecost" it means that after this our life should look different, just like that of the Apostles.
- b. This is also why we choose a saint to help support us in this mission. Confirmation leaves a permanent mark on our souls – it can never be repeated. And in the rite of Confirmation, the bishop anoints us using the name that we choose. Usually this is the name of a saint or holy person who holds a special place in our lives, or who we want to help us the most on our faith journey.
  - i. **Candidates – your Confirmation Saint Name Form was due February 1<sup>st</sup>. Who did you choose? What's one saint you admire?**
  - ii. **Sponsors – do you remember what name you chose?**

Fulfilling our mission to the best of our ability is the key to our happiness. Jesus doesn't want to make us into someone we're not. He wants us to be fully ourselves – wholly alive and totally free, meaning unbound by attachments to things of earth that distract us and leave us empty. ...But Jesus also respects our free will. So we will get out of this journey what we put into it, and

will receive more if we seek God with an open heart than if we halfheartedly go through the motions. The choice is ours.