

## March 2026 Sponsor Session Makeup

- **Confirmation Recap & Video (Chosen)**

*'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

- **The Effects of Confirmation:**

- More perfectly united to the Church and to Jesus Christ
- Enriched with a special grace of the Holy Spirit
- Strengthened as witnesses of Christ
- More strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed

- **CHOSEN VIDEO** - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OrCUkEmCfi8>

- Okay so this whole rite of Confirmation started at Pentecost and has been passed down ever since. ...why is that such a big deal?
- The Catechism says: "The fullness of the Spirit - given "without measure" to Jesus - was NOT TO REMAIN UNIQUELY THE MESSIAH'S, but was to be communicated to THE WHOLE MESSIANIC PEOPLE."
- THAT IS US AND THAT IS AMAZING. Everything that God did through Jesus, God wants to do through us. That's what baptism is – we are configured to Jesus Christ himself. We in essence become "other Christ's."
- So then what happened next after Pentecost??  
*"From that time on the apostles, in fulfillment of Christ's will, imparted to the newly baptized by the laying on of hands the gift of the spirit that completes the grace of Baptism."*
- ...so this sacrament came straight from Jesus & has looked the same since the time of the very first Christians.
- And thousands of people who received these sacraments have gone on to lead HEROIC lives in reflection of Jesus'. They have ministered to the poor and outcast. They've fought against injustice. They've brought healing to the sick and clothed the naked. They've been vessels of miracles. They've saved the lives of those in danger.

- **Quick review of (7) Gifts of the Holy Spirit**

- Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Piety, Fear of God

- **Fruits of the Holy Spirit** (Galatians 5:22-25)

- Charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, chastity

- **Video & Discussion**

- **EWTN Video:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hJePoqTbUo>
  - *Briefly share with one another your reactions to this video!*
- **WHY DOES ANY OF THIS MATTER?**
  - Harrison offers us a clear example of how God has created us with unique gifts that we can use to give Him glory. He doesn't want us to be cookie cutter versions of who we THINK we should be; God has made you to be fully who you are, with your own gifts. He wants to give you the fullness of joy!
- God wants to give us the FULLNESS OF LIFE along with tools to give us strength and peace. God also has a unique mission for each one of us. He wants our lives to look different after Confirmation, just like the Apostles' lives looked different after Pentecost.
- ...But here's the thing. Even though Confirmation is a GIFT that we RECEIVE there are still things we need to do to make ourselves prepared to make the most of those gifts.
  - *Air Fryer EXAMPLE – Air Fryer in Hollandale but I was too scared to use it! I could have been making amazing meals but instead I let it sit and gather dust. The same is true with these gifts that God bestows on us – we need to be open to receive them, take time to be formed in virtue and learn how to use them, and only then will we bear fruit.*
- **And Jesus also respects our free will. So we have the freedom to say yes or to say no to these gifts.**
  - **DISPOSITION** – Have you ever wondered why there are times you leave Mass feeling really connected/renewed, and times you leave feeling empty?
  - The difference is usually in our disposition – our attitude, preparedness, and openness.
  - This is how someone with a heart totally centered on God can have a mystical experience when they receive the Eucharist, and someone who's distracted and disconnected spiritually can walk away feeling like Mass was a waste of time.
  - **THE CHOICE IS YOURS.**
  - Basically we will get out of this 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.
- **TO RECEIVE CONFIRMATION WITH THE FULLNESS OF GRACE YOU NEED...**

*To receive Confirmation one must be in a state of grace. One should receive the sacrament of Penance in order to be cleansed for the gift of the Holy Spirit. More intense prayer should prepare one to receive the strength and graces of the Holy Spirit with docility and readiness to act. Candidates for Confirmation, as for Baptism, fittingly seek the spiritual help of a sponsor.*

  - To be in a state of grace
  - ...which means that you've gone to Confession in the week(s) prior to receiving your Confirmation, to ensure that your soul is cleansed and ready

- Time of more intense prayer and preparation, focused on developing a deeper relationship with Jesus. (So I love that some of you can recite the 5 precepts of the Church! But even if you know these things and do these things but you don't actually have a relationship with Jesus, then we're missing the point.)
- The help and support of a sponsor!

- **REMINDERS AND PREP FOR CANDIDATE/SPONSOR TIME**

- Bishop wants to hear from you! **Letter to Bishop is due ASAP.**
- **Saint Name form is due ASAP!**
- Homework we're going to take time for you to chat with your sponsor.
- Then we're going to ask you to PRAY FOR EACH OTHER. And not just a memorized prayer! Share what you really need prayers for right now, and then go up to the church and pray for one another to close out your time together. (There's a basic format on this sheet to help you out.)
- THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE! WE ARE PRAYING FOR YOU!