

Confirmation 2024

GUIDEBOOK



St. Michael

THE ARCHANGEL



LIFE TEEN

Catholic Church



We Begin the Journey...

"When the time for Pentecost was fulfilled, they were all in one place together. And suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. And they were all filled with the holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim."

-Acts 2:1-4

Candidate's Name: _____

St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church
4491 Springfield Road
Glen Allen, VA 23060
804.527.1037



Welcome from Fr. Dan...

Dear Young Members of St. Michael,

Have you ever been having a tough time and needed someone else to be present to you? Or have you ever been feeling really happy and wanted to share that joy? Or maybe it just felt good to have a friend with you in a peaceful moment – someone who just “gets” you? Now, if a friend is with us but we are deaf/blind and can’t hear/see them or somehow we just don’t realize they are there, then we miss something – the comfort, the joyous sharing, the peaceful presence. The Holy Spirit has been with you from the moment of your conception, but the “noise” of our world and our lives can deafen us or blind us.

I am very happy for you and proud of you as you consider receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is a beautiful Sacrament and an important one. It opens us ever more to the life of God in the Holy Spirit and God’s steady loving presence as our best friend who has seen all our ugliest parts and still loves us. I pray that your time of preparation may help you become all the more aware of that presence – a presence which we will celebrate sacramentally with his Excellency, Bishop Barry Knestout in the spring. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

God Bless,

Fr. Dan Brady



Welcome from Mike...

Dear Teens & Parents,

Welcome to this exciting step in your faith journey! As baptized Catholics, we entered into this faith and family of God. Through Eucharist, we share in Christ's Body and Blood and in our Lord's Paschal Mystery. In Confirmation, you will be sealed and sent on a mission, just as the early disciples before us. Now it's your turn. This sacrament is far from "the end of being active at church"—this is just another important step in living an active and robust faith life throughout your entire life.

This, in some ways, is a beginning. We have so much in store for you this year and for years to come. So often, teens and parents alike have considered Confirmation as a type of 'graduation' or 'coming of age' if you will. This couldn't be further from the truth. It is in this beautiful Sacrament of Confirmation you will be sealed with gifts—true, helpful, useful, and grace-filled gifts of the Holy Spirit that, when tapped, can unleash awesome blessings in your life. The problem is we often don't use them. We receive them, and then we disappear from our church community and maybe even from our faith. We see this so often when only a "handful" (but continuously growing number) of teens return for youth ministry in their junior and senior years of high school. (Life Teen is high school movement for teens in their freshman year through senior year.)

I want to invite you to be the difference this year—to accept and live out the mission unlike ever before. The mission calls us to "go out into the world and spread the good news!" How can you do this? It's in the things you say and do, the very way in which you live your life. People should be able to encounter Christ through you each and every day. It is in those beautiful opportunities that we are then able to share His good news and work together to set our world ablaze with his message and love, while growing in holiness. Even after your high school days, there are so many ministries in which to get involved and live the mission. Teens, ask your parents what ministries they are involved in. Parents, continue to remain committed to those ministries (or consider joining one if you aren't part of one.) I know, it's difficult to make time for something more in our busy lives, but it's who we are called to be. It's the very first thing we are called to make time for as a people of dedicated faith. Our faith should be our compass for all other aspects of our daily lives. Let this year make the difference in your life. Your mission starts now, and this mission starts with you. Confirmation is not a sacrament to complete, but one to live.

In Christ,

Mike Horvath

**"If you are what you should be,
you will set the whole world
ablaze."**

-St. Catherine of Siena



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Important Parish Information For You

Parish Office | Phone Number

804.527.1037

Father Dan Brady | Pastor

frdan@saint-mikes.org

Mike Horvath | Parish Youth Advocate

mhorvath@saint-mikes.org

Weekend Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 5:00pm

Sunday: 7:45am, 9:15am,
11:15am, 5:00pm

Blessed Sacrament Chapel

Open 9:00am-9:00pm
Every Day

Eucharistic Adoration

7:00-8:00pm

First Thursday of the Month;
ending with the Divine Mercy
Chaplet & Benediction at
7:45pm

Sacrament of Confession
Day Chapel

Saturdays 3:30-4:30pm
or anytime by appointment



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Preparation Expectations & Calendar

- ♦ **Attendance at weekly Sunday Mass/Mass on Holy Days of Obligation**
- ♦ **Weekly Life Nights** Sunday Nights, 6:20-8:20pm unless otherwise indicated
(see Life Teen Calendar on p. 11-12)
- ♦ **Three Confirmation Days (Attend all Three)**
Confirmation Life Night #1 - Sunday, Oct. 29, 2023, 6:20-8:20pm, Teens Only - Parish Hall
Confirmation Life Night #2 - Sunday, Dec. 10, 2023, 6:20-8:20pm, Teens Only - Parish Hall
Confirmation Power Day - Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024, 12:30-6pm, Teens & Sponsors - Parish Hall
- ♦ **Rite of Recognition & Call to Confirmation** Sunday, Dec 10, 2023 - 5pm Mass
- ♦ **TURN IN Baptismal Certificate (Green Form)** Sunday, December 10, 2023 (p. 17)
- ♦ **TURN IN Sponsor Information Form (Gold Form)** Sunday, December 10, 2023 (p. 26)
- ♦ **TURN IN Sponsor Attestation Form *if needed** Sunday, December 10, 2023 (p. 27-28)
- ♦ **An Evening of Reconciliation Life Night** Sunday, March 17, 2024 6:20-8:20pm
- ♦ **Check-Up Conversations** January/February 2024 (p. 10)
- ♦ **TURN IN Confirmation Name (Pink Form)** Sunday, February 25, 2024 (p. 19)
- ♦ **TURN IN Sponsor Dialogue (Purple Form)** Sunday, March 17, 2024 (p. 31-34)
- ♦ **TURN IN Letter to Pastor** Sunday, April 14, 2024 (p. 21)
- ♦ **Life Teen Retreats (All Confirmation Candidates to Attend One at Minimum*)**
Fall Retreat: Saturday, November 11, 2023 - 9:00am-9:00pm
Spring Retreat: Weekend of March 9, 2024 - Details TBA

*Both Retreats Are Different — teens are welcome on both based on available space!
- ♦ **Follow-Up Conversations** May/June 2024 (p. 10)
- ♦ **Confirmation Rehearsal & Reflection Evening (p. 23)**
Monday, May 13, 2024, 7:00-8:30pm
- ♦ **Celebration of the Rite of Confirmation**
Wednesday, May 15, 2024, 7:00pm - The bishop will be the celebrant.
- ♦ **Mystagogy Life Night (p. 23)**
Sunday, May 19, 2024 - 6:20-8:20pm Teens & Sponsors



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Teen Responsibility Covenant

This contract will be reviewed and signed at Confirmation Life Night #1.

By enrolling myself into St. Michael's preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, I acknowledge the requirements and duties being asked of me, knowing this preparation process will faithfully prepare me to receive the sacrament:

- ♦ Attend the two Confirmation Life Nights and the Power Day, Rite of Recognition, Evening of Reconciliation Life Night, a Retreat, Confirmation Rehearsal & Reflection, and the Mystagogy Life Night after Confirmation Day.
- ♦ Actively participate in high school Life Nights and consider being a part of additional service/social/small group activities!
- ♦ Provide proof of Baptism by way of a Baptismal Certificate.
(or by indicating you were baptized at St. Michael)
- ♦ Sign up and partake in a check up and a follow up conversation session.
- ♦ Complete the Sponsor Dialogue pages in this guidebook with my sponsor, someone I choose, whose faith inspires my own, by Sunday, March 17, 2024.
- ♦ Choose my Confirmation Name, and turn in the form by Sunday, February 25, 2024.
- ♦ Take responsibility for important dates, events, communication—including the turning in of all forms due in this guidebook to the best of my ability and on time.
- ♦ Listen attentively to God's call in my life, and allow the Spirit to work within me and transform me throughout this year of preparation.
- ♦ Pray daily, attend Mass weekly and take responsibility to live and grow in ways which create a healthy, spiritual life.
- ♦ Consider actively taking part in meaningful service through the Church or within our greater community.

Candidate Signature

Date



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Make Up Policy

Your attendance at youth ministry Life Nights and components of preparation for Confirmation is expected and encouraged. There are two designated Confirmation Life Nights in the Fall, each one session. Confirmation Power Day in February is made up of two sessions. For each half of a Power Day missed, you will need to go about making it up. St. Michael will make one makeup session available on a weeknight in March/April 2024 (TBA). Any additional absences will require a conversation with the parish Youth Advocate, as to how you may be able to make up sessions and requirements, by participating in sessions at nearby parishes, etc. in order to continue with the Confirmation preparation this year. A retreat is also an essential requirement of the preparation. If you absolutely cannot attend either the fall or spring retreats offered by St. Michael Life Teen, there are a few other options through the diocese and other parishes. The Youth Ministry Office can assist you in finding a retreat which meets the requirement. If you end up attending another parish's retreat you must make arrangements with the other parish to attend their designated Confirmation Retreat and show proof of attendance. Our Youth Ministry Office can help get you set up with diocesan offerings.

In the case of an absence, the following steps should be followed:

- Confirmation candidate (not the parent) should call or e-mail Mike Horvath at 804.527.1037 x200 or mhorvath@saint-mikes.org
- Explain the reason for the absence.
- If this is your only absence, discuss when the spring make-up will be, and make the commitment to being there. (Date will depend on the majority needs of those needing the make up session.)
- If this is a 2nd absence, you will need to schedule a meeting with the Youth Advocate to discuss opportunities at other parishes to fulfill the requirements, or re-evaluate your readiness to receive this sacrament this year.
- **The earlier you reach out to us about a potential conflict, the more opportunities we can point you toward. Often, when candidates wait until last minute, there are few, if any, make up opportunities, which results in additional hardship and headache for all involved and potentially having to wait until the following year to be confirmed. Reach out early!**



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Check-Up & Follow-Up Conversations

In efforts to encourage a constant conversation between you and the church community during your preparation year, you are asked to sign up to have conversations with our Parish Pastoral Staff. One will take place about midway through this year of preparation in one-on-one form. The other will take place after you've received the Sacrament of Confirmation in a small group form. These are informal conversations, so relax and speak from the heart! With regards to your check-up conversation, expect it to last about 20 minutes. The first 15 minutes will be one on one with the Pastoral Staff member you choose to meet with, and then your parent or guardian will join you for the last five minutes.

The check-up conversation is exactly what the name suggests— a spiritual check-up! You'll be able to spend some time reflecting on the preparation year and Life Teen Youth Ministry involvement thus far and identify spiritual growth/changes or potential obstacles in your life. It's a time to ask questions and a time to focus in again about why you want to be confirmed, how the graces of the sacrament will work in your life, and assess your readiness to continue preparing for and receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation based on your spiritual desire to receive the sacrament.

Sign-ups for check-up conversations will begin in December 2023 and take place in January & February 2024. While it will be initially e-blasted out to the Confirmation group when available, you'll always be able to find the sign up at the web address below, once it becomes available, if you need to switch dates/times. You'll be able to choose from a number of different Pastoral Staff members. You are welcome to meet with whomever you'd like with an available slot.

www.saint-mikes.org/confirmation

Your follow-up conversation will take place in small group form after you have received the sacrament. This will be a time to discuss how you are going to continue the mission God has for you and how you'd like to be involved (or continue to be involved) in our parish community. You will also talk about what you've experienced during your preparation year, as well as on your Confirmation Day itself. You'll get more information on sign ups for this conversation in the spring. The sign up will be e-blasted out and then available at the web address above. Follow-up conversations will take place in May/June 2024, in the weeks following the celebration of the Confirmation Mass.

Sat., September 30	SVdP/Young Vincentians Walk for Poor 11:30am-1pm (Bell Tower) (All Youth)
Sun., October 1	High School LIFE NIGHT (6:20-8:20pm)
Tues., October 10	Youth Ministry Parent Evening 6:45-8:15pm (Parish Hall)
Mon., October 23	Middle School EDGE NIGHT (6:00-8:00pm)
Tues., October 24	Confirmation 2024 Info Meeting for Parents 7:00-8:00pm (Parish Hall)
Sun., October 29	Confirmation Life Night #1 (Teens Only)
Sun., November 5	Regional High School LIFE NIGHT (Details to Come)
Mon., November 6	Middle School EDGE NIGHT
Sat., November 11	LIFE TEEN FALL DAY RETREAT - 9am-9pm (Westview on the James, Goochland)
Mon., Dec. 4	Middle School EDGE NIGHT
Sun., Dec. 10	Confirmation Life Night #2 (Teens Only)
Sun., Dec. 17	High School LIFE NIGHT
Winter/Spring 2024 TBA	Season 2nd Half to be Issued at a Later Date - Key Confirmation & Retreat Dates:
Sun., February 25	Confirmation Power Day (Teens & Sponsors), 12:30-6pm (Parish Hall)
March 8-10	LIFE TEEN SPRING RETREAT (INFO TBA)
Late April TBA	Confirmation Practice & Reflection 7:00-8:30pm
Late April TBA	Confirmation Mass
Sun., May 19	CONFIRMATION MYSTAGOGY LIFE NIGHT (Teens & Sponsors)

**Schedule subject to tweaks or additions based on eventual scaling up of staff & volunteers.*

I am working with some of our recent college grads to potentially put together a four-part small group series for middle school this fall. We also hope to offer a study for middle school in the winter/spring season. More info will be available in the coming weeks and months!

Venture Bible Study for High School Teens Thursdays, 6:45-8:45pm

October 5	November 2
October 12	November 9
October 19	November 16
October 26	November 30

**December 14 make up date.*

**YM Registration: saint-mikes.org/ymreg2023
Register through September 10th**



Youth Ministry Fall Calendar Rebuild Year 23-24

**[SAINT-MIKES.ORG/LIFETEEN](https://saint-mikes.org/lifeteen)
[SAINT-MIKES.ORG/EDGE](https://saint-mikes.org/edge)**

Dear Youth Ministry Family,

Like many things that have longevity over periods of time, it is necessary, from time to time, to take a step back to renourish, revitalize, and re-equip in order to build back up, while dreaming differently as needs and trends change. This fall, I will be using time to begin the process of rebuilding and mentoring our youth ministry team, both paid staff and volunteer Core with the help of our current volunteers. I am also spending some time focusing on making sure our Youth 365 fundraising initiatives conclude with excellence so that our ministry remains financially secure.

We'll use this opportunity to focus on more organic youth ministry, with some emphasis on getting our young people involved in the daily life of the parish. With volunteer help, we'll offer a series of three monthly anchor Life Nights for high school and EDGE Nights for middle school this fall, along with Confirmation preparation for interested 10th graders (& up), which will take place in its usual structure. (You can register for all these online.)

I'll also be offering a bible study on Thursday evenings through the fall for high school teens as an add on that takes an overall look at how the books and events of the bible all fit together. The bible will finally make sense! (More details on back.) Other events and opportunities come alive along the way. Make sure to subscribe to our Flocknotes and follow our Instagram ([mikeslifeteen](https://www.instagram.com/mikeslifeteen)) for updates!

- Mike Horvath, Parish Youth Advocate

YOUTH EVENT RELEASE & EMERGENCY INFO FORM
VALID SEPTEMBER 1, 2023 – SEPTEMBER 1, 2024
ST. MICHAEL CATHOLIC CHURCH, GLEN ALLEN, VA
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RICHMOND



YOUTH INFORMATION

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

First/Nick Name for Nametag: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Contact Phone: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Sex (circle): Male Female

Grade: _____ Adult T-Shirt Size: _____

Parish Name: St. Michael the Archangel City/State: Glen Allen, Virginia

Group Leader: Mike Horvath / Youth Ministry Team

PARENT / GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Name:	_____	_____
	(Father)	(Mother)
Cell Phone:	_____	_____
	(Father)	(Mother)
Email:	_____	_____
	(Father)	(Mother)

ALTERNATE EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION (AFTER PARENTS/LEGAL GUARDIAN)

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Emergency Contact Number: _____

HIGH SCHOOL TEEN CONTACT INFORMATION

TEEN'S

Cell Phone

& Email: _____

Medical Information and Release Form

All information is kept private and confidential

Name of Participant: _____

MEDICAL INFORMATION

In many cases, our staff and volunteers are not familiar with the medical, physical, and/or emotional history of each participant. Please share ANY information relating to the participant in detail. BE AS SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE.

Does the participant have any dietary restrictions?

☐ YES ☐ NO

Select any restrictions that apply to this participant:

☐ Gluten-free ☐ Peanut-free ☐ Vegetarian

List any other dietary restrictions (i.e. vegetarian, allergies):

Is the participant allergic to anything?

☐ YES ☐ NO

List any details of allergies below (this may include food allergies, allergies to specific medications or chemicals, allergies to any substances):

Is the participant currently taking or has taken any prescription medication in the last 6 months?

☐ YES ☐ NO

List the specific prescription medications, reasons for medication, and daily dosage. Indicate if the medication is currently being administered.

Does the participant have any emotional, physical or sensory conditions?

☐ YES ☐ NO

List any emotional conditions that may impede participation in the event. This may include counseling, treatment for emotional conditions (i.e. depression, eating disorders), and/or family situations that may have a significant impact on the participant.

List any physical and/or sensory conditions of which we should be aware or of which need special accommodations (e.g. hearing loss, visual impairment, mobility).

RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND MEDICAL RELEASE

As parent and/or legal guardian I remain legally responsible for any personal actions taken by the above named minor. I agree on behalf of myself, my child named herein, or our heirs, successors, and assigns, to hold harmless and defend St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church, the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, its employees and agents, chaperones, or representatives associated with all events held during this year (September 1, 2023 - September 1, 2024) from any claim arising from or in connection with my child attending any events held within the date range specified or in connection with any illness or injury (including death) or cost of medical treatment in connection therewith, and I agree to compensate the Diocese, its employees and agents and chaperones, or representatives associated with any events this year for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses which may incur in any action brought against them as a result of such injury or damage, unless such claim arises from the negligence of the Parish or Diocese.

I hereby warrant that to the best of my knowledge, my child is in good health, and I assume all responsibility for the health of my child. In the event of any emergency, I hereby give permission to transport my child to a hospital for emergency medical or surgical treatment. I wish to be advised prior to any further treatment by the hospital or doctor. In the event of an emergency, if you are unable to reach me at the above numbers, I give permission for the noted emergency contact to be notified. I will not hold St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church and/or the Catholic Diocese of Richmond responsible for authorizing any medical treatment beyond necessary transportation to the hospital.

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

USE OF PICTURES AND/OR VIDEO

*I give permission for pictures and/or video of my child (named above) engaged in activities related to the parish or Diocesan events to have their pictures posted in St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church and/or Catholic Diocese of Richmond publications—in print and/or digital form. Names of participants **will not** be used without expressed permission from the parent or guardian. If no box is checked below, St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church and the Catholic Diocese of Richmond assumes you give permission.*

☐ YES ☐ NO Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Permission to Give Over-the-Counter Medications

Those who do not wish to give permission for staff to administer medications can simply skip this page.

If it should become necessary during a retreat, or any event lasting more than three hours, I hereby give permissions to St. Michael/Youth Ministry Staff (or a Core member under their direction) to administer the following non-prescription medications to

_____.

Tylenol Yes _____ No _____ Other: _____

Antacid (ex. Tums) Yes _____ No _____ Other: _____

Sudafed Yes _____ No _____ Other: _____

Benadryl (for allergies) Yes _____ No _____ Other: _____

Ibuprofen (ex: Advil) Yes _____ No _____ Other: _____

Antibiotic Ointment (Ex: Neosporin) Yes _____ No _____ Other: _____

Hydrocortisone Cream (Ex: Cortaid) Yes _____ No _____ Other: _____

Please be sure to notify the Youth Ministry Office prior to a given event/retreat regarding any medications (prescription or non-prescription) that your teen will be bringing with them to an event/retreat. They should be taken properly and as directed.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

YOUTH CODE OF CONDUCT

Youth participants must read, understand, agree, sign and return this sheet with the Medical Information and Release form. Each participant is expected to adhere to the following principles while at all events:

SHOW LOVE AND RESPECT FOR GOD:

- ✓ Pray daily for self and others.
- ✓ Participate in the sessions, activities, prayer experiences, and sacraments.
- ✓ Be open, flexible, and have a servant's attitude.
- ✓ Represent God in your words and actions.

SHOW LOVE AND RESPECT FOR SELF:

- ✓ Remember that you are the Temple of the Holy Spirit. Present yourself accordingly.
- ✓ No alcohol, drugs, or smoking will be tolerated during any event.
- ✓ Dress with modesty, considering the activities in which you will be partaking.
- ✓ Any music you bring and listen to should glorify God.
- ✓ Keep yourself hydrated and energized by drinking plenty of water and eating meals.

SHOW LOVE AND RESPECT FOR OTHERS:

- ✓ All words and actions should be those of Christ to build up others and not injure.
- ✓ Make sure that your actions during the activities do not distract others from hearing, seeing, or praying.
- ✓ No horseplay or other potentially harmful actions. Leave pocketknives, lighters, or other hazardous materials at home.
- ✓ No teenagers are allowed to drive to or from any conferences/long trips due to liabilities.
- ✓ On overnight events: Under no circumstances can a youth be in a room, hall, or designated area of a member of the opposite sex.
- ✓ On overnight events: Allow others to sleep. "Lights Out" means that it is time to go to sleep. Do not be in the showers or halls after "Lights Out".
- ✓ On overnight events: No outside or unregistered visitors at the event will be permitted.
- ✓ All facilities we use for events must remain clean and undamaged. Pick up trash where you see it. If you cause damage to something, you will be personally responsible to pay for the damage.

I have read, understand, and agree to the above principles. Any violation of the above principles may result in immediate dismissal from events and participants will forfeit their registration fees.

Youth Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____ Parish: St. Michael, Glen Allen

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____



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Baptismal Certificate

**Due by
December 10**

As the Sacrament of Confirmation completes the Sacraments of Initiation, each Confirmation Candidate must show proof that they have, in fact, been baptized in the Catholic Church. For many, if you were baptized here at St. Michael's, we will have that information in our records. If you were baptized at another parish, but received your First Communion here, we may also have record of your baptismal certificate. Other situations may mean that you will need to provide a copy of your certificate to the parish. Please check the appropriate box below. A recorded list of baptismal certificates we already have on record here at the parish will be made available at a Confirmation Session.

Confirmation Candidate Name: _____

- ☐ I was baptized at St. Michael
- ☐ I made my First Communion at St. Michael
- ☐ I don't believe I have ever submitted a copy of my baptismal certificate to the parish. It is attached.
- ☐ I turned in a copy of my baptismal certificate earlier in the fall.



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Confirmation Name

Due by
February 25

Choosing a Confirmation name is a way of connecting with a holy man or woman (often a saint) who provides you with a great example of living the Christian life. Some candidates choose the name of a saint or a faith-filled family member. Others choose to use their Baptismal name as a reaffirmation of the patron saint they were named after at their Baptism. Pray about your decision before making a choice, and consider what you can learn from their example.

Candidate Birth Name: _____

CONFIRMATION NAME: _____

Who is the saint or person who is the inspiration behind choosing this name?

Why did you choose this name?

What do you know (or have learned) about them?

Why do they inspire you?



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Letter to the Pastor

**Due by
April 14**

In each parish, the pastor is the spiritual leader who is the personal representative of the Bishop in that faith community. It is the pastor's responsibility, among others, to be able to recommend to the Bishop candidates for Confirmation who have the right intentions, the spiritual and educational background, and a sense of commitment toward this Sacrament and to an ongoing life of faith within the Catholic Church.

In order to assist Father Dan Brady, the pastor of St. Michael Catholic Church, in his recommendation to his Excellency, Bishop Knestout, Bishop of Richmond, concerning your reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation, all candidates for Confirmation will write a letter to Father Dan. Use the following questions below to help form the content of your letter:

- ♦ Why have you chosen to be confirmed this year?
- ♦ What change/growth have you experienced since starting the Confirmation prep process? (use examples: retreat, interaction with your sponsor, what you learned in the Confirmation and/or regular Life Nights, etc.)
- ♦ Do you feel that you are ready to deepen your commitment to the faith of the Church as a member of our Catholic community? Why?
- ♦ How has the preparation process for Confirmation made you more aware of what the Church is and what it teaches, practices, and believes? (use specific examples)
- ♦ In what ways will you become (or remain) active in the Church once you are confirmed?
- ♦ What other good thoughts or reflections do you have in regards to your faith life?

Remember to sign your name and date this letter. Please type or write carefully, so your letter will be easy to read. You may also decorate/add a personal touch if you wish. Consider having your sponsor read your letter, give you some feedback, and help you with the revision process. **You should wait to write your letter until after you've attended either the fall or spring Life Teen Retreat or other applicable retreat. Your letter can then be written anytime, and it should be turned in no later than April 14, 2024.**



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The Life Teen movement you participate in here at St. Michael offers a dynamic/relational format of youth ministry, centered in the Eucharist, in order to help you walk your faith journey with one another and make more sense of our faith in today's world. Along with that, comes the reality that we are learning and growing with you when it comes to building up this movement of the Holy Spirit. Below are a few items that are not fully included in this guidebook that you will be receiving additional pages/info about throughout the year. Stay tuned!

Life Teen Retreat

Part of the Confirmation preparation process will include our candidates participating in at least one of our two annual Life Teen Retreats. Each retreat experience is located in a different place and will have its own theme. They will be different. All high schoolers are welcome to attend both if they so desire! (Based on availability of space)

Fall Retreat: This year's Life Teen Fall Day Retreat experience will be held at Westview on the James in Goochland County on Saturday, November 11, 2023 from 9:00am-9:00pm. Detailed information and sign up for retreat is available now by visiting saint-mikes.org/fallretreat

Spring Retreat: The Life Teen Spring Retreat will be held on the weekend of March 9th, 2024. Detailed information, including the length, schedule, and sign up for this retreat will be available by early February 2024. Our ability to find help from willing adults will dictate what type of retreat we will be able to offer in the spring.

Service Opportunities During Confirmation Year

One of the most rewarding experiences when preparing for Confirmation is to get involved in some service opportunities. Have you ever helped at a soup kitchen? Have you built or fixed up a house for someone? Have you made dinner for the elderly or sick? Have you ever been on a mission trip? Have you ever tutored children who need help? These are all some of the things we hope will give you an opportunity to experience, as a part of Life Teen Youth Ministry! Keep your eyes and ears peeled to Flocknote communications, announcements, and social media throughout the year to find out what kind of opportunities you'll have to continuously involve yourself and make a difference! **To learn more or join St. Michael's Life Teen service group, Young Vincentians, please visit saint-mikes.org/yv.**

Confirmation Mass Rehearsal and Reflection & Rite of Confirmation

Our rehearsal for the Rite of Confirmation will take place on **Monday, May 13th, 2024 from 7:00-8:30pm** in the church, which will also include a time of reflection for teens and sponsors. Sponsors are asked to attend the practice as well. If the sponsor lives a distance away or can absolutely not make the practice, a parent may fill in for them as a proxy at the practice.

The Rite of Confirmation Mass will take place on **Wednesday May 15th, 2024 at 7:00pm** with Bishop Knestout as celebrant. Much more information regarding specifics for the practice, liturgy, proper attire, etc. will be provided in the spring.

Confirmation Mystagogy Life Night

Following Confirmation week, we will gather for a special Mystagogy Life Night to reflect on the sacrament, the graces you have received, and— what comes next!?. This will be a more relaxed Life Night of fellowship, discussion, and prayer. The Mystagogy Life Night for this preparation year will take place on **Sunday, May 19th from 6:20-8:20pm at St. Michael**. It is encouraged that you invite your sponsor or a parent to join you! (Note: If the Sunday after Confirmation happens to be Mother's Day, Memorial Day weekend, or is still a Sunday within our Life Night season, the next suitable Sunday will be selected for this Life Night. The date will be communicated in advance.)



Confirmation Preparation 2024

St. Michael the Archangel

Choosing Your Sponsor

Your Confirmation sponsor has an important role in your journey toward Confirmation. A sponsor is someone who supports you in your faith journey, serves as a mentor and role model, and walks with you through this process.

When you are presented to the Bishop to be confirmed, your sponsor will literally have his/her hand on your shoulder – what a sign of love and support!

Whoever you choose for your sponsor should be a faithful, practicing Catholic.

According to Canon law and Diocesan Guidelines, a sponsor for Confirmation must be:

1. A Confirmed Catholic, leading a life of faith, registered in a parish
2. Chosen by you, the candidate
3. Capable of carrying out the role of sponsor
4. At least 16 years old
5. Someone other than the mother, father, or step-parent of the candidate

****The Confirmation sponsor must also be free of any restrictions on the dates of Confirmation Rehearsal + Reflection (Mon., May 13th, 2024, 7-8:30pm) and the Confirmation Mass (Wed., May 15th, 2024, 7:00pm)**

Your sponsor does not have to be the same gender as you. Baptismal godparents are an option, though not required. **Sponsors will be asked to attend the Confirmation Power Day on Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024 from 12:30-6:00pm (includes Saturday Vigil Mass).** If they are unable to attend or live out of town, a parent or suitable family member may come in their place. They must be present for the rehearsal if possible (otherwise a parent may stand in for them at the rehearsal and relay the information), and they need to be present at the celebration of Confirmation on Wednesday, May 15th, 2024.

Pray before choosing your sponsor, and then consider asking them in a formal and direct way.

Note: If you choose a sponsor who is NOT a member of St. Michael or a parish within the Diocese of Richmond, he/she will need to obtain a Confirmation Sponsor Certificate from his/her parish. They simply need to call their parish's office, ask that you be granted one, and have them send it to us. The certificate should be sent to:

St. Michael Catholic Church
Attn: Youth Ministry Office
4491 Springfield Road
Glen Allen, VA 23060

Over the next few months, you will need to hold a few conversations with your sponsor using the dialogue packet on pages 31-34. Use the questions on those pages as your conversation guide. Make sure to fill in all answers. This dialogue will be discussed in the months prior to receiving your Confirmation. These conversations serve as an opportunity to learn from your sponsor, share insights about our faith, and grow closer to each other and to God. They are due by March 17th, 2024.

The name of your sponsor, their contact information, along with the Sponsor Information Form (page 26, and page 27/28 if they belong to St. Michael or a parish in the Diocese of Richmond) needs to be turned in by December 10th, 2023.

If your sponsor belongs to another parish outside of our diocese, the Sponsor Info Form on page 26 will be turned in along with their Confirmation Sponsor Certificate from their parish. (This may be mailed separately and extra time can be allotted for this. Please make sure to have sponsors send these in by December 20th.)

A Sponsor in Laymen's Terms

A sponsor is...

... a Catholic in good standing.

... a registered and participating member of a Catholic parish.

... received the three Sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation.

... regularly participates in Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation and gives witness to their faith in Jesus Christ by receiving Holy Communion when in a state of grace (no mortal sin).

... living their Christian vocation as a single person, a validly married person, religious, or clergyman.

... is actively striving to live out their commitment to Christ and to the community life of the Church by my loving response to those with whom I come in contact daily.

...will assist the person whom they are sponsoring to live out the Catholic faith by their prayers and by the Christian example of their daily life.



Confirmation Preparation 2024

St. Michael the Archangel

Sponsor Information Form

**Due by
December 10**

Confirmation Candidate's Name: _____

Sponsor Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Sponsor's Parish (Name, City, State):

Relationship to Candidate: _____

If sponsor is a member of Saint Michael OR any parish in the Diocese of Richmond:

They must attest to, sign, and return the Sponsor Attestation Form on the following two pages.

If sponsor is not a member of Saint Michael OR any parish in the Diocese of Richmond:

They must request a Confirmation Sponsor Certificate from their parish and send it to:

St. Michael Catholic Church
Attn: Youth Ministry Office
4491 Springfield Road
Glen Allen, VA 23060



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RICHMOND
SPONSOR ATTESTATION FORM FOR CONFIRMATION

Dear Confirmation Candidate,

You have chosen a sponsor to assist you in carrying out the responsibility associated with the Sacrament of Confirmation. In doing so, you recognize his or her maturity and practice of the faith to help you, as a recipient of a special gift of the Holy Spirit, to “never be ashamed to confess Christ crucified before the world.”¹

In choosing a sponsor, you should carefully consider the person’s capacity to undertake this role. The specific qualifications of a sponsor, according to Church law,² are as follows:

1. At least 16 years old

*A pastor may grant an exception to the age requirement for a just cause.*³
2. Have received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist in the Catholic Church
3. Not be bound by a canonical penalty
4. Be leading a life of faith befitting the role to be undertaken (for example, regularly attending Sunday Mass; if married, be in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church)
5. Not be a parent of the confirmand; however, a parent may accompany his or her child, instead of a sponsor, in the rite of Confirmation, including at the Anointing with Chrism.⁴

The above criteria reflect the Church’s view that living the faith is taught best by example. Your chosen sponsor is asked to testify that he or she meets these qualifications by completing the **Sponsor Attestation Form for Confirmation**. Please provide the sponsor with this document in a timely manner so that it can be returned to the parish or campus ministry before the celebration of Confirmation.

¹ *Order of Confirmation*, nos. 33, 49.

² *Code of Canon Law*, canons 874 §1, 893 §1; *Order of Confirmation*, no. 5.

³ *Code of Canon Law*, canon 874 §1, 2°.

⁴ *Order of Confirmation*, nos. 21, 26, 38, 43.



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RICHMOND
SPONSOR ATTESTATION FORM FOR CONFIRMATION
FOR USE IN THE DIOCESE OF RICHMOND ONLY

Congratulations! The witness of your Catholic faith now calls you to a sacred role in the life of a confirmand as his or her sponsor. You will present the confirmand for Confirmation and help him or her to live according to the grace received in this sacrament. Please complete this form to attest to your readiness to accept this role. May God bless you abundantly!

I (print full name) _____,

a member of (name of parish) _____

in (location of parish) _____,

having been chosen as the sponsor for (print full name) _____,

who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation,

affirm that I possess the qualifications listed below, and that I willingly undertake this role.

Qualifications of a sponsor:⁵

1. At least 16 years old (unless the pastor has granted an exemption for a just cause)
2. Have received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist in the Catholic Church
3. Not bound by a canonical penalty
4. Leading a life of faith befitting the role to be undertaken (for example, regularly attending Sunday Mass; if married, be in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church)
5. Not be a parent of the confirmand; however, a parent may accompany his or her child, instead of a sponsor, in the rite of Confirmation, including at the Anointing with Chrism.⁶

I have read and understand the above qualifications. Should I have questions about the qualifications, I will seek clarification from my pastor, campus-ministry chaplain, or his delegate. With my signature below, I swear before God that I am eligible to serve in the role of sponsor, and that I assume this responsibility willingly.

Sponsor's signature _____ Date _____

This form should be destroyed once the sponsor's information has been inscribed in the register of the parish where the Confirmation has been recorded.

⁵ Code of Canon Law, canons 874 §1, 893 §1; Order of Confirmation, no. 5. ⁶ Order of Confirmation, nos. 21, 26, 38, 43.



Confirmation Preparation 2024

St. Michael the Archangel

Sponsor Covenant

**Give Sheet to
Your Sponsor**

Congratulations! A faith-filled teen has chosen YOU to sponsor them as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church. Now what? As a sponsor, you represent the support and prayers of the entire Church during the preparation process of your Confirmation candidate. This is something exciting and fulfilling for you and the candidate! In a nutshell, below are your responsibilities:

- ♦ Pray. Pray for your candidate. Pray with your candidate. Maintain a healthy spiritual life, and be active in the Church.
- ♦ Turn in your information and sponsor certificate to St. Michael. Ask your candidate to provide you with this form. If you are a member of St. Michael, you will be able to read and sign the sponsor certificate on the back of the form if all the statements are true. If you are the member of another parish community, you will need to contact your parish for a sponsor certificate and send it to St. Michael. Again, your candidate will be able to give you details.
- ♦ Take some time with your candidate to go through the entire Confirmation Guidebook they were given. Develop a plan together to make sure everything is getting turned in on time and that they are doing well in the preparation process. This also gives you the opportunity to see what else you can help them with in the process and what other activities you may be able to partake in with them. (i.e. Helping them choose a Confirmation name, preparing for retreat) **Learn and grow in faith with them! Additional resources, books & apps are found at the end of your candidate's Guidebook for you to discover and make use of during their journey.**
- ♦ Meet or talk with your candidate through this year of preparation. In order to foster this, each candidate has been asked to complete a Sponsor Dialogue Packet, consisting of prompts for four different conversations. If it's not feasible to meet in person (have them over, take them to dinner!), take advantage of the great technology we have today to "meet" with your candidate. Use Zoom or FaceTime or old reliable: the phone.
- ♦ Our candidates will be attending at least one retreat this year— either on Nov. 11, 2023 or the weekend of March 9th, 2024 (or another suitable substitute retreat). Help them prepare, and definitely keep them in your prayers!
- ♦ You are asked to attend and participate with your candidate at **Confirmation Power Day, which will take place on Sunday, February 25, 2024 from 12:30-6:00pm at St. Michael.** We know some of you may live further away or out of town. If you absolutely cannot join us, the candidate's parent may stand in for you. *(Details will be updated if these plans change.)*
- ♦ You will be presenting the candidate on the night of their Confirmation. **The Mass with the Celebration of the Rite of Confirmation here at St. Michael will take place on Wednesday, May 15th, 2024.** Your candidate will keep you informed and pass along the specific date once it is given to us by the Diocese of Richmond.
- ♦ We will be having a rehearsal and reflection in preparation for the Confirmation Mass. **Candidates will practice on Monday, May 13th, 2024 from 7:00-8:30pm in the church. Please do your best to make sure you can attend.** Again, if you are absolutely unable, a parent may stand in as a proxy, and the candidate will relay information to you.
- ♦ Ultimately, be there for your candidate. Listen to them. Mentor them. Take an interest in their life. Have dinner with them. Attend Mass with them. Go to their sporting games, music concerts, or extracurriculars. Develop a good sense of trust and confidence in your sponsor-candidate relationship.

I have read and acknowledged my basic commitment as a sponsor and free willingly sign, **not as a form that needs to be turned in**, but as a covenant with God and a promise to my candidate. I sign this in the presence of the candidate whom I am sponsoring, or if he/she is not present, I will contact them to assure them of my acceptance of the role of sponsor and congratulate them for choosing to begin the preparation for Confirmation.

Sponsor's Signature: _____ Date: _____

A Sponsor in Laymen's Terms

A sponsor is...

... a Catholic in good standing.

... a registered and participating member of a Catholic parish.

... received the three Sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation.

... regularly participates in Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation and gives witness to their faith in Jesus Christ by receiving Holy Communion when in a state of grace (no mortal sin).

... living their Christian vocation as a single person, a validly married person, religious, or clergyman.

... is actively striving to live out their commitment to Christ and to the community life of the Church by my loving response to those with whom I come in contact daily.

...will assist the person whom they are sponsoring to live out the Catholic faith by their prayers and by the Christian example of their daily life.



Confirmation Preparation 2024

St. Michael the Archangel

Name: _____

**Due by
March 17**

Sponsor Dialogue Packet

Directions: Arrange to meet with your sponsor in person, and discuss the following questions. Since there are four sets of questions, it's recommended you meet with your sponsor four different times to complete them. (Obviously, if your sponsor lives further away, it may not be feasible to meet with them often, but try your best! If not, see if you can use Zoom or FaceTime, or just simply call them.)

IMPORTANT: Record your answers in this guidebook, and be prepared to discuss them at some point during our preparation year. Please complete this packet by March 17.

Confirmation

Ask your Sponsor about his/her own Confirmation:

How old was he/she when Confirmed?

What does he/she remember?

What did it mean to him/her?

Discuss why you want to/or not want to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.
Record some notes from your conversation here.

Name: _____

Encounter with God

Ask your sponsor when he/she experienced the nearness of God, a time when God seemed so close. Record it here.

Discuss, with your sponsor, a time in your own life when you experienced the nearness of God. Record it here. (If you have never had such an experience, talk about some of the happiest moments in your life – where might you have found God in them?)

Name: _____

Meaningful Celebration of Liturgy

Ask your sponsor to discuss the most meaningful Mass he/she has ever attended. Describe the Mass in detail. Be sure to include what made it meaningful.

Talk about the most meaningful Mass you have ever participated in. Give as much detail as possible. Be sure to include what made it meaningful.

Name: _____

Being Catholic

What does your sponsor *value* most about being Catholic? Why?

What do you *value* most about being Catholic? Why?

What does your sponsor find most *difficult/challenging* about being Catholic? Why?

What do you find most *difficult/challenging* about being Catholic? Why?



Confirmation Preparation 2024

St. Michael the Archangel

Prayer Page

Penitential Act

The Confiteor

I confess to almighty God and to you,
my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly
sinned, in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have and done and in what
I have failed to do,

And striking their breast, they say:

Through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;

Therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints, and you,
my brothers and sisters, to pray for me
to the lord our God.

Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael the Archangel,
defend us in battle,
be our protection against the malice
and snares of the devil.
We humbly beseech God to command him,
and do thou,
O Prince of the Heavenly Host,
by the divine power thrust into hell satan,
and the other evil spirits
who roam through the world,
seeking the ruin of souls.
Amen.

St. Michael the Archangel, pray for us.

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
We bless you,
We adore you,
We glorify you,
We give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
You take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us;
You take away the sins of the world,
Receive our prayer;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father,
Have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
With the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

The Guardian Angel Prayer

Angel of God,
my guardian dear,
to whom God's love entrusts me here,
ever this day [night] be at my side
to light and guard, to rule and guide.
Amen.



Confirmation Preparation 2024

St. Michael the Archangel

Prayer Page

The Morning Offering

O Jesus,
through the Immaculate Heart of Mary,
I offer you my prayers, works, joys,
and sufferings of this day
for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart,
in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass
throughout the world,
for the salvation of souls, the reparation of
sins, the reunion of all Christians,
and in particular for the intentions
of the Holy Father this month.
Amen.

Act of Contrition

O my God,
I am heartily sorry for having offended You,
and I detest all my sins
because of Your just punishments,
but most of all because they offend You,
my God,
who are all-good and deserving of all my love.
I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace,
to sin no more
and to avoid the near occasions of sin.
Amen.

The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary,
that never was it known that anyone
who fled to your protection,
implored your help, or sought your intercession,
was left unaided.
Inspired by this confidence,
I fly unto you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother.
To you do I come, before you I stand,
sinful and sorrowful.
O Mother of the Word Incarnate,
despise not my petitions,
but in your mercy, hear and answer me.
Amen.

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten,
not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

*At the words that follow, up to and including
"and became man," all bow.*

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate, he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day in accordance
with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored
and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.



Confirmation Preparation 2024

St. Michael the Archangel

Resources: Books & Apps

Many great books on many more faith topics are available online at store.lifeteen.com or online in general. Here's a few we would recommend!

On the Gifts of the Spirit:
Gifted by Alison Griswold

On Catholic Basics:
100 Things Every Catholic Teen Should Know
by Mark Hart & Todd Lemieux

On Catholic Apologetics:
Truth Be Told
by Mark Hart & Joe Cady

Help with Scripture:
Inspired
by Mark Hart

Saints:
**Daily Lessons from the Saints:
52 Weeks of Inspiration and Encouragement**
by Fr. Brice Higginbotham

Introduction to Prayer:
Prayer for Beginners by Peter Kreeft

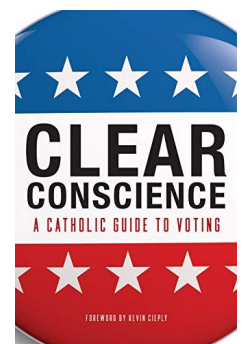
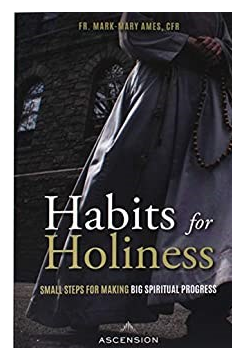
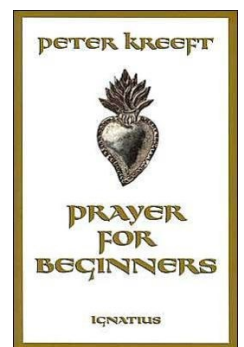
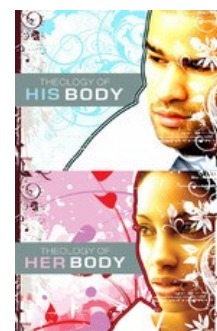
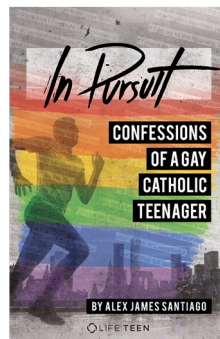
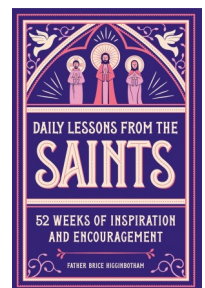
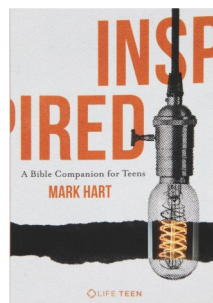
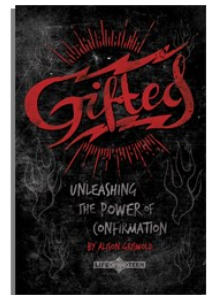
Theology of the Body:
Theology of His Body/Theology of Her Body
by Jason Evert (2 books, 1 volume)

Human Chastity:
In Pursuit
by Alex James Santiago

Church History:
Building the Kingdom
by Robbie Penate

Catholic Spiritual Life:
Habits for Holiness
by Fr. Mark-Mary Ames

Catholics & Civic Duty/Politics:
Clear Conscience by Ascension Press Team





Confirmation Preparation 2024

St. Michael the Archangel

Resources: Books & Apps

Catholic Websites:

MassTimes.org

There is no vacation from Mass during travel! This site is an easy way to plug in your current zip code and see all the parishes and Mass times around the area you are in! Try it! (There's an app for MassTimes as well!)

ChurchPop.com

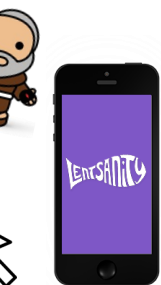
If you're a fan of BuzzFeed style articles and are looking for great Catholic news, trivia, and tidbits, this is the site for you! Read short articles about saints and church traditions, as well as current happenings of Catholicism in culture.

USCCB.org

This is the website for the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. Find the daily readings and anything else you'd ever want to know about the Catholic Church in the US, straight from the source!

TinySaints.com

Find your favorite saint and make them your keychain companion... or collect them all! They make for fun collectables and gifts!



Search and download these FREE apps today in the App Store or Google Play! You can also type in 'Catholic' or any word that has to do with our faith and see what other treasures you can find!

Laudate

Your simple source for daily readings, Liturgy of the Hours, Feast Day calendars, Rosary, Stations of the Cross, Prayers, Confession Examination of Conscience, the Bible and other Catholic Media.

Ascension App: Bible, Catechism, & more!

This awesome app gives you access to the Great Adventure Bible, color-coded, on your phone! In addition, it has a clean and accessible version of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and access to all of Fr. Mike Schmitz's videos. Fr. Mike can act as a "tour guide" of sorts and walk you through the scriptures and Catechism, crucial to our faith!

Hallow

Hallow is a Catholic meditation and prayer app that provides audio-guided Bible stories, prayers, meditations, sleep, and Christian music. Other features include community challenges and daily prayers such as Lectio Divina, curated music, prayer lists, and options to set prayer routines.

Tweeting with God App

If you have practical questions about your faith, this is the app for you! Find concise, easy to understand answers for some of the questions you're asking about Catholicism today in a neat index by topic. Creation, atheism, apologetics, why important teachings of our faith matter here and now... it's all there! Many of these questions have been tweeted in by young people just like you.

Confession: A Roman Catholic App

Make sure you have this one downloaded the next time you're headed to confession. This nifty app not only asks you questions and lets you ask questions when you are examining your sins, it also lets you keep track of your sins, neatly stored under each of the commandment headings, so you don't forget when you go to confession!

Lentsanity

During Lent, this app will give you a daily challenge, awesome Lent articles to read and think about, and even has a Meat Police function that will send you push alerts during meal times on Fridays during Lent to remind you not to eat meat!