

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION IN THE DIOCESE OF PUEBLO

To receive confirmation licitly outside the danger of death requires that a person who has the use of reason be suitably instructed, properly disposed, and able to renew the baptismal promises. Parents and pastors of souls, especially pastors of parishes, are to take care that the faithful are properly instructed to receive the sacrament and come to it at the appropriate time. The sacrament of confirmation is to be conferred on the faithful at about the age of discretion unless the conference of bishops has determined another age, or there is danger of death, or in the judgment of the minister a grave cause suggests otherwise. (*Canons 889-890; see also 879-896*)

Preparation for Confirmation should aim at leading the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and a more lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit - his actions, his gifts, and his biddings - in order to be more capable of assuming the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life. To this end catechesis for Confirmation should strive to awaken a sense of belonging to the Church of Jesus Christ, the universal Church as well as the parish community. The latter bears special responsibility for the preparation of confirmands. (*Catechism 1309; see also 1285-1321*)

For guidance on who can confer Confirmation see Confirmation Question number 6 in the FAQs.

I, _____, understand that the following indications are necessary to show I am ready to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

- 1. **Valid Baptism Certificate**
- 2. Consistent Mass attendance on Sundays & Holy Days
- 3. Regular Confession (*or at least once before receiving the Sacrament*)
- 4. Daily Prayer
- 5. Retreat Experience
- 6. **Completed Formation** (N.B. in a group setting is preferred, but not mandatory*)
Recommended: Chosen (Ascension Press); Decision Point (Dynamic Catholic);
Disciple Confirmation (formed.org)
- 7. **Letter of Petition in the candidate's own writing****
 - a.) Demonstrating an understanding of the Sacrament (*i.e. based on formation content*)
 - b.) Expressing desire and intent to receive the Sacrament
 - c.) Committing to continue living the Catholic Faith
 - d.) Understanding of spiritual gifts, vocational discernment, & charitable outreach
 - e.) The name of the saint chosen
 - f.) The name(s) of the qualified sponsor
 - g.) The names of other people who will help support the candidate in their journey
 - h.) A Plan of Life (for ongoing Sunday Mass, daily prayer, and regular confession)
- 8. **Discernment Interview with Pastor and Sponsor*****

* If formation is not completed in a group setting, the candidate will provide one paragraph on each section of the formation program that is used. This paragraph should demonstrate an understanding of the material covered and an indication of how it applies in living a life of discipleship.

** The letter should be addressed to the bishop but given to the pastor in time for him to review it and forward it to the bishop at least 2 weeks before the Confirmation Mass.

*** This discernment interview will focus on the candidate's lived relationship with Jesus and disposition to receive the sacrament. This could be accomplished in the most part by the candidate telling the story of his/her relationship with Jesus up to this point in his/her life.

We, the undersigned, acknowledge the above indications to be present and accounted for:

Pastor: _____ [Catechist (*if applicable*): _____]

Parent(s): _____ Sponsor(s): _____

Candidate: _____

The ceremony will take place in _____ (*church*) on _____ (*date*) at _____ (*time*).

The Sacrament has been properly recorded and notification sent to the parish of Baptism.