

ARCHDIOCESE OF SEATTLE

ADOLESCENT CONFIRMATION APPROVED RESOURCES

Be Sealed	Pauline Books and Media
Call to Celebrate: Confirmation	Harcourt Religion Publishers
Celebrating Our Faith: Confirmation	Harcourt Religion Publishers
Christ Our Life: Confirmed in the Spirit	Loyola Press
Confirmation	RCL—Resources for Christian Living
Confirmation: Gifted with the Spirit	Pflaum Publishing Group
Confirmation: Receiving the Gift of the Spirit	Pflaum Publishing Group
Confirmed in a Faithful Community	Saint Mary's Press
Image of God	Ignatius Press
Send Out Your Spirit	Ave Maria Press
The Spirit Sets Us Free: Confirmation	William H. Sadlier, Inc.

* Some of these materials are also offered in other languages

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ADOLESCENT CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

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Using current policies, approved resources and parish experience we hope to identify best practices to create a practical and helpful tool for those with responsibility for preparing adolescents for Confirmation. The end product—*A Parish Sourcebook for Adolescent Confirmation Preparation*—will be presented to Archbishop Alex J. Brunett for review Spring 2009.

ARCHDIOCESAN POLICIES ADOLESCENT CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

- Adults and adolescents who were baptized into the Catholic Church as infants, and who have been adequately prepared, are to be at least in the eleventh grade or sixteen years of age at the time they celebrate the sacrament.
- Candidates for Confirmation must approach the sacrament of their own free will. If a parent or other person were to coerce or force a candidate into the celebration of the sacrament, it would be considered invalid.
- Candidates are to prepare in the parish community in which they are members and preparation for adolescents is separate and distinct from young adults and adults.
- The process for preparation is to be modeled after the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults with appropriate public and communal rituals.
- Parishes are to offer appropriate and concurrent faith formation opportunities for parents and sponsors.
- Retreat opportunities offered as part of the immediate preparation are to be specific to Confirmation.
- Service experiences are to be parish-based, consist of individual and group opportunities and provide direct service to, advocacy for, the poor and marginalized in the candidate's community.
- Parishes are to consult the Archdiocese Office of Catholic Faith Formation for approved Catechetical resources (see back cover).
- Confirmation should take place during the normal Sunday Eucharist celebrated by the parish.

SPONSOR POLICIES

Sponsors serve as ministers representing the faith community into which the candidate is being initiated.

Candidates select their sponsor in consultation with the Confirmation Coordinator and their parents.

Selection of sponsors is to be based on appropriate lifestyle, participation in the Catholic faith, and the ability to provide the nurturing supportive role expected of a sponsor. Sponsors are to be at least 16 years of age and a confirmed Catholic who has received Eucharist and leads a faith-filled life.

Candidates are to be encouraged to select one of their baptismal sponsors (godparents) for this role if they meet requirements and expectations.

Parishes are to provide formation for sponsors to help them appreciate the permanent nature of their role.

Parishes are strongly encouraged to provide opportunities for sponsors and candidates to participate in the preparation process together.

CONFIRMATION NAME POLICIES

Candidates are to be confirmed with their baptismal name, as witness to the unity of the Sacraments of Initiation.

Candidates are strongly encouraged to select a person from the canon of saints and "blessed" of the Church to study and emulate as a patron of their Confirmation (alternatively, the patron may be chosen from the canon of any of the Christian Churches of the East).

If a candidate chooses, they may be confirmed with both their baptismal name and the name of their patron.