



CONFIRMATION
SPONSOR GUIDE
2016-2017

Hello!

Welcome to the Confirmation process at St. John the Evangelist in Lawrence, Kansas. We are so excited that one of our students has chosen you to walk with them in their journey of faith. You may have many questions about this process, and we hope that this document helps to answer some of those.

Now that a student has chosen you as a sponsor, you may be thinking, what's next? The duties of sponsors within our preparation process are as follows:

- **Prayer.** Pray for your Confirmation candidate! This is probably the single most important thing that you can do for him/her. Pray *daily* that he/she will be ready for to the moving of the Holy Spirit in his/her life; pray for openness to God's will!
- **Adoration and Prayer Meetings.** Each month, on the first Wednesdays of the month starting in September, we hold a Reservoir adoration hour of praise and worship and silent prayer at St. John. Requirements for the candidates/yourselves are to attend at least two of these prayer sessions (see dates below); you and your student will have an opportunity to learn about a new kind of prayer and then go to Adoration to pray with your student!
- **Monthly Meetings.** Outside of class, meet with your Confirmation candidate. Meet them for lunch, coffee, or a walk around the park. Support the student's process as he/she moves along; ask what he/she is learning, struggling with, and feeling about life and about Confirmation. Use the curriculum resource Formed.org (explained below) to share information and personal experiences with your students. This is your opportunity to get to know the candidate better, and to support him/her in their walk with Christ!
- **Required Student-Sponsor Sessions.** To aid in your journey as Confirmation sponsor, we will be holding multiple sessions (see schedule below) that allow you as a sponsor to grow in faith, as well as be a witness to the students at St. John preparing for the sacrament.
- **Confirmation Rehearsal and Ceremony.** Of course, you will need to be present at the Confirmation Mass, held anywhere from February-April. The bishop will announce the Masses in October, and we will distribute that date as soon as we know. There will also be a required rehearsal the Wednesday prior to the Confirmation Mass.

There you have it! Those are the responsibilities of sponsorship here at St. John. In the coming pages, you will find more resources to help you in this journey.

Thank you SO MUCH for agreeing to walk with your candidate through this process. We will be praying for you throughout the year, and are excited to work with you in giving our students a fulfilling experience of the sacrament of Confirmation. Questions? Feel free to contact Jen Meitl Conrad at conrad@saint-johns.net or 785-766-6189 or Lois Mersmann at lmersmann@saint-johns.net.

Blessings on you and your family!

Father Jeff Ernst, Jen Meitl Conrad and the Confirmation Core Team

CONFIRMATION PREP SCHEDULE

2016-2017

- September 18: Confirmation Prep Session in St. John School, lower level check-in
3-5pm; parent(s) and candidates attend
Topic: Baptism and Confirmation (see Formed.org "Living the Creed" for info)
- October 7-9: Confirmation Retreat – students only.
Topic: Becoming SAINTS through the gifts of the Holy Spirit
- October: Students complete first half of "50 Questions" with their sponsor or parent. See this packet for the questions the students are studying.
- October 16: Confirmation Prep Session in St. John School, lower level check-in
3-5pm; sponsors and candidates attend
Topics: The Eucharist and the Mass (students)
(sponsors see Formed.org "Living the Creed" for info on student topic)
Topic: Becoming a Dynamic Catholic/The Importance of Being a Sponsor (sponsors)
- October 30: Confirmation Prep Session in St. John School, lower level check-in
3-5pm; parents and candidates attend
Topics: Penance, Anointing of the Sick, and Matrimony/Holy Orders (students)
(sponsors see Formed.org "Living the Creed" for info on student topic)
Topic: Teenage Abandonment (parents)
- November 13: Confirmation Prep Session in St. John School, lower level check-in
3-5pm, sponsors and candidates attend
Topic: Catholic Moral Vision
- December 7: Advent Prayer Session: 7-8pm in St. John Church
Parent and/or sponsor attend with candidate
- January: Students complete second half of "50 Questions" with their sponsor or parent.
Students finish letter to the Archbishop and service hour requirements
- January 8: Confirmation Prep Session in St. John School, lower level check-in
3-5pm, parents and candidates attend
Topics: Authentic Love and Discovering God's Plan for Sex (students)
(sponsors see Formed.org "Living the Creed" for info on student topic)
Topic: Talking to your Teens about Chastity (parents)
- February 12: Confirmation Prep Session in St. John School, lower level check-in
3-5pm, sponsors and candidates attend
Topic: Catholic Social Teaching
- March 8: Lenten Prayer Session w/ Mike Debus: 7:00-8:30pm in St. John Church
Parent and/or sponsor attend with candidate

Students can choose two of the following sessions, as their schedules and interests allow. Please do not wait until the last two sessions, as two sessions *must* be completed to be confirmed:

- November 2: Confirmation Prep Session in St. John School, lower level check-in
The Tools of Holiness: Ways to Pray; 6:30-8pm; students and sponsors or parents attend
- January 11: Confirmation Prep Session in St. John School, lower level check-in
Lectio Divina: Praying the Bible; 6:30-8pm; students and sponsors or parents attend
- February 1: Confirmation Prep Session in St. John School, lower level check-in
Grace and Forgiveness: The Sacrament of Reconciliation; 6:30-8pm; students and sponsors or parents attend
- April 5: Confirmation Prep Session in St. John School, lower level check-in
Mary, Novenas, Intercessory Prayer; 6:30-8pm; students and sponsors or parents attend

As soon as the date of Confirmation is announced, we will share that information with you.

There will also be a required 1.5 hour rehearsal the evening before the Confirmation ceremony, and as we know that information we will share it with you.

CONFIRMATION CONTENT INFORMATION: FORMED.ORG

Please register for Formed.org in order to work through the YDisciple Curriculum with your students. The content that they will be studying can be accessed by you anytime, anywhere, as long as you have an internet connection! We will also be providing printed guides with items of discussion for you to engage with your Confirmation candidate at the preparation sessions that you attend with your students at St. John, but all of that can be accessed electronically from this platform as well.

- Go to www.Formed.org.
- Our parish code is: adf3aa. You will enter that code on the main page of the Formed.org platform.
- Fill out the registration information on the next page; enter your email and password.
- Your students are working through the YDisciple series called “Living the Creed” as well as “Confirmation.”

The platform also has lots of content available to you to grow in your faith. Studies on Church history, marriage, catechesis—click on and listen to anything that piques your interest!

If you have problems registering for Formed.org, please contact Jen at conrad@saint-johns.net.

TWENTY-FIVE TRUTHS CATECHISM INSTRUCTIONS AND EXAMPLE OF ANSWER (Question #1)

You may check out a Catechism/Bible from Lois at the Parish Offices or can find the Catechism online here: <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catechism/catechism-of-the-catholic-church/epub/index.cfm>. The Catechism is organized into paragraphs, not pages or otherwise. So the paragraphs that contain the answer are paragraphs 1-3 in the Catechism (see the CCC 1-3 there in the notation). A short summary (two sentences is fine) is all that is needed for an answer.

So, for instance, the first question:

“Why did God Create Us?”

Scripture: John 17:3

Compendium: 1

CCC: nos.1-3

YouCat: 1-2

can be answered by looking at the first three paragraphs in the Catechism:

I. The Life of Man—To Know and Love God

1 God, infinitely perfect and blessed in himself, in a plan of sheer goodness freely created man to make him share in his own blessed life. For this reason, at every time and in every place, God draws close to man. He calls man to seek him, to know him, to love him with all his strength. He calls together all men, scattered and divided by sin, into the unity of his family, the Church. To accomplish this, when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son as Redeemer and Savior. In his Son and through him, he invites men to become, in the Holy Spirit, his adopted children and thus heirs of his blessed life.

2 So that this call should resound throughout the world, Christ sent forth the apostles he had chosen, commissioning them to proclaim the gospel: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age.”⁴ Strengthened by this mission, the apostles “went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that attended it.”⁵

3 Those who with God’s help have welcomed Christ’s call and freely responded to it are urged on by love of Christ to proclaim the Good News everywhere in the world. This treasure, received from the apostles, has been faithfully guarded by their successors. All Christ’s faithful are called to hand it on from generation to generation, by professing the faith, by living it in fraternal sharing, and by celebrating it in liturgy and prayer.⁶

The summary/answer to question #1 would be something like:

“God created us to draw close to Him and to go out and spread the Good News of Jesus to all. We are called to be people of community and prayer, passing the faith on from generation to generation.”

Most often, the direct answers will be found in the Catechism, and the Bible passages and the other texts give supporting and collaborative text and evidence. As always, contact Jen at conrad@saint-johns.net if you have questions.

FIFTY CATHOLIC TRUTHS EVERY TEEN SHOULD KNOW

FIRST 25 QUESTIONS

Due November 13, 2016

Candidates, please work together with you parent or sponsor in completing these questions during the month of October. Each question should be answered fully, and can usually be answered in two-four sentences. Feel free to write or type the answers to the questions that follow.

Please use a Bible in addition to any one of the following guides to answer the 25 questions below:

Compendium: Compendium of the Catechism of the Church, a summary of what Catholics believe.

CCC: Catechism of the Catholic Church

YouCat: Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church

1. Why did God Create Us?

Scripture: John 17:3

Compendium: 1

CCC: nos.1-3

YouCat: 1-2

2. How do we know that God exists?

Scripture: Romans 1:20; Hebrews 1: 1-4

Compendium: 3 -4, 9

CCC: nos. 36 – 38, 73

YouCat: 4 – 7

3. How does God reveal Himself in the Old Testament?

Scripture: Genesis 1:1, 3:15; Isaiah 49: 5-6; Hebrew 1:1

Compendium: 6 – 8

CCC: nos. 68 – 72

YouCat: 8

4. Who was Abraham?

Scripture: Genesis 12:1 – 3; Romans 4:1 – 21

Compendium: 8, 26, 536

CCC: nos. 59-60, 145 – 46, 2570-73

YouCat: 8, 471

5. Who was Moses?

Scripture: Exodus 3: 1 – 12

Compendium: 58, 537

CCC: nos. 62, 204-09, 2574-77

YouCat: 47

6. Who was David?

Scripture: 1 Samuel 16:1 – 13; Matthew 1:1; Acts 13:21-22

Compendium: 538

CCC: nos. 709, 2578-80

YouCat: 473

7. Is everything in the Bible true?

Scripture: 2 Timothy 3: 16-17

Compendium: 18 – 19

CCC: nos. 105 – 14

YouCat: 14 – 16

8. Where do we turn to find out about the life of Jesus?

Scripture: Luke 1: 1- 4

Compendium: 22

CCC: nos. 125 – 27

YouCat: 18

9. What is the Creed?

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 15: 3 – 5

Compendium: 33-35

CCC: nos. 185-97

YouCat: 26

10. Why do we accept as true what the Church teaches in matters of faith and morals?

Scripture: Matthew: 28: 19-20; Luke 10

Compendium: 16, 430

CCC: nos. 2032-37

YouCat: 13, 24, 343 – 44

11. Do Christians believe in one God or three Gods?

Scripture: Matthew 28:19

Compendium: 48

CCC: nos. 253 – 56

YouCat: 35

12. Why does God, who is all-loving and all-powerful, allow suffering and evil?

Scripture: Romans 8:28

Compendium: 57 – 58

CCC: nos. 309 – 14

YouCat: 51

13. What is our place in creation?

Scripture: Genesis 1: 26 – 28

Compendium: nos. 63

CCC: nos. 343, 373, 2415-18

YouCat: 56 - 57

14. What is the soul?

Scripture: Genesis 2:27; Matthew 10:28; 1 Corinthians 15:42-49

Compendium: 69-70

CCC: nos. 362 -68

YouCat: 62- 23

15. What is original sin?

Scripture: Genesis 3: 1 – 13; Romans 5: 12-14, 19

Compendium: 76 – 78

CCC: nos. 388-89; 396 – 412

YouCat: 68 – 70

16. Who is Jesus?

Scripture: Matthew 1:21; Luke 1:31, 2:21; John 1:1, 14; Galatians 4: 4-7; Hebrews 2:17, 5:15

Compendium: 81

CCC: nos. 430 – 35

YouCat: 72 - 74

17. What does it mean to accept Jesus as Lord?

Scripture: Matthew 7:21; John 13:13, 20:28, 21:7; Romans 10:9; 1 Corinthians 12:3; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:5 – 11; *Revelation* 22:20 – 21

Compendium: 84

CCC: nos. 446-51

YouCat: 75

18. Why did God become man?

Scripture: John 3:16, 15:12; 1 John 4:10; 2 Peter 1:4

Compendium 85

CCC: nos. 456-60

YouCat: 76

19. Why is Mary called the ever-virgin Mother of God and our Blessed Mother?

Scripture: Matthew 1:23; Luke 1:26-38, 48; John 2:1, 19:25 – 27; Revelations 12:17

Compendium: 95, 99 - 100

CCC: nos. 495 – 501, 969, 971

YouCat: 80 – 82, 85

20. What happened at the Last Supper?

Scripture: Luke 22:19; John 13:1 – 15; 1 Corinthians 11:25

Compendium: 120

CCC: nos. 610 - 11

YouCat: 99

21. Why did Jesus die on the Cross?

Scripture: Matthew 20:28; John 13:1; Galatians 2:20; Philippians 2:8

Compendium: 122

CCC: nos. 613 - 17

YouCat: 101

22. What is the Resurrection?

Scripture: Luke 24:5 – 6; John 11:25 – 26; Corinthians 15:14

Compendium: 131

CCC: nos. 651 – 58

YouCat: 104 – 08

23. Who is the Holy Spirit?

Scripture: Matthew 28:19; John 14:25 – 26; Acts 1:8; Romans 5:5, 8:14-17; Galatians 4:6

Compendium: 136, 138 – 39

CCC: nos. 687 – 747

YouCat: 113 – 20

24. What happened on Pentecost?

Scripture: Acts 2:1 – 12

Compendium: 144

CCC: nos. 731 – 32, 767

YouCat: 118

25. Why did Jesus establish the Church?

Scripture: Matthew 16: 13-19, 28: 19-20; Acts 10:35; Revelations 7: 9-10

Compendium: 149, 152-53

CCC: nos. 759, 763-66, 774-76, 781

YouCat: 122-23

FIFTY CATHOLIC TRUTHS EVERY TEEN SHOULD KNOW

SECOND 25 QUESTIONS

Due February 12, 2017

Candidates, please work together with you parent or sponsor in completing these questions during the month of January. Each question should be answered fully, and can usually be answered in two-four sentences. Feel free to write or type the answers to the questions that follow.

26. What are the four marks of the Church?

Scripture: Matthew 28:19; John 17: 20-21; Ephesians 2:19-20, 4: 1-6, 5:25 -27

Compendium: 161, 165 – 66, 174

CCC: nos. 811 – 12

YouCat: 129, 132 – 34, 137

27. What is the vocation of every Christian?

Scripture: John 17:3; 1 Corinthians 9:16

Compendium: 188

CCC: nos. 826-28, 900

YouCat: 138

28. Who is the Pope?

Scripture: Matthew 16: 13-19

Compendium: 182

CCC: nos. 862, 880 – 82

YouCat: 141

29. What is religious life?

Scripture: Matthew 19:21, 27 – 29, 1 Corinthians 7: 32-35

Compendium: 192 – 93

CCC: nos. 914-33, 944-45

YouCat: 145

30. How do Mary and the saints help us?

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 4: 16, 11:1

Compendium: 195, 197

CCC: nos. 956, 975

YouCat: 147-49

31. What is Heaven?

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 2:9, 13:12

Compendium: 209

CCC: nos. 1023 – 29

YouCat: 158

32. What is purgatory?

Scripture: 2 Maccabees 12:46; Matthew 12:32; 1 Corinthians 3:15; 1 Peter 1:7

Compendium: 210 – 11

CCC: nos. 1030 – 32

YouCat: 159 – 60

33. Does hell exist?

Scripture: Matthew 10:28, 11:40-42, 25:41-46; 1 John 3:14-15

Compendium: 212 – 13

CCC: nos. 1033 – 37

YouCat: 161

34. What happen to us at Baptism?

Scripture: Romans 6:3 – 4; Corinthians 5:17; 2 Peter 1:4

Compendium: 263

CCC: nos. 1262-70

YouCat: 200

35. What is the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Scripture: Acts 8:14 – 17

Compendium: 268

CCC: nos. 1302 – 05, 1316

YouCat: 203 – 05

36. What is the Mass?

Scripture: Malachi 1:11; Luke 22: 7-20, 24, 24: 13-35

Acts 2:42; Hebrews 7:25 – 27

Compendium: 275, 280

CCC: nos. 1332, 1341, 1345 – 47, 1362 – 68

YouCat: 212 – 14, 217, 221

37. What do Catholics Believe concerning Christ's presence in the Eucharist?

Scripture: John 6:22-69; 1 Corinthians 11:23 – 29

Compendium: 282 – 86

CCC: nos. 1373 – 81

YouCat: 208, 211

38. How should we prepare to receive Our Lord in Holy Communion?

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 11:27 – 29

Compendium: 291

CCC: nos. 1384 – 87

YouCat: 220

39. Why do we need the Sacrament of Reconciliation?

Scripture: John 20: 19 – 23

Compendium: 297

CCC: nos. 1425 -26, 1486

YouCat: 226

40. What does it mean to become a priest?

Scripture: Titus 1:5; James 5:14; Hebrews 7:17

Compendium: 328, 336

CCC: nos. 1562 – 68

YouCat: 254

41. What does the Church teach about marriage?

Scripture: Genesis 2:21 – 24; Matthew 19:5 – 6

Compendium: 337 -38

CCC: nos. 1601

YouCat: 260 – 63

42. What is human freedom?

Scripture: John 8:32; Galatians 5:1

Compendium: 362

CCC: nos. 1744 – 45

YouCat: 286 – 88

43. What is Virtue?

Scripture: Wisdom 8:7; 1 Corinthians 13:13; Philippians 4:8; Titus 2:11 -13

Compendium: 377

CCC: nos. 1803, 1833 – 44

YouCat: 299

44. What are sins?

Scripture: Psalm 51; 1 Corinthians 6: 9 – 11

Compendium: 392

CCC: nos. 1849 – 51

YouCat: 315

45. Are some sins more serious than others?

Scripture: 1 John 5: 16-17

Compendium: 394 – 96

CCC: nos. 1854 – 64

YouCat: 316

46. What is the basis of human dignity?

Scripture: Luke 10:25 – 37

Compendium: 411 – 12

CCC: nos. 1929 -33

YouCat: 329 – 32

47. What is the purpose of the Commandments?

Scripture: Exodus 20: 1 – 17; Matthew 5: 17 -19, 19: 16-19

Compendium: 434 – 35

CCC: nos. 2052 – 63

YouCat: 348 – 51

48. What is so special about Sunday?

Scripture: Psalm 118:24; Matthew 28:1

Compendium: 452 – 54

CCC: nos. 2174, 2192 – 95

YouCat: 364 - 66

49. What does it mean to be chaste?

Scripture: Sirach 1:22; Matthew 5: 27-28; Galatians 5:22

Compendium: 488 – 91

CCC: nos. 2337 – 50

YouCat: 404 – 06

50. Why should we pray?

Scripture: Psalm 95: 1-6; Luke 18: 13; 1 Thessalonians 5:18; 1 Timothy 2:1; Revelations 7:11 – 12

Compendium: 534 – 35, 550

CCC: nos. 2566-67, 2644

YouCat: 469 – 70, 483