

## **Required Learning for Confirmation Interview**

This material in this handout will be part of the Confirmation Interview.  
The answers below come from *Forming Disciples for the New Evangelization*, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC)*, the *Youcat* and the *Bible*.

Why do you want to be confirmed?

What does Confirmation mean to you?

What happened at Pentecost and how does it connect to your being confirmed?

When you go to high school next year, will anyone be able to tell you are confirmed?

What difference does Jesus Christ make in your life?

What has been most rewarding part of your preparation for Confirmation?

What will be different in you and in your life because of Confirmation?

What is the meaning and purpose of doing a service project?

Which of the Corporal or Spiritual Works of Mercy was your service based on?

What effect did your service have on your life?

How do you see yourself serving the church in the future?

Which saint did you select for your Confirmation name? Why?

## **REQUIRED LEARNING FOR CONFIRMATION**

### **We Believe**

*What is faith?*

**The theological virtue (a gift from God) that makes it possible for us to believe in God and all that he has revealed.**

*What is inspiration of the Bible?*

**The special influence of the Holy Spirit working in and through the writers of Sacred Scripture. Human beings are the instruments and God is the primary author.**

*What is Sacred Scripture (the Bible)?*

The collection of writings accepted by the Church as inspired by the Holy Spirit Sacred Scripture outlines the revelation given by God about himself and his will for humankind. Along with Tradition it makes up the Deposit of Faith of the Church.

*What is Sacred Tradition?*

The teaching of the apostles as handed down through the ages, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Along with Scripture it makes up the Deposit of Faith of the Church.

*What is the Magisterium?*

The living, teaching office of the Church, given by Christ to the Apostles and their successors the bishops, in union with the Pope. It provides faithfulness to the teaching of the apostles on matters of faith and morals.

*What prayer that we say at Mass summarizes our faith?*

The Nicene Creed.

*Who is the Holy Trinity?*

God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are the three distinct Persons that make up the unity of the one God. It is a mystery of faith to hold both the unity of God and the distinction of Persons in him.

*Who is Jesus?*

Jesus is the Son of God and the Savior. He is true God and true man.

*What is the Incarnation?*

The mystery that at the time appointed by God, the Son of God, Jesus Christ, without losing his divine nature assumed human nature to bring about our salvation. In the Incarnation Jesus is both fully God and fully man.

*What is the Paschal Mystery?*

The saving events of the Passion, death, Resurrection, and glorious Ascension of Jesus Christ; the passing over of Jesus from death into a new and glorious life; the name we give to God's plan of saving us in Jesus Christ.

*What is the Gospel?*

The word gospel means "good news." The "good news" of the Gospels and the entire New Testament is that Jesus, the Son of God, suffered, died, and was raised from the dead to save us from sin and death. Jesus, Lord and Messiah, is the Savior of the world.

*What three-fold anointing did Jesus receive as the Messiah of God?*

The Holy Spirit anointed Jesus as priest, prophet, and king. A priest represents the people in offering sacrifice to God. A prophet hears God's word and proclaims it. A king is one who has the greatest power and authority.

*Name the four Gospels:*

The four Gospels are Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

*What are the infancy narratives?*

Stories in the Gospels that tell about the birth and early life of Jesus.

*What is a parable?*

A type of story Jesus used to teach, comparing one thing to another, inviting his listeners to make a decision to live for the kingdom of God.

*What is the supreme act of God's love for all people?*

The supreme act of God's love for all people is the death of Jesus on the cross.

*Who is the Holy Spirit?*

The Holy Spirit is the third divine Person of the Holy Trinity sent to us by the Father in the name of his Son, Jesus.

*Who is the Paraclete?*

Jesus called the Holy Spirit "Paraclete", which means helper, advocate, defender, and consoler.

*What are the four marks of the Church?*

The Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic. These are the four attributes and essential characteristics of the Church and of the mission of the Church.

### We Worship

*What is grace?*

A gift of God freely given to us, it fills us with God's life and makes our salvation possible.

*What are sacraments?*

Supernatural signs of grace instituted by Christ and given to the Church to strengthen our faith and make us holy.

*What are the three Sacraments of Initiation and why are they important?*

**Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist**

**Baptism (begins our Christian life), Confirmation (seals the grace of Baptism), and Eucharist (brings us into union with Christ). These form the foundation upon which the Christian life is built. Each of these Sacraments increases divine life within us.**

*Name the two Sacraments of Healing.*

**Penance (Reconciliation) and Anointing of the Sick**

*Name the two Sacraments at the Service of Communion.*

**Holy Orders and Matrimony**

*What happens to us at Baptism?*

**Baptism wipes away all sin; it is our birth into new life in Christ as members of his Body and temples of the Holy Spirit. At Baptism we become adopted children of God in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.**

*What does Confirmation do for us?*

**Confirmation completes the grace of Baptism by a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit. It gives us the strength to say that we believe that Jesus is the Son of God and that we will carry on his mission.**

*What are the gifts of the Holy Spirit?*

**The gifts given to us by God in Baptism and strengthened in Confirmation that make it possible for us to live our lives for and with God.**

*Name the gifts of the Holy Spirit.*

**The seven gifts are wisdom, understanding, right judgment, courage, knowledge, reverence, and wonder and awe.**

*What is the Eucharist?*

**The way Christ has chosen to remain physically with us. The Eucharist unites us to God and one another in the sharing of Jesus' Body and Blood under the appearances of bread and wine. It is both the summit, the highest point of our lives; and source, that from which we draw our strength.**

*What is the significance of Pentecost?*

**The day the Holy Spirit was sent from heaven, and the Church was born. Pentecost happens on the 50th day after Jesus was raised from the dead.**

*How is the Sacrament of Confirmation conferred?*

The Sacrament of Confirmation is conferred by the Bishop through the laying on of hands, the anointing with chrism on the forehead, and the words, "(Name), be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit."

## We Live

*How do we come to know the teachings of Jesus?*

We come to know the teachings of Jesus through the way he lived his entire life. The Gospels are the heart of all Scriptures because they are our principal source for the life and teaching of Jesus. We also learn his teachings through Tradition, Scripture, and the Magisterium (the teaching authority of the Church).

*What are the theological virtues?*

The three virtues given to us by God: faith, hope, and charity. These virtues help a Christian to live in relationship with the Holy Trinity.

*What are the cardinal moral virtues?*

Prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance. They are also called the cardinal virtues.

*How does one become prudent?*

Prudence helps us to choose to do the right thing. [ADW Curriculum 5.05.09]

A person becomes prudent by learning to distinguish what is essential from what is non-essential, to set the right goals and to choose the best means of attaining them.

[Youcat 301]

*How does one act justly?*

Justice is the will to give what is due to God and neighbor. [ADW Curriculum 5.05.09]

One acts justly by always making sure to give to God and to one's neighbor what is due to them. [Youcat 302]

*What does it mean to have fortitude?*

Fortitude gives us strength to do the right thing. [ADW Curriculum 5.05.09]

Someone who practices fortitude perseveres in his commitment to the good, once he has recognized it, even if in the extreme case he must sacrifice even his own life for it.

[Youcat 303]

*Why is it virtuous to be moderate (the virtue of temperance)?*

Temperance helps control our attraction to pleasure. [ADW Curriculum 5.05.09]

**Moderation is a virtue because immoderate behavior proves to be a destructive force in all areas of life. [Youcat 304]**

*What is a disciple?*

**One who learns from and follows a teacher; one who follows Jesus and helps to spread the good news of Jesus both in word and in action; one who places total unconditional trust in God the Father, as Jesus did - and in no one and nothing else.**

*What is temptation?*

**The desire or attraction to do or say something wrong or not to do what we know we have the responsibility to do.**

*What is original sin?*

**The consequence of the disobedience of Adam and Eve which affected human nature. Through this sin human beings lost the original blessing of God and perfect friendship with him, and they became subject to sin and death.**

*What is mortal sin?*

**Something you choose to do knowing that it is against the will of God and will break your relationship with God.**

*What is venial sin?*

**Something you choose to do knowing that it is against the will of God and keeps you from getting closer to him. (A venial sin is a less serious than a mortal sin.)**

*What are the Corporal Works of Mercy?*

**Feed people who are hungry, give drink to people who are thirsty, clothe people who need clothes, visit prisoners, shelter people who are homeless, visit people who are sick, bury people who have died.**

*What are the Spiritual Works of Mercy?*

**Help people who sin, teach people who are ignorant, give advice to people who have doubts, comfort people who suffer, be patient with other people, forgive people who hurt you, pray for people who are alive and for those who have died.**

## We Pray

*(The candidate should be able to write out these prayers and explain what each line means.)*

### *Our Father*

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name;  
Thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.

*(For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever.) Amen*

### *Hail Mary*

Hail Mary, full of grace.  
the Lord is with you! . . .  
Blessed are you among women,  
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

### *Glory Prayer*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen

### *Act of Contrition*

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.  
In choosing to do wrong  
and failing to do good,  
I have sinned against you  
whom I should love above all things.  
I firmly intend, with your help,  
to do penance,  
to sin no more,  
and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.  
Our Savior Jesus Christ  
suffered and died for us.  
In his name, my God, have mercy.

*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,  
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.