

To help the pastor know each Confirmation candidate and their intention of receiving the Sacrament, each student must write a personal letter to Fr. Carter requesting the Sacrament of Confirmation. The purpose of the letter is to introduce yourself to him, and to explain your Confirmation preparation experience, as well as to assure him that you are asking for the sacrament freely. Each letter is read.

This letter is your personal acknowledgement to Fr. Carter that it is your desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Be assured that these letters are taken very seriously. They are a testament to your personal journey, and you want them to reflect positively on you individually as well as your parish.

It is essential that each candidate express his/her desire to be confirmation in writing this letter. IN the letter you share:

- Who you are and a little about yourself
- Who your Confirmation Saint is and why you choose him/her
- Something about your personal relationship to God and the Church
- Why you wish to receive this Sacrament

Before the celebration of Confirmation, the Bishop is required by Canon Law to know that candidates have been properly prepared. He should also know that each candidate has a desire for and knowledge of, the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The following is a suggested template. Be sure you save a copy of your letter so you can revise it as needed.

**Introduction:**

- Introduce yourself.
- Say something about your family, your background, the name of the school you attend and your year in school, your activities, hobbies/interests.

**Paragraph 1:**

- Request the Sacrament. Indicate that you are freely making this decision
- Tell your reasons for wanting the Sacrament of Confirmation; what it will do for you; how it will bring you into a closer relationship with Jesus and the Holy Spirit.
- How will it help you to be a better person? Don't just say "It will bring me closer to God." Give some thought to your answer!

**Paragraph 2:**

- Explain how you have prepared for the Sacrament. It is important that you tell about specific parts of your preparation: prayer life, service, retreat, celebration of other sacraments, etc,
- Write about your faith life. You might mentioned a particular presentation/homily/event that particularly enlightened or touched you. Describe your experiences with your Faith.
- What have you learned about yourself in the process?
- What type of Stewardship have you done; what did you learn from it; how did it affect you?

**Paragraph 3:**

- Write how you will continue to serve God and your community.
- How will you be involved in the Church and other areas of service? What ministries are you involved in?

**Conclusion:**

- Thank him for taking time to read your letter