

# HOLY NAME OF MARY PARISH

***What does it mean to receive the “seal” of the Holy Spirit? It means being indelibly marked, inalterably changed, a new creation. For those who have received this gift, nothing can ever be the same! Being “sealed with the Spirit” means not being afraid to stand up for Christ...”***  
***[Pope Benedict XVI, Homily given during the 23<sup>rd</sup> World Youth Day in Sydney, Australia]***

Dear Confirmation Candidates, Parents, and Sponsors:

Rather than adding onto the busyness that comes with our daily life, we want our Confirmation program to be an opportunity for each of us who are involved to *pause* from the craziness; to look inward and rediscover our relationship with Christ—a relationship that reaches new depths through this very meaningful sacrament. Through studying and discussing our faith, taking time for prayer and the sacraments, and showing our love for our brothers and sisters through service, we can reconnect with the Spirit in our lives and live with an ever growing awareness of the presence of God.

***“I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you ... I will put my spirit within you so that you walk in my statutes, observe my ordinances, and keep them. You will live in the land I gave to your ancestors; you will be my people, and I will be your God.”***

***[Ezekiel 36:26-28]***

In Ezekiel we read of the promise from God to change our hearts by pouring his spirit in us. As your children prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and receive this Holy Spirit and his gifts, we have put together a series of projects to help you take time to reflect on different aspects of our Catholic Faith.

Ultimately, what makes for a good reflection is not how long it is, but how *sincere* it is. We invite you to take some time for yourself to be alone with God, take the questions to prayer, and write down whatever is in your heart. These are not book reports, but rather your own writings which should flow from your relationship with God.

Your projects will be checked during the year. This will assist us in monitoring your work, as well as give you an opportunity to show your interest in deepening your commitment.

Know that the parish community of Holy Name of Mary will be praying for you during this journey. May the Cross of Jesus strengthen you and the Holy Spirit enlighten your mind and heart.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Cecilia Garzona*  
*Faith Formation Coordinator*

**1<sup>st</sup> year of Confirmation**  
**Table of Contents (2024-2025)**

Projects	Due Date
<b>1.Choosing your Confirmation Name</b>	<b>Tuesday November 12, 2024</b>
<b>2.Choosing your Sponsor</b>	<b>January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025</b>
<b>3.Interview your Sponsor</b>	<b>January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025</b>
<b>4. List any volunteer service</b>	<b>15 hours will be required by the end of 8<sup>th</sup> grade April 2026</b>

*Do not hand any homework to your teacher.*

**Please email projects to [hnmconfirmationreports7th@gmail.com](mailto:hnmconfirmationreports7th@gmail.com)**

***Make sure to add your full name on the project and to label the subject section with the correct Project Name and Number.***

***The completion of these projects are a requirement to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation***

## Project 1: Choosing your Confirmation Name

You Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

### **CHOOSING YOUR CONFIRMATION NAME Due November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Choosing a new name for Confirmation is an ancient and honorable tradition. Taking a new name can be symbolic of a new stage in life. Many of your parents probably participated in this tradition when they were confirmed. It follows in the scriptural tradition of the famous phrase, "I have called you by name" (Is 45:3-4). In the Hebrew scriptures, Abram became Abraham, and Jacob became Israel. In the New Testament the tradition continued when Simon was renamed Peter by Jesus (Mt 16:17), and Saul became Paul (Acts 13:9). The name you choose should be the name of a Saint. A Saint is someone in Heaven who strived to live life as a Christian. They were not perfect people. You should do research about the lives of different saints, what they did, why we honor them today as saints, etc. I would suggest you start by thinking about a name you like, or by seeing if a Saint's feast day is on your birthday.

Here are some websites you can use to read about the lives of saints. **Do not use Wikipedia or Google search**

[www.catholic.org](http://www.catholic.org)

[www.americancatholic.org](http://www.americancatholic.org)

[www.loyolapress.com](http://www.loyolapress.com)

Watch a saint movie on FORMED.org

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Please email your projects to:

[hnmconfirmationreports7th@gmail.com](mailto:hnmconfirmationreports7th@gmail.com) *Do not hand any homework to your teacher.*

ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ON A SEPARATE SHEET UNDER AN ESSAY FORMAT WITH **A MINIMUM OF 250 WORDS**. MUST STATE YOUR NAME IN ORDER TO GET CREDIT.

**PLAGIARIZING FROM A WEBSITE OR FROM A CLASSMATE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED**

1)What Saint name have you chosen for Confirmation?\*

*\*Be specific, as there are some names that have a number of saints with the same first name. For example, St. John could be St. John (the apostle), St. John the Baptist, St. John Vianney, St. John Bosco, St. John of the Cross, etc.*

2)Write about the Saint (do not copy and paste)

3)After reading about the life of the Saint, What did this Saint do that impressed you?

4)How do you identify with this Saint? How can this Saint help you in your life?

## **Project 2: Choosing your sponsor/ Interview your sponsor Due January 7, 2025**

### **CHOOSING YOUR CONFIRMATION SPONSOR**

Choosing your Confirmation Sponsor is a very important decision. You should take time to pray to God about who He wants you to choose as your Sponsor since He knows much better than we do. Here is some information in order to help you better understand the role of the sponsor, and a prayer to help you choose someone.

#### **What is a Sponsor?**

A sponsor is a person who encourages and assists a candidate for Confirmation to embrace and actively practice the Catholic faith. The sponsor also presents the candidate to the Bishop at the celebration of Confirmation.

#### **Who can be a Sponsor?**

Being a sponsor is not just an honor, it is also an important responsibility. The sponsor must be an active, practicing Catholic who can be a role model for the candidate. This can be a grandparent, aunt or uncle, sibling, other relative, family friend, teacher, etc. The Catholic Church has set the following requirements to be a sponsor:

- Must regularly attend Sunday Mass and celebrate the sacraments
- Must be fully initiated Roman Catholic (received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist)
- Must be at least 16 years old
- May NOT be the parent of the candidate

#### **Prayer to help choose a Sponsor:**

Holy Spirit, helper and guide, give me wisdom as I choose my Confirmation sponsor. Help me to choose a person of prayer who will teach me also to be a person of prayer who will support me in difficult times, who will guide me to make good choices, and who will challenge me when I do not. Help me to choose someone who will love me and teach me to love Jesus. Thank you for giving me a community of people around me to support and guide me as I take this important step in becoming more fully a member of your Church. Amen.

Please write a 200 word essay about your sponsor and the reason why you have chosen him/her.

Please email the essay by January 7, 2025 to [hnmconfirmationreports7th@gmail.com](mailto:hnmconfirmationreports7th@gmail.com)

*Do not hand any homework to your teacher.*

**Please email projects to [hnmconfirmationreports7th@gmail.com](mailto:hnmconfirmationreports7th@gmail.com)**

**Project 3 SPONSOR INTERVIEW due on January 7, 2025**

*Interview your Sponsor and write a summary of it below.*

*Please write a minimum of 150 words* email the interview to  
[hnmconfirmationreports7th@gmail.com](mailto:hnmconfirmationreports7th@gmail.com)

Some suggestions for the interview:

- \* How did your Sponsor feel when you asked him/her to be your Sponsor?
- \* Was he/she aware of the reasons why you selected him/her to be your Sponsor?
- \* According to your Sponsor, what does he/she think is the most important part of being a sponsor for Confirmation?
- \* How does your Sponsor plan on fulfilling this role?
- \* According to your Sponsor, what does it mean to live a good Catholic life?

## Project 4: Community Service

Dear Confirmation I class,

In order to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation next June 2026 you will be required to complete 15 hours of community service. This includes service you might be performing on your own or in school.

For information of Community Service examples and explanation please visit our website: <https://hnomary.org/faith-formation/confirmation/>

If you would like to start recording service during 7<sup>th</sup> grade please use the following service form and email it to:

[hnmconfirmationreports7th@gmail.com](mailto:hnmconfirmationreports7th@gmail.com) *by April 23, 2025*

Date	Service Description	Supervisor's name and phone #	# hours