



**Mary Queen of Peace Parish  
2009-10**

# **Confirmation Student Packet**

---

**Mary Queen of Peace  
Confirmation Class 2009-10**



Dear Student,

Words cannot express how thrilled we are to be teaching your Confirmation class this year! We feel so strongly that this year is vital to the formation of your faith and we are already brimming with ideas and excitement about this year's Confirmation program.

For your information, we have created this Confirmation Student Packet. This packet will provide you with important information for you as you embark on this important journey.

This packet is divided into sections. Each section has details about this year's class and the requirements that you must fulfill in order to be confirmed. Please understand that we are learning as you are learning and that certain items, especially dates may change. We will make every effort to give you and your parents as much notice as possible in order to accommodate everyone's busy schedules.

This packet gives you check list, assignment information and an outline of how class works. Our expectations of you are also included in this packet. If you ever have any questions, please feel free to contact any of us at the numbers and email addresses below. It is our greatest prayer that you will enjoy this year as you grow in your faith and that, together; we can all do our part to make this world a wonderful place.

Yours in Christ,

**Confirmation Teachers**

Mike Franco – Lead Teacher

620- 353-8198

James Esquivel – Assistant Teacher

620-356-5339

Janni Meierhoff – Teachers Aide

620-356-1572

**Director of Religious Education**

Dana Gaspar

[mqopdre@pld.com](mailto:mqopdre@pld.com)

620-356-3994 office

620-952-0506 cell

Father Trong Binh Tran

620-356-1532

## **How Class Works**

The Sunday morning class is from 10 am – 11:00 am at the Parish Hall in the first class room to the left. This class has a lead teacher, an assistant teacher and a teacher's aide that will work together throughout the year. We ask that you arrive on time. We do not have a lot of time to cover a lot of information, so we appreciate the extra effort for you to be on time to class.

### **Structure & Standards**

The Confirmation class is comprised of students in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. While some of you who attend may not have been baptized or received First Communion, you must complete both of these sacraments prior to the Confirmation ceremony.

Class standards are as follows:

1. Respect Everyone and Everything. Rudeness and disrespect is not tolerated in the classroom. We believe that everyone is worthy of being respected no matter who they are.
2. 100% Effort Everyday! You are asked to put forth your best effort on every project and every assignment.
3. Be Positive. Negativity is as contagious as a bad cold! A positive attitude in all situations will make for a greater experience.
4. Try Everything. You will be asked to take risks in their faith this year and really work to become the best that you can be and see your true potential.

### **Grading**

We do not provide a traditional grading system. Instead, we track bonus points. At the end of the year you will receive certificate for your bonus points.

1. Attendance. You receive points when you attend class and you can receive extra points when you arrive on time.
2. Participation. Voluntarily participate in class by reading out loud, answering discussion questions, or sparking a good conversation.
3. Above and Beyond Points. These points are for those of you who go above and beyond basic expectations. For instance, you help out a little more in class or show extreme poise in tough situations.
5. Homework. Homework assignments will be assigned. While these are not a strict requirement, those of you who do the work will be given points based on your effort.

**Progress Reports**

Progress Reports can be requested at any time from the teachers by either student or parent. We will be more than happy to discuss your performance in the classroom with your parents. We do our best to stay on top of bonus points and assessments, but if you or your parents have questions, please do not hesitate to ask!

**Classroom Materials**

Each of you will be provided with a folder for class, a textbook, and writing materials that remain in the classroom. This way, you will not forget items at home. Assignments and special notes about dates or changes, as well as newsletters will be sent home with you. Please be sure to give these to your parents!

**Lessons**

Classes begin and end with prayer. This is vital to the Catholic faith and we feel strongly that this element will lend to our success as a class this year.

Lessons will consist of lectures, assignments, and hands-on activities that will work together for each topic. We feel that the more you see how your faith can be applied outside the classroom, the stronger a Catholic you will be.

**Photography & Newsletters**

Throughout the class, we will be taking pictures of you in action to create a class photo album. Your parents will sign a permission statement on the last page of their packet. Certain pictures will also be included in the class newsletters.

## Program Requirements

In order for you to be confirmed at Mary Queen of Peace, you must fulfill the following requirements:

1. Submission of Baptismal and First Communion certificates. This should be done upon registration for the Confirmation class or by the dates given as deadlines. You will find a Check List included in this packet. All certificates are submitted to Dana Gaspar, the Director of Religious Education.
2. Attendance. You must attend at least 85% of this year's PSR classes. Those of you who are "on the bubble" will be assessed by the teachers and Father Tran regarding the fulfillment of this requirement.
3. Community Service. Every student is required to carry out at least twenty (20) hours of community service with the first five (5) by December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009; Community Service is defined as work done outside the home for no pay and with a good attitude. Parent signatures are required on the Community Service Log. **If a student anticipates being absent that day, they must turn in their assignment early!**
4. Sponsor Paperwork. Every student's sponsor must submit a certificate from their home parish describing their eligibility as a sponsor for a Confirmation Candidate. Sponsors must be at least sixteen (16) years of age, they must have been Confirmed, and if they are married, they must have been married in the Catholic Church. We stress that you select a sponsor who is a living example of strong Catholic faith. The sponsor cannot be a parent. Any other immediate family member who wishes to be a candidate's sponsor should consult with Father Tran. This paperwork is due by December 20<sup>th</sup>. We recommend starting to get this in order as soon as possible, especially if they must mail you the paperwork.
5. Required letters – 1<sup>st</sup> to the Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Dodge City, Kansas and the 2<sup>nd</sup> to the Parishioners of Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church
6. Saint Assignment. Every student will choose a saint name for Confirmation. They will have a saint assignment regarding their saint due December 20<sup>th</sup>. **If a student anticipates being absent that day, they must turn in their assignment early!**
7. Retreat. Every student will attend a Confirmation retreat. Information for retreat will be available at a later date.
8. Interview with Father Tran. These short, informal interviews will take place in March. During this interview, Father Tran will assess students' knowledge of the decision they are about to make.
10. Confirmation Practices. There will be at least one practice session prior to the Confirmation. It will be held prior to April 10, 2010 our scheduled Confirmation date, although the date and time are TBA. During this practice, students will learn the order of the mass and the appropriate responses involved with Confirmation.
11. Active Participation. Just showing up is not enough. Students are expected to put forth their best effort and work to become the person God intends them to be. We cannot stress this enough, that this is a huge decision for your child and that every choice they make this year will affect this decision.



## **What You Can Do**

Confirmation is the Sacrament that provides completion of Baptismal grace and allows our young Catholics to grow up in their faith, embrace it for themselves, and live out the life of a mature, Catholic Christian. You will be Confirmed by the Bishop in the Spring and we feel that this is a big deal! It is a once in a lifetime event, just like your First Communion, and we are looking forward to celebrating it in a big way. Here are some suggestions on what you can do as you go through this process.

- First and foremost, we ask that you pray for yourself and your classmates throughout the Confirmation process as this provides the necessary spiritual power to get this important job done.
- At least 85% attendance is required in order for you to be confirmed. Since Confirmation is such an important Sacrament, attendance is crucial. Attending class and mass needs to be a priority. When absence is necessary, make-up work is required, but you must take the initiative to work with the teacher to do so.
- Please make sure we have your parent's name, phone number, address, and email address. We want to communicate with your parents throughout the year.
- Make sure you know what the program requirements are so that you can stay on top of deadlines and due dates. A calendar will be provided for you and it will be updated throughout the year.
- Do your homework. Assignments will not be required, but highly encouraged to complete. This will help you get an even better grasp of your faith. The points earned from homework will go to the Bonus Point system that is explained in the "How Class Works" sections.
- Give any paperwork for your parents to them when we give it to you.
- Have faith discussions over dinner or whenever the opportunity presents itself. We will be sending out a newsletter on a regular basis with resources, conversation points, background information on the scripture readings from mass, and more. It is our hope that you will be able to use this and other resources to challenge your family to think about faith in everyday life.
- Give your best every class. You get out of class what you put into it. It is so important that you work as hard as you can so that you can grow in your faith.
- Follow class standards. This makes class easier and more enjoyable for everyone. Be sure to review them in this packet.

# Mary Queen of Peace Parish Confirmation Sponsor Information Sheet

(Return to Dana Gaspar by December 20, 2009)



Student's Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

For Confirmation you will be required to have a sponsor - someone who will guide you and share the story of faith with you. You will want to ask someone who is active in the church, can share why faith is important to them and can help you in your preparation. A good sponsor will make this process a little easier and even more fun. Usually, the best person to be your sponsor is one of your baptismal godparents. Having one of your godparents helps us to see how Baptism and Confirmation are connected. However, some of you may no longer be close to your godparents...they maybe live too far away...or they may no longer practice their faith. In cases such as these you will need to choose a new sponsor.

In choosing a sponsor, you are looking for someone you trust, whose faith you admire and who will be there for you. Sponsors must be *confirmed Catholics, at least 16 years old and practicing members of the Church*, while not being your parents. This means you can choose a relative, friend or someone from the parish as your sponsor. Pray about it, and when you think you have the right person, ask him or her to help you grow in faith by being your sponsor!

After discussion with my parents, thinking and praying about it, I have asked

\_\_\_\_\_ to be my Confirmation Sponsor.

My reason for asking him / her is:

I see this person living the Catholic Faith in the following ways:

Please print: **Sponsor's Name:**

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City / State / Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mary Queen of Peace Parish  
Confirmation Sponsor's Covenant**



Confirmation Candidate's Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_, a fully initiated  
(Candidate's Sponsors Name)

**Roman Catholic, make the following agreement:**

I will participate regularly in the Sacraments of the church.

I will pray regularly for my candidate.

I will visit monthly with my candidate as a spiritual witness, guide, and companion.

Sponsor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Return by December 20, 2009 to:**  
Mike Franco -Lead Confirmation Instructor  
or  
Dana Gaspar - DRE  
804 N. Colorado Street  
Ulysses, KS 67880



**Mary Queen of Peace Parish**  
**CONFIRMATION "Saint" NAME REPORT FORM**

(Due December 20, 2009 - give to Mike Franco)



**DIRECTIONS:** After finding a saint that inspires your faith, complete the form & return to your catechist--Use a separate sheet of paper for answers if needed—Please contact Mike Franco or Dana Gaspar for resources if needed.

What saint have you chosen to be your patron?

When is their feast day?

Where was the saint born?

How old was the saint when they died?

What did you find out about their family?

Name two ways that the saint was a disciple and witness of Jesus Christ:

Why did you choose this saint to be your companion?

**PLEASE PRINT YOUR FULL NAME AS GIVEN AT BIRTH:**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Middle Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Confirmation Name as **you want** the Bishop to proclaim it:

\_\_\_\_\_

**REQUIRED BAPTISMAL INFORMATION  
FOR CONFIRMATION**

*(Return to Dana Gaspar-DRE by December 20, 2009)*



**Please fill out this form in full.** This detailed information is used for parish records. Your accuracy saves us follow-up calls. We need a copy of each candidate's **BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE** if you were **NOT** baptized at *MQOP*.

If you **WERE** baptized at *MQOP* you only need to turn in this form.

Please **Print** Clearly

**NAME OF CANDIDATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age** \_\_\_\_\_  
First (full) Middle Last

**CONFIRMATION SPONSOR'S NAME:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
First (full) Middle Last

***Sponsor Requirements:***

- \*Not a parent***
- \*Must be a practicing Catholic***
- \*Has been Confirmed***
- \*At least 16 years of age***

**Candidate's Date of Birth** \_\_\_\_\_ **Place of Birth** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Baptism** \_\_\_\_\_

**Place of Baptism:** Name of Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents:** Father's full name \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's full **maiden** name \_\_\_\_\_

**REQUIRED 1<sup>st</sup> COMMUNION INFORMATION  
FOR CONFIRMATION**

*(Return to Dana Gaspar-DRE by December 20, 2009)*



**Please fill out this form in full.** This detailed information is used for parish records. Your accuracy saves us follow-up calls. We need a copy of each candidate's **1<sup>ST</sup> COMMUNION CERTIFICATE** if you did **NOT** receive sacrament at *MQOP*.

If you **DID** receive sacrament at *MQOP* you only need to turn in this form.

Please **Print** Clearly

**NAME OF CANDIDATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **Age** \_\_\_\_\_  
First (full) Middle Last

**CONFIRMATION SPONSOR'S NAME:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
First (full) Middle Last

***Sponsor Requirements:***

***\*Not a parent***

***\*Must be a practicing Catholic***

***\*Has been Confirmed***

***\*At least 16 years of age***

**Candidate's Date of Birth** \_\_\_\_\_ **Place of Birth** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of 1<sup>st</sup> Communion** \_\_\_\_\_

**Place of 1<sup>st</sup> Communion:** Name of Parish \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents:** Father's full name \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's full **maiden** name \_\_\_\_\_

## ***Confirmation Letter of Intent***

In renewing my baptismal vows, I profess my Catholic Faith in the Creed and renounce Satan. It is my intent in both Faith and practice to embrace the **entire** law of Christ contained in the Catholic Church; which includes being faithful to the teachings of the Holy Father in regards to issues of faith and morals (i.e. issues such as abortion). I promise to follow the precepts of the Church both now and after Confirmation.

---

Confirmation Candidate's Printed Name

---

Confirmation Candidate's Signature

Date

### **Precepts of the Church**

- 1.** To assist at Mass on all Sundays and holydays of obligation.  
(Jan. 1 - Solemnity of Mary; 40 days after Easter - Ascension Thursday;  
Aug. 15 - Assumption of Mary; Nov. 1 - All Saints' Day; Dec. 8 -  
Immaculate Conception; Dec. 25 - Christmas)
- 2.** To fast and abstain on the days appointed.  
(The Church's current regulations in the U.S. require fasting and  
abstinence from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday; and  
abstinence from meat on the Fridays during Lent. Every Friday is a day  
of sacrifice. We are obliged to make a sacrifice every Friday. This could  
be the traditional practice of abstinence from meat or another sacrifice.)
- 3.** To confess our sins at least once a year in the sacrament of Penance.
- 4.** To receive Holy Communion worthily during the Easter Season.  
(To receive Holy Communion worthily, one must: observe the Eucharistic  
Fast of one hour before receiving Holy Communion; Be in the state of  
grace, Believe that Holy Communion is the true Body, Blood, Soul and  
Divinity of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.)
- 5.** To contribute to the support of the Church.
- 6.** To observe the laws of the Church concerning marriage.

As the parent of a Confirmation Candidate, I promise to fully assist in my child's preparation for the Sacrament. I assure that my child will continue to study the Catholic Faith and will regularly attend Mass and receive the Sacrament of Penance before and after Confirmation.

---

Parent's Signature

Date

**Mary Queen of Peace Parish**  
***2009-2010 Confirmation Program***



**Confirmation Letter to the Bishop**

**The letter must be turned into the Religious Education Office  
by Sunday, February 28, 2010.**

*Instructions*

It is customary for each Confirmation candidate to write a personal letter to the confirming Bishop requesting the Sacrament of Confirmation. The purpose of this letter is to introduce yourself to the Bishop and explain your Confirmation preparation experience as well as to assure him that you are asking for the Sacrament freely.

*Writing Your Letter to the Bishop*

- \* The letter must be typed.
- \* Address the letter "Dear Bishop Gilmore."
- \* Introduce yourself and request the sacrament for yourself. Indicate that you want this sacrament and why you want it.
- \* Tell him what name you chose for confirmation and why you chose that saint.
- \* Tell him who your confirmation sponsor is, why they are a good example of the faith, and why you asked them to be your sponsor.
- \* Tell him how you plan on living out the Catholic faith after Confirmation and in the years to come.
- \* Conclude your letter and thank the Bishop.
- \* Sign your letter.

All of the letters are due to the Religious Education Office by February 28, 2010 so it can be sent out to the bishop.

*You may use the sample letter as a guide.*

## Sample Letter

*Date*

**Bishop Gilmore**

Diocese of Dodge City

**P.O. Box 137**

**Dodge City, KS 67801**

**Dear Bishop Gilmore,**

**I, (name), a member of Mary Queen of Peace Parish in Ulysses, am currently participating in the preparation process for Confirmation on April 10, 2010. I request the privilege of being confirmed into the Catholic Church because...** *(You write your reasons here. Explain why you want to be confirmed, be specific. Perhaps use examples from what you learned and experienced through the process. Please do not say so that you can get married since this is not the case anymore in Canon Law)*

**I would like to take the name (Your Saint's Name Here) as my confirmation name. I choose this saint because...** *(You write your reasons here.)*

**For my sponsor, I have chosen (Your Sponsor's Name Here). I feel that he/she is the best possible person to help and witness to me in the Catholic faith because...** *(You write your reasons here.)*

**As a full member of the Catholic Church, I promise to strive to...** *(Describe how you plan to continue participating in the Catholic Church after Confirmation. How do you plan to live your life in general and specifically as a Catholic in the years to come?)*

**Thank you for considering my candidacy in this important step in my life.  
Sincerely,**

*Sign Your Name Here*

*Type Your Name Here*

## Resources

To help you in growing in your faith and for resources for assignments, we have come up with several web sites and resources that you may find helpful this year.

### *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

We use this resource for every class and we will provide you with highlighted sections that you can reference for classes.

EWTN Web Site [www.ewtn.org](http://www.ewtn.org)

This site provides a ton of resources that are valuable for Catholics.

Other Web Sites:

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

[www.americancatholic.org](http://www.americancatholic.org) – great source for saint information and other topics

*Handbook for Catholics*. By Mary Kathleen Glavich, S.N.D

A great resource for teens and parents to find out what the Catholic Church teaches.

We have a few copies available in the DRE office for you to check out.

*Mary Queen of Peace Library* – Located in the Parish Hall, you may check out any book you would like. Also check with the Dana Gaspar, DRE for other sources.

# Confirmation Requirement Checklist

Please keep in your records, and check off the items you have turned in to **Dana Gaspar** or to your catechist.

**\*If we do not receive the paperwork/assignments by the respective due dates, we will assume that you will not be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation with Mary Queen of Peace Church this year.\***

***Deadline to turn in Item                      Date you turned it in given to Dana?  
or to your Catechist?***

**Dec. 20, 2009**

Baptismal form & certificate \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

1<sup>st</sup> Communion form & certificate \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

**Dec. 20, 2009**

Sponsor Info. \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

**Dec. 20, 2009**

Sponsor Covenant form \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

**Dec. 20, 2009**

Confirmation Saint Report \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

***My saint name is:*** \_\_\_\_\_

**Dec. 20, 2009**

5 hours of service \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

The date you were absent: \_\_\_\_\_

Absentee report turned in: \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

The date you were absent: \_\_\_\_\_

Absentee report turned in: \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

The date you were absent: \_\_\_\_\_

Absentee report turned in: \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

October 11, 2009 -Letter to Parish \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

February 28, 2010 -Letter to Bishop \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

**Date TBA**

Response Letter to Bishop \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

*Confirmation Interview with Fr. Tran done on March \_\_\_\_\_, 2010*

*Confession done on \_\_\_\_\_ (to be done between Feb. & March) must be documented by April 1, 2010 with Dana Gaspar - DRE (verified by Fr. Tran)*

**March 15, 2010-**

20 total service hours & reflection \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_

Retreat attended: \_\_\_\_\_ dates: \_\_\_\_\_ \*retreat TBA\*

# Student Signature Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have received the Confirmation Student Packet. I will read it and be familiar with its contents. I understand and agree to comply with the requirements of the program. I have my teacher's contact information should I need anything.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date