

ST. JOSEPH-ON-CARROLLTON MANOR CATHOLIC CHURCH  
CONFIRMATION MAKE UP WORK

**SESSION 1 – Why Confirmation?**

(Please Return Make Up Work by the next Confirmation Class – Sunday, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014)

I suggest doing this make up work with a parent or sponsor

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

**OPENING PRAYER**

-Read Acts 8:14-17

-Question: How does scripture verse relate to our topic on Confirmation for this class?

*- Say a prayer that focuses on the start of your journey of faith during the Confirmation Preparation. Asking the Holy Spirit to help guide you along the journey as you grow closer to God and to help you understand the importance of Confirmation as a beautiful Sacrament that Jesus Christ has established for us.*

**TEACHING NOTES**

*Read the following teaching notes.*

- Have you ever stopped to think “Why have I decided to go through Confirmation preparation?”
  - If your answer is, “Because my parents want me to.” That’s Ok!
  - The 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment is: Honor thy Father & thy Mother so you are obeying your parents, which is great!
  - However our prayer is that by the end of your Confirmation preparation that “Because my parents want me to” is not your only reason.
  
- What is Confirmation?
  - The Sacrament of Confirmation is when you receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit through the Bishop anointing your forehead with chrism oil. You then become a full-fledged, responsible member of the Catholic Church.
  - It is about proclaiming this is MY faith. Not just the faith of my parents. You take your faith and live it out through words and deeds. It is not about knowing it all but you are ready to learn more.
  - Ultimately it is about strengthening that relationship with God.
  
- Relationship with God
  - You may have a relationship with God, you may not. Wherever you are that’s Ok!
  - God wants to be in relationship with us. The very fact that the Creator of the universe wants to know us personal is AMAZING. Stop and think about that.
  - It’s about trying to have God at the center of your life.

- Draw a pie chart of how you spend a 24hr day (Sleep, Eating, School, Sports, Family, Friends, etc.)

- Now put a dark circle right in the middle where the pie comes together in the center. This is where God should be in your life. God shouldn't be a percentage of your day but He should be the center of your life. When you are at school, hanging with your friends, spending time with family how often do you stop and realize God is always with you?

- So how do I get to the point where God is the center of my life? You have to work at it. Whatever effort you put in Confirmation preparation is what you will get out of it. I urge you to put your best effort through this preparation.

- Some ways to work at it are...

(1) Sacraments – Are you getting to Mass every Sunday as a family?

Confession – When was the last time you have gone?

(2) Ask for support – You have family, Your Sponsor, Friends, Your Youth Minister, Confirmation Core Team, Future Saints (Peer Ministers), and the Family of St. Joseph's. This is a great time to ask questions and to ask for prayers.

(3) You have tools to use – Bible (Word of God!) If you don't know how to use it or look up verses, learn! Ask for help! YouCat – will teach you what the Church believes and teaches. Bring both to every class & use at home too.

(4) PRAY - If you don't have a daily prayer life start somewhere! Start small. Wherever you are start to make a change. Once you pick who your patron saint is start asking him/her for their intercession/help in your life.

## **YOUCAT**

Read Paragraph #203-207 in your YOUCAT on The Sacrament of Confirmation?

Question: What is something you learned/can take away from the paragraphs you read on Confirmation?

## **SMALL GROUP QUESTIONS**

*Answer the following questions*

(1) What do you think this year in Confirmation Classes will be like?

(2) What are you looking forward to? What are you nervous about?

*At the Next Confirmation Class you will be asked to fill out a slip of paper with the following questions on them and turn it in. Begin to think about these questions now. You will see it again at the end of your Confirmation preparation.*

On a scale from 1-10 Where are you in your relationship with God?

What goals will you set for yourself this year to deepen your relationship with God?

## **GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - COURAGE**

*Each Confirmation Class we will discuss one of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Read about the gift of Courage.*

Courage is different from what much of what we think of as courage today. The person exercising the gift of courage is willing to put himself in danger if necessary, but he does not seek danger for danger's sake. Putting our bodies or lives in danger when it is not necessary is not courage but foolishness. Sometimes, however, the ultimate sacrifice is necessary, in order to stand up for what is right and to save our souls. Courage is the virtue of the martyrs, who are willing to give their lives rather than to renounce their faith.



The symbol for Courage is a Lion. Just like the Cowardly Lion in the Wizard of Oz who didn't have courage at first, once we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit of courage and we try to use it we can be courageous in our faith.

How do you see being able to use the Gift of the Holy Spirit – Courage in your life?

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

*Each time we gather for Confirmation Class you will be introduced to a different type of prayer. This type of prayer is called Lectio Divina.*

Lectio Divina is when we take time to mediate on the scriptures. Meditation is not just about sitting on the floor, crossing your legs and clearing your mind. In fact, when we meditate, we should never clear our minds completely. We want to quiet our minds of distractions so we can better hear God. With Lectio Divina, we are allowing the Holy Spirit to open the Scriptures for us. (Want to know more? Look in color pages of your Life Teen Bible.)

After reading the verse, be sure to pause before moving on to the next phase.  
This verse is Act 1:8 is what our Confirmation Program One Eight is named after.

### **Step 1: Lectio (Listen)**

Begin by quieting yourself. Ask God to open the eyes and ears of your heart to truly hear the Scripture verse. Do not rush through it, but listen to every word. The first time we read the Scripture verse, we want to read and hear the words. Listen to the words.

**Read:** “But you will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” – Acts 1:8

**Reflect on this step for a minute**

### **Step 2: Meditatio (Mediate)**

We are going to hear the verse again and have another chance to reflect. See if a word or phrase stands out to you. What word or phrase really stood out to you in this passage? What does this mean for you in order to evangelize or share God’s word with others?

**Read:** “But you will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” – Acts 1:8

**Reflect on this step for a minute**

### **Step 3: Oratio (Prayer)**

During the third reading of the Scripture verse, have a conversation with God (prayer) about what you have heard. Ask for guidance on something you do not understand and how you can live this out in your life.

**Read:** “But you will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” – Acts 1:8

**Reflect on this step for a minute**

### **Step 4: Contemplatio (Contemplation)**

The final step is to hear the verse again and then be silent. You do not have to ask any questions, simply sit and be a child of God. Allow God to speak to your heart.

**Read:** “But you will receive power when the holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” – Acts 1:8

**Reflect on this step for a minute.**

**Then say a closing prayer.**

## **REMINDERS**

- Get UPDATED Confirmation Calendar at [www.stjoesbuckeystown.org/confirmation14](http://www.stjoesbuckeystown.org/confirmation14) then click on "Confirmation Calendar 2014"
  
- Have you watched the Worthy of the Call Video & Turned in all necessary paperwork?
  
- Have you already started doing service in the parish or community?  
If Yes, have you turned in service paper(s) to Ashley?  
You must complete Worthy of the Call Paperwork to start turning in service papers.  
Remember: Once you complete hours get service papers in ASAP.
  
- You MUST turned in Sponsor Form to Ashley ASAP as it was due at the 1<sup>st</sup> Confirmation Class that you missed.  
Did you misplace the Sponsor Form? Go to [www.stjoesbuckeystown.org/confirmation14](http://www.stjoesbuckeystown.org/confirmation14) then click on "Sponsor Contact Information Form"