



“To love is our vocation, to win souls for our Beloved”

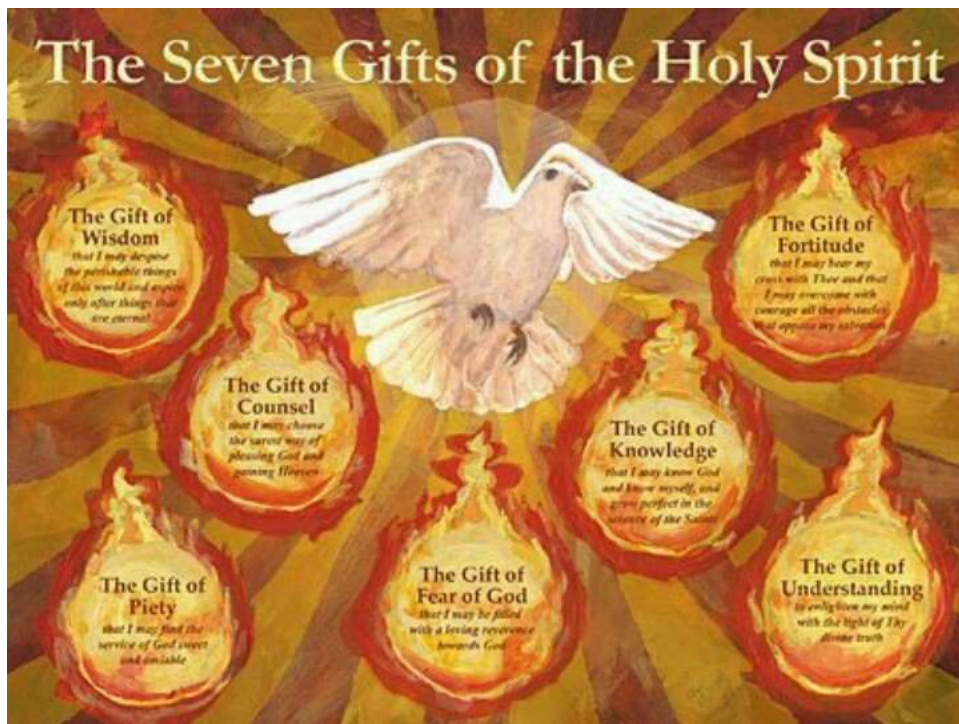
St. Therese of Lisieux

St. Timothy Religious Education

13807 Poplar Tree Road

Chantilly, Virginia 20151

(703) 378-9143 * Fax (703) 378-7552—ATTN: CCD Office



Handbook For Confirmation Spring / 2020

St. Timothy Parish

Reverend David Meng
Pastor

Reverend William Schierer
Rev. Joseph Farrell
Rev. Sunny Joseph
Parochial Vicars

St. Timothy School

Mr. Michael Pryor, *Principal*
Mrs. Elizabeth Byrns, *Assistant Principal (5-8th)*
Mrs. Haley Hennessy, *Assistant Principal (K-4th)*

Mrs. Linda Gott
Mrs. Jessica Kurtis
Mrs. Liz Hernandez
Mr. Chris Smith
Mrs. Katie Nash
STS Teachers - 7th and 8th grade

St. Timothy Religious Education

Deacon Gerard-Marie Anthony
DRE
Sister Emelita Sobrepena, S.N.D.S.
Assistant DRE

Mr. Edward Pezzullo
Mr. Hahn Vu
Mrs. Jennifer **Argote**
Mrs. Miranda **Brown** / Mrs. Paula **Searle**
Mrs. Nicole **Burns** / Mrs. Laura Gallanosa
Mr. Jesus **Cota** / Mr. George Fisher
Mr. William **Gott** / Mrs. Linda Gott
Mrs. Sherry **Lis**
Mrs. Lori Sikra / Mr. Timothy Schaad
Mr. David **Vermont** / Mr. John Mason
CATECHISTS / ASSISTANTS

St. Timothy Religious Education

13807 Poplar Tree Road, Chantilly, Virginia 20151

(703) 378-9143 * Fax (703) 378-7552

+

JMJ

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the St. Timothy Confirmation Program. We are pleased to offer this handbook to assist you in preparing your child for the Sacrament of Confirmation. **It is important that you review the entirety of this packet.** Your cooperation in accurately completing the forms and returning them to us in a timely manner is greatly appreciated. You may deliver the requirements either in person or by mail to the CCD Office by the dates indicated. **If we do not receive the paperwork by the respective due dates, we will assume that your student will not be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Timothy Church.**

It is extremely important that the candidate has the support of his/her parents and sponsor in the Confirmation preparation process. By working together with the catechists and priests of the parish, the students will be well prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to call our office. Our aim is to assist you and your student in any way possible to make their Confirmation a spiritually blessed event. This is a prayerful time for the candidates and a time for serious thinking about the choice to be confirmed. Please encourage your student to pray about this exciting gift from God. You have the assurance of our prayers.

May God bless you and may the Holy Spirit fill your heart with peace and joy!

Humbly in Jesus & Mary,

Deacon Gerard-Marie Anthony

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PART I - CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Parental Involvement

Parental involvement in preparing for this Sacrament is not only **IMPORTANT**, it is **VITAL**. While the Church is here to *ASSIST*, the **PRIMARY ROLE** in the sacramental preparation **AND** religious education **BELONGS TO THE PARENT**. Your guidance and example are indispensable in forming your child's Faith. Please make every effort to remind, encourage and (if need be) insist that your child:

- 1). **Fulfills his/her Sunday Mass obligation.**
- 2). **Frequently receives the Sacrament of Confession (recommended once a month).**
- 3). **Do things with the student to help grow in the faith such as family prayers, works of service, and studying the faith together.**
- 3). **Turn in ALL of his/her Confirmation requirements ON TIME.**

Your own practice of the Catholic faith is the greatest lesson you can teach your child. If your Faith is important to you - it's more likely to be important to your child.

Length of the Confirmation Program

“Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace. For, by the sacrament of Confirmation, (the baptized) are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed” [CCC 1285]

As an individual, each Confirmation candidate is challenged to develop further and strengthen his/her love for our Faith, the Church and for God, through prayers and good works. They are choosing to become mature Catholic Christians. A period of preparation of at least **two years** is recommended in this program.

Attendance Policy (Sacramental Preparation Classes)

*Attendance is mandatory for all children in sacrament preparation classes. This includes grades 2, 7 and 8 classes. **Students preparing for a sacrament who miss 3 or more classes will not be recommended to the Pastor for the sacrament unless absences are due to illness, death in family or other emergency situations.** Teachers must call those students who have three or more unexcused absences and should notify the CCD Office the week of the third absence. An excused absence is when the parent or guardian has informed the teacher or contacted the CCD Office by phone or memo and promptly makes up the assignments for the week missed.*

PART II - CONFIRMATION CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

ATTENTION: CCD Students - **All requirements** except the Final Exam **MUST** be handed in to the CCD Office - **NOT to the CCD teachers.**

St. Timothy Students hand in their requirements to their STS teachers in class.

CONFIRMATION REQUIREMENTS

DUE DATE

Baptismal Certificate.....	Due with Registration (When entering into 7 th Grade)
Data Form - Appendix 1	January 7, 2019
Confirmation Contract - Appendix 2	January 7, 2019
7 th Grade – Confirmation Exam I	April, 2019
Letter to Pastor - Appendix 3	May 6, 2019
Sponsor Certificate - Appendix 4	May/June, 2020 (With 8 th Grade Registration)
Sacramental Fee.....	With 8 th Grade Registration
Saint Report - Appendix 5.....	September 24, 2019
Service Projects (Service Hours Form & Journal) - Appendix 6	November 12, 2019
Three Mandatory Meetings for Students and Parents with Fr. Meng:	Jan. 12 th /19 th , Feb. 9 th /16 th , March 15 th /29 th , 2020
8 th Grade – Confirmation Exam II	March 2 nd /3 rd , 2020
Retreat for Girls	March 7, 2020
Retreat for Boys	March 21, 2020
Confirmation.....	May 23, 2020

Baptismal Certificate

Due with 7th Grade

A copy of each candidate's baptismal certificate must be submitted to the CCD Office with 7th registration. If you are a new student and entering into our CCD 8th grade program, a copy of baptismal certificate must also be submitted at registration. However if a certificate is unattainable, under special circumstances, a notarized letter (forms available in the CCD Office) may be used in lieu of a baptismal certificate.

Certificates on file at St. Timothy School will be made available to the CCD Office.

Candidates who were baptized at St. Timothy Church must provide the CCD Office with a copy of the certificate. The Rectory Office does not keep copies of certificates on file.

**ALL APPENDICES ARE ATTACHED
TO THE BACK OF THIS HANDBOOK.**

Appendices 1-3

Appendix 1: DATA FORM – due January 7, 2019

The data form is a one-page summary of information required to complete the candidate's confirmation record. Please **BE PROMPT** in returning this form.

Appendix 2: CONFIRMATION CONTRACT - due January 7, 2019

The Confirmation Contract is a promise to follow the Precepts of the Church both now and after Confirmation, including the continued study of the faith, and faithful attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. The Contract must be signed by the candidate and his/her parent by the due date.

Appendix 3: LETTER TO PASTOR - due May 6, 2019

The decision to be confirmed ultimately rests on each candidate. It is **THEIR CHOICE** to take the next step in their Catholic Faith. Therefore if the candidate wishes to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, he/she must write a letter of request to our Pastor, Rev. David Meng, stating the desire. Please turn in the letter to the Religious Education Office no later than May 9th, for delivery to Fr. Meng.

Guidelines for Letter to Pastor can be found in the back of this packet.

Appendices 4-6

Appendix 4: SPONSOR CERTIFICATE - due May/June, 2019 with 8th Grade Registration

If the Sponsor chosen is not a parishioner at St. Timothy Church, a Sponsor Certificate must be submitted by **May/June, 2019 with 8th grade registration**. A sponsor certificate form is attached to this packet. Please give it to your sponsor as soon as possible. Then sponsor can take it to his/her Parish to be witnessed in the presence of a parish priest and obtain the seal of that Church.

Sponsors who are registered as St. Timothy parishioners are not required to provide a sponsor certificate. However, candidates are still required to advise the CCD Office of their sponsor's name and that their sponsor is a registered St. Timothy parishioner.

Appendix 5: SAINT REPORT - due September 24, 2019

Ancient Christian tradition reveals that those to be confirmed would choose a saint to be for them a MODEL of Christian life and an INTERCESSOR of God's grace. Each candidate will do this symbolically by taking the name of a saint that they admire and choose to develop a special friendship with. The saint's name will be used as the candidate's Confirmation name. Candidates are required to write a report on the life of the saint, which they have chosen. Guidelines for Saint Report are in the back of this packet.

Appendix 6: WORK OF MERCY PROJECTS & REPORTS - due Nov. 12, 2019

Service is based on the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, and most of all, on the example of Christ who came to serve. It is important that candidate understands the need for serving his/her fellow man, as well as the brothers and sisters in faith. The **Service Report** is a record of the candidate's experience from his/her service projects. Please see Appendix 6 for more information.

Confirmation Exam I – 7th Grade – April, 2019

Confirmation Exam II – 8th Grade – March 2nd/3rd, 2020

Candidates must pass both exams - (passing grade 70%). Study Guide I & II and a copy of the catechism questions, which are attached to this handbook.

Retreat

Girls' Retreat (March 7, 2020) and Boys' Retreat (March 21, 2020): Both retreats go from 8:30am-3pm

Each candidate must participate in the Confirmation retreat as scheduled. Students will have a retreat in the beginning of second semester of their 8th grade. St. Timothy School and Religious Education Program will do a retreat on a Saturday.

Three Mandatory Meetings for Candidates and Parents with Fr. Meng: Jan. 12th/19th, Feb. 9th/16th, March 15th/29th, 2020

Each candidate must attend these three meetings **with at least one of the parents**. Fr. Meng will teach the four pillars of the Catholic Church.

The four pillars of the Catholic Church are:

1. Creed
2. Sacraments
3. Morality
4. Prayer

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* is divided into four sections or parts. The four sections are called the Pillars of the Church.

Creed – is a statement of what we hold, profess and believe to be revealed by God for our salvation.

Sacraments – through the Sacraments we experience God grace. The Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, the Eucharist), the Sacraments of Healing (Penance and the Anointing of the Sick), and the Sacraments of Service of Communion (Marriage and Holy Orders), we are made more holy.

Morality – The way of God’s kingdom is by living the moral life we are called to. Catholic Social Teaching gives us guidance to love God and our neighbor, which in addition to the Ten Commandments we can clearly see how to live this out.

Prayer - whether vocal, meditative or contemplative, prayer comes in many forms : adoration, petition, intercession, thanksgiving, and praise. Prayer links us to the liturgy and gives a vital relationship with our Lord.

Confirmation – May 23, 2020

PART III - GENERAL INFORMATION

(1) ARRIVAL (DAY OF CONFIRMATION)

Candidates and sponsors should arrive 30 minutes early on the day of Confirmation. Confirmation will start promptly in the Church.

(2) CONFIRMATION PRACTICE

A one-hour practice will be scheduled in the Spring 2019. Practice is mandatory for all Candidates. Candidates and sponsor/proxy (when possible) are expected to attend.

(3) DRESS APPEARANCE

NO JEANS, NO SNEAKERS

Boys: Jacket and tie, or suit, or dress shirt and tie or sweater and tie. Parents may purchase a boutonniere from a florist if so desired.

Girls: Dress, or skirt and blouse, **nothing off the shoulders or above the knee**. Tunic or jacket with dress pants, **no leggings or tight-slacks**. Parents may purchase a corsage from a florist if so desired.

(4) PENANCE

Candidates should receive the Sacrament of Penance prior to Confirmation. To receive the full effects of Confirmation, one must be in the state of grace and should have received instruction in the principle truths of the faith, especially those pertaining to this sacrament. Penance is available Wednesdays 11:30-11:50 A.M. & 8:00 P.M. and Saturdays 3:30-5:00 P.M. or by appointment.

(5) PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEOTAPING IN THE CHURCH

St. Timothy Church **PROHIBITS** videotaping and/or photography during services in the Church. Photos/videos may be taken at the reception following Confirmation.

(6) GREETING WITH BISHOP

Candidates will have the opportunity to greet the Bishop after the Mass in the school gym.

(7) SACRAMENTAL FEE – due with 8th Grade Registration

To defray the cost, each candidate in the Confirmation program is being asked to pay a \$50 fee, which will be included in 8th grade registration. This sacramental fee will help to cover Confirmation certificates, paper supplies for making handbooks, study guides, exams, programs for the two Masses, floral arrangement and receptions. The Retreat cost is not included. As you all know the price for everything keeps going up each year. Your generosity to help and understanding are deeply appreciated. Please make checks payable to St. Timothy CCD. However if the fee presents a problem, we will be happy to waive it for you. Please call the CCD office to let us know. Thank you.

APPENDIX 1

DATA FORM

DUE DATE: 1/7/19

ST. TIMOTHY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

13807 POPLAR TREE ROAD, CHANTILLY, VIRGINIA 20151
(703) 378-9143 * Fax (703) 378-7552

CONFIRMATION DATA FORM

Candidate's full name: _____ Age: _____

Confirmation name: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____
THIS IS THE NAME THE BISHOP WILL BE GIVEN

Sponsor's full name: _____

Is the sponsor a member of St. Timothy's Parish? _____
(If no, a sponsor certificate must be submitted to the CCD office.)

Proxy's full name (if applicable): _____

Is the proxy a member of St. Timothy's Parish? _____
(If no, submit a sponsor certificate from the proxy's parish.)

Father's First Name: _____ Full Middle Name: _____ Last
Name: _____

Mother's First Name: _____ Full Middle Name: _____ Maiden
Name: _____

Home telephone # _____ Work telephone # _____

Date of Baptism: ____/____/____

Church of Baptism: _____
or Profession of Faith (POF) (Please print full name of Church)

Address of Church of Baptism or POF _____
Full Street Address

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Country _____

If the Church is not in U.S.A.

Please attach a copy of Candidate's Baptismal Certificate if you have NOT submitted it at registration.

FOR CCD OFFICE USE ONLY

Baptism verified _____ on ____/____/____ Sponsor Eligibility verified _____ on
____/____/____

Confirmation Fee paid: _____ on ____/____/____

RETURN TO ST. TIMOTHY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE BY JANUARY 7, 2019.

APPENDIX 2

CONFIRMATION CONTRACT

DUE DATE: 1/7/19

St. Timothy Catholic Church

***13807 POPLAR TREE ROAD
CHANTILLY, VIRGINIA 20151
(703) 378-9143***

CONFIRMATION CONTRACT

I, _____, am a candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation to be celebrated at St. Timothy Catholic Church in the Spring of 2020. As both a candidate and practicing Roman Catholic, I am aware of my responsibilities to God, my religion, family and community. Thus, in the presence of my parents, I make this commitment:

- **to pray for a greater faith as I prepare to be fully initiated in the Church;**
- **to attend Sunday Mass regularly;**
- **to attend Religious Education class regularly even after I am confirmed;**
- **to participate actively in the confirmation program to which I am assigned;**
- **to fulfill all requirements for the reception of Confirmation;**
- **to hand in all requirements (paper works) on time;**
- **and, to pray for my peers who are also on this part of our journey in faith.**

Understanding this, I attach my signature and make known my intention for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Signature of Candidate

Date

Witnessed by:

Signature of Parent of Candidate

Date

CCD OFFICE COPY

***RETURN TO THE OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
BY JANUARY 7, 2019***

St. Timothy Catholic Church

*13807 POPLAR TREE ROAD
CHANTILLY, VIRGINIA 20151
(703) 378-9143*

CONFIRMATION CONTRACT

I, _____, am a candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation to be celebrated at St. Timothy Catholic Church in the Spring of 2020. As both a candidate and practicing Roman Catholic, I am aware of my responsibilities to God, my religion, family and community. Thus, in the presence of my parents, I make this commitment:

- **to pray for a greater faith as I prepare to be fully initiated in the Church;**
- **to attend Sunday Mass regularly;**
- **to attend Religious Education class regularly even after I am confirmed;**
- **to participate actively in the confirmation program to which I am assigned;**
- **to fulfill all requirements for the reception of Confirmation;**
- **to hand in all requirements (paper works) on time;**
- **and, to pray for my peers who are also on this part of our journey in faith.**

Understanding this, I attach my signature and make known my intention for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Signature of Candidate

Date

Witnessed by:

Signature of Parent of Candidate

Date

CANDIDATE / STUDENT COPY

Please keep this copy at home as a reminder of your commitment.

CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE'S DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

“A candidate for Confirmation who has attained the age of reason must profess the faith, be in the state of grace, have the intention of receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, and be prepared to assume the role of disciple and witness to Christ, both within the ecclesial community and in temporal affairs.” (CCC, #1319, on the responsibilities of the Candidate for Confirmation)

Each candidate, with the help of his/her parents, is responsible for choosing a sponsor. It is recommended that, if possible, one of the Baptismal sponsors be the Confirmation sponsor. This choice would express clearly the relationship between Baptism and Confirmation and would make the function of the sponsor more effective.

Confirmation is the last of the Sacraments of Initiation and perfects the Baptismal grace. The confirmed are expected to worship God by taking part of the Mass on Sundays and Holy Days and to receive Confession as often as needed and the Eucharist as often as possible. A confirmed member of the Church is expected to strengthen and support the Body of Christ, the Church, by prayers and good works. Furthermore, the newly confirmed are expected to continue their religious studies by continuing to grow in their faith during their high school years.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Prepare a one-page, typed double-spaced, size 12 font typed letter to the Pastor explaining why you would like to be confirmed.
- Attend (must attend 66%) and participate in weekly scheduled religious education classes. **Students who miss 3 or more of scheduled classes must retake the course work for that year in the following years' program. This policy ALSO applies to students enrolled in our other sacramental programs.**
- Select a patron saint's name (of either gender) as a Confirmation name, or retain the baptismal name. Candidates are required to write and submit a report on the chosen saint. See procedures under Guidelines for Saint Report.
- Participate in the assigned Confirmation Retreat. If a candidate does not attend the retreat offered at St. Timothy's Parish, he or she must find another Confirmation Retreat in another parish to fulfill this obligation before Confirmation date. It is your responsibility to call the various parishes in the Diocese to find a retreat location.
- Study for and pass the Confirmation test.
- Select a sponsor and **submit ALL necessary forms and paper works on time** (including a copy of the baptismal certificate or Profession of Faith).
- Perform a total of **6 separate tasks** that require at least **an hour each or MORE** of your time relating to **3 different Corporal Works** and **3 different Spiritual Works**.
- Complete the Service Hours Experience Form and write a brief 1-2 paragraph summary of each Work you perform.

APPENDIX 3

GUIDELINES FOR LETTER TO PASTOR

DUE DATE: 5/6/19

GUIDELINES FOR LETTER TO PASTOR

The desire to be confirmed ultimately rests on each candidate. It is THEIR CHOICE to take the next step in their Catholic Faith. Therefore if the candidate wishes to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, he/she must write a letter of request to our Pastor, Fr. Meng, stating the desire. The pastor along with the parochial vicars will read each letter. If a student/candidate is unable to hand in this request, he/she may be required to have a personal interview with the pastor.

The title for this letter is **“Why I Want To Be Confirmed”**.

Here are some guidelines for how to write this letter:

The letter should be one page, double-spaced, size 12 font.

It should include.....

Greeting: “Dear Father Meng,”

Body of the letter:

- Introduce yourself. Share with Father some of your history.
- Request the sacrament. Give several reasons why you would like to be confirmed.
- Explain how you have been preparing for the sacrament. It is important that you give specific details regarding your prayer life, your reason for selecting your patron Saint.
- Tell Father how you hope to continue to carry out your life of service to God and neighbor through the power of the Holy Spirit. Explain your plans to make your confirmation in the faith real and alive in the future.

Conclusion: Conclude letter and sign with your name legibly. Place in an envelope with “Rev. David Meng, Pastor” on it. Your name, class (CCD or STS 8A/8B) and teacher should be on the outside of the envelope as well.

Please turn in the letter to the CCD Office no later than May 6, 2019.

(You may bring it in earlier but NOT later than May 6th)

APPENDIX 4

SPONSOR'S DUTY & RESPONSIBILITIES

AND

SPONSOR CERTIFICATE FORM

**DUE DATE: MAY/JUNE, 2020
WITH 8TH GRADE REGISTRATION**

**PLEASE GIVE THIS APPENDIX TO YOUR SPONSOR
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.**

SPONSOR'S DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

“The Catechism of the Catholic Church offers this advice: the Sponsor for Confirmation is one who, fittingly, is a spiritual help to the Candidate.” (CCC # 1311, on the role of the Sponsor of Confirmation).

There is no regulation specifying that men be sponsors for boys and women be sponsors for girls. Sponsors take on a life-long commitment to help their candidates fulfill the obligation for this sacrament. **A PARENT MAY NOT BE A SPONSOR FOR THEIR OWN CHILD.**

As the Sponsor for a Candidate wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, your duties and responsibilities are paramount. Although your role is not the primary role (that is the duty of the parent), you nonetheless are an important person in the preparation process and for the encouragement to persevere the student in the Faith.

REQUIREMENTS:

- **Must be 16 years of age or older.**
- **Must be a practicing Catholic.**
- **Must have received all the Sacraments of Initiation; (Baptism, Communion, and Confirmation).**
- **Must not be prohibited by Canon Law from acting as a Sponsor. (ie; if married, one's marriage must be valid in the eyes of the Catholic Church.)**
- **Must provide the Religious Education Office with a Sponsor Certificate signed and sealed by Sponsor's Parish.**
- **Must receive Communion at the Confirmation Mass.**
- **PRAY FOR YOUR CANDIDATE CONTINUALLY**

SPONSOR CERTIFICATE FOR: _____

I, _____, am a registered and participating member of
_____ Parish, in the city of _____,
in the state of _____.

I am of legal age to be a sponsor of Baptism or Confirmation in the Catholic Church (16 years or older), and affirm the following:

1. I have received the three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist.
2. I faithfully participate in Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation and give witness to my faith in Christ Jesus by regularly receiving Him in Holy Communion.
3. (For married Catholics): I am validly married according to the laws of the Catholic Church.
4. (For single Catholics): I am living a Christian life in accord with the laws of God and the Catholic Church.
5. I actively strive to live out my commitment to Christ and to the community life of the Church by my loving response to those with whom I come in contact daily.
6. I will give support to the person I am sponsoring by my prayers and by the Christian example of my daily life. I will help him/her be faithful to the Catholic Faith.

Sponsor's signature: _____ Date: ___/___/___

Witnessed in the presence of _____,
parish priest of _____ Parish.

Candidate's Name: _____

SEAL
of the
SPONSOR'S PARISH

If you are a registered parishioner at St. Timothy Parish, you do not need to submit this Certificate to our office.

Return NO LATER than May/June, 2019 to:

ST. TIMOTHY RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
13807 POPLAR TREE ROAD, CHANTILLY, VA 20151
(703) 378-9143

APPENDIX 5

GUIDELINES FOR SAINT REPORT

DUE DATE: 9/24/19

GUIDELINES FOR SAINT REPORT

Saint Report due September 24, 2019

Each Confirmation candidate is required to write a Saint Report featuring the saint whose name has been chosen as the Confirmation name listed on the Confirmation Data Form. This report should be a minimum of two typed pages with a font not more than 12 point. A sloppy report will not be accepted, nor will a report that does not include all the requirements.

The following information MUST be included:

- * Cover page
- * Biographical information on the saint:
 1. Dates and places of birth and death
 2. Description of saint's service to God and others
 3. Feast day
 4. Symbol (if any) associated with saint
 5. Circumstances of death
 6. If the saint is a patron of any group, discuss the reason and significance.
 7. Discuss any specific devotion(s) that were attributed to this saint.
- * What was there about this person that moved the Church to name him/her a saint?
- * Personal influence of the Saint on the Candidate including:
 1. Why did the Confirmation Candidate choose this saint?
 2. What is it about the saint that the candidate would hope to emulate?
- * Bibliography

Sources for this information are available in books such as Lives of the Saints or the Catholic Encyclopedia series, which can be found in the library, at any local Catholic shop or online.

There are many good Catholic websites, here are two of them:

<http://www.newadvent.org/cathen>

<http://www.catholic-forum.com/saints/saints25.htm>

Please remember that the Saint's Report is to be done on the name chosen as the Confirmation name. Understand that you will not be allowed to use a name for Confirmation other than the one noted on the Confirmation Data Form and on which you have completed the report.

THESE REPORTS ARE NOT TO BE WRITTEN BY THE PARENTS OF THE CANDIDATE. EACH STUDENT MUST WRITE HIS/HER OWN REPORT.

APPENDIX 6

WORKS OF MERCY PROJECTS

AND

SERVICE REPORTS

DUE DATE: 11/12/19

GUIDELINES FOR WORKS OF MERCY PROJECTS

“It is to you young people that the task first falls of bearing witness to the Faith and bringing into the Faith and bringing into the third millennium the Gospel of Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, the Life...”
Pope St. John Paul II

As you prepare for Confirmation, it is vital that you understand the need for serving your fellow man, as well as your brothers and sisters in faith. The Works of Mercy are powerful ways to serve all people.

“The works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbor in his spiritual and bodily necessities. Instructing, advising, consoling, and comforting are spiritual works of mercy, as are forgiving and bearing wrongs patiently. The corporal works of mercy, consist especially in feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and burying the dead.” (CCC 2447)

“Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited...Then the righteous will answer him ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick...and visit you?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.’” (Matthew 25:34-40)

Corporal Works of Mercy

- 1. Feed the hungry**
- 2. Give drink to the thirsty**
- 3. Clothe the naked**
- 4. Visit the sick**
- 5. Shelter the homeless**
- 6. Visit the imprisoned**
- 7. Bury the dead**

Spiritual Works of Mercy

- 1. Admonish the sinners**
- 2. Instruct the ignorant**
- 3. Counsel the doubtful**
- 4. Comfort the sorrowing**
- 5. Bear wrongs patiently**
- 6. Forgive all injuries**
- 7. Pray for the living and the dead**

Service is based on the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, and most of all, on the example of Christ who came to serve. When providing service, the following points should be considered:

- Your service is not just a job to be done.**
- You should reflect on how your service project is helping you take on the mind and heart of Christ, fulfill the needs of others, and build up the Christian community.**
- The giving of service should continue after your Confirmation day and all through your life.**

You must perform a total of **6 separate tasks** that require at least **an hour each or more** of your time relating to **3 different Corporal Works** and **3 different Spiritual Works**. Write a brief 1-2 paragraph summary of each Work you perform.

Please refer to the Reference Page for suggestions on different works.

Reference Page for Works of Mercy Project

Corporal Works

Feed the Hungry: -Participate in a Food Drive (i.e. collect canned goods)

Give Drink to the Thirsty: -Work in a Soup Kitchen (w/ parental assistance)
-Make dinner for the family or a shut-in

Many parish groups are in need of help during the year. Some suggestions are The Knights of Columbus Thanksgiving Food Drive & Lenten Meal; St. Timothy's Outreach Program, the Mother of Light Center, and the CCD Office Living Nativity / First Holy Communion / Confirmation receptions. These groups often run their requirements in the bulletin with a contact phone number.

Clothe the Naked: -Do a Family Clothing Drive; Coat Collection

Visit the Sick: -Visit a Nursing Home; Offer your service (without pay) to an elderly neighbor to do special projects such as mowing, shoveling of snow, raking leaves, or weeding.
-Help out a sick person in your family or neighborhood

Shelter the Homeless: -Participate in a Blanket Drive
-Participate in a Walk for the Homeless
-Collect Bathroom Supplies for Christ House

Visit the Imprisoned: -Collect Books to donate to a Jail Library

Bury the Dead: -Visit a Cemetery
-Assist with a bereavement Luncheon
-Attend a Funeral

Spiritual Works

Admonish the Sinners: -Gently correct someone who is misguided
-Pray for the conversion of sinners

Instruct the Ignorant: -Assist with a CCD class
-Help a younger sibling with homework
-Help a younger sibling learn prayers

Counsel the Doubtful: -Lend encouragement to someone who is "down"

Comfort the Sorrowing: -Make a Card for someone who is ill or has lost a loved one

Bear wrongs patiently: -Discuss an occasion where you "turned the other cheek"

Forgive all Injuries: -Make peace with those you struggle with

**Pray for the Living
And the Dead:** -Pray regularly as a family
-Offer prayers for the souls in Purgatory
-Attend a Holy Hour; Eucharistic Adoration

Works of Mercy project – Sample Sheet

Your Works of Mercy Project must consist of activities relating to both the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. Below is a sample of what a full report on the different Works of Mercy you perform might look like. A summary like this would be acceptable for the completion of your Works of Mercy Project.

Corporal Works

1. **Feed the Hungry** – I helped with the Knight of Columbus Lenten Supper at St. Timothy’s on a Friday during Lent. I prepared bread on plates for people to eat. I also helped served salad to people. This activity helped me understand what it is like to serve others. The people who prepare these suppers put a lot of effort into it. They do this during Lent to remind us of Jesus, when he fasted 40 days in the desert. The small sacrifice of not eating meat on Fridays during Lent reminds us of Jesus sacrifice on the cross. **OR / AND**

I helped with the Confirmation or First Holy Communion receptions at St. Timothy’s CCD program. I helped to set up the tables and put food on plates for people to eat. I helped served fruit punch for people to drink and I also helped to clean up after the reception. This activity helped me understand what it is like to serve others. The people who prepare these receptions put a lot of effort into it. They do this to celebrate the receiving of the Sacraments and to show how much Jesus loves us. The small sacrifice of serving others reminds us what Jesus said in the Bible: He came to serve and not to be served.

2. **Visit the Sick** - I did two things relating to this. First, my family visited my Grandparents in New Jersey. My grandma always tells us what is wrong with her. We listen to her and try to cheer her up. We have to move a little slower with my grandpa because he is blind in one eye. I take time to listen to both of them. Second, my mom and I went to Fairfax Hospital once. We visited some children there. We brought pinwheels for them to play with. Some of the children have trouble with their lungs, and blowing on the pinwheels helps strengthen them. It’s also fun too. Doing this helped me understand Jesus better, because out of love, He visited those who were sick too.
 3. **Bury the Dead** – On Christmas Eve, we visited the graves of my grandparents in Maryland. It was a very emotional event for my dad. He cried because they were his parents. When it was time to go, we had to help him walk away from their graves. While we were there we said prayers for them. After we left, I helped comfort my dad. This helped me understand how much you can really care about another person, even after they have died. Also, it shows how you can still keep in touch with them through prayer.
-

Spiritual Works

1. **Instruct the Ignorant** - I helped my little brother with his CCD homework for a few weeks. He needed help learning some of his prayers, as well as learning about some of the things that Jesus taught. Doing this helped me see how God helps people know about Him by working through the people who already know and follow Him. It's a good feeling to know that God is working through me in order to make good things happen.
2. **Comfort the Sorrowing** - **I did two things relating to this. First, I found out my uncle was sick and that he had to have tests at the hospital. I made a get-well card for him and decorated it myself. He called me to say that he had received it and that he appreciated it. Second, in school I have spent a few weeks talking and listening to another student whose best friend had accidentally been killed by a car. Both these activities helped me understand why it is important to be thankful for our blessings and to thank God everyday for them because we do not know when bad things will happen to us.**
3. **Pray for the Living and the Dead** – **My parents and I went to Eucharistic Adoration on a Wednesday at St. Timothy's. We spent an hour there. We prayed for people who needed guidance and knowledge, like the people in government and our teachers, and we also pray for the souls in Purgatory to help ease their suffering. This helped me see the value and need for prayer in our daily lives, because it not only helps us love other people better, it also helps us grow closer to God.**

-
- Candidates who participate in Pro-life rallies such as the Life Chain, Pro-life March, or Pro-life Walk may count these activities towards their *Spiritual Works* of Mercy Project.

Service projects must be listed on the sheet found in this packet. Parent's signature or the signature of the person who was the recipient of the service guarantees verification of service!

SERVICE VERIFICATION FORM

Due November 12, 2019

Name of Candidate: _____

Date of Service	Corporal & Spiritual Works of Mercy	Time Spent	Verification of Service Parent or Recipient Signature

Study Guide for 7th Grade Confirmation Exam

I

St. Timothy Religious Education Office

13807 Poplar Tree Road

Chantilly, VA 20151

(703) 378-9143

Prayers to know:

Be able to write or recite the following prayers:

Our Father
Hail Mary
Glory Be
Act of Contrition
Act of Faith
Act of Hope
Act of Love
Apostles' Creed
The Rosary

The basics of the Church:

Be able to list, identify or fill in the blank about the following:

The Beatitudes
The Ten Commandments
The Seven Sacraments
The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit
The Six precepts of the Church

PRAYERS

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. Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou amongst 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 Be

Glory be to the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

Act of Contrition

Oh my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee.
I detest all of my sins because of Your just punishment,
But most of all because they offend Thee, my God,
Who art all-good and deserving of all my love.
I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace,
To sin no more and avoid near occasions of sin. Amen.

Act of Faith

O my God, I firmly believe that thou art one God in three Divine Persons,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; I believe that thy Divine Son became man and died for our sins, and
that he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truth that the Holy
Catholic Church teaches, because thou hast revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be
deceived.

Act of Hope

O my God, relying on Your infinite goodness and promises,
I hope to obtain pardon of my sins, the help of Your grace, and life everlasting,
through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer.

Act of Love

O my God, I love You above all things, with my whole heart and soul,
because You are all good and worthy of all love.
I love my neighbor as myself for love of You.
I forgive all who have injured me, and ask pardon of all whom I have injured.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of Heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ, His only son our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty.
From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness
of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

The Rosary

The Joyful Mysteries

1. The Annunciation of Our Lord
2. The Visitation
3. The Nativity of Jesus
4. The Presentation in the Temple
5. The Finding Jesus in the Temple

The Luminous Mysteries

1. The Baptism in the Jordan
2. The Wedding at Cana
3. The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God
4. The Transfiguration
5. The Institution of the Eucharist

The Sorrowful Mysteries

1. The Agony in the Garden
2. The Scourging at the Pillar
3. The Crowning with Thorns
4. The Carrying of the Cross
5. The Crucifixion and Death

The Glorious Mysteries

1. The Resurrection of Our Lord
2. The Ascension into Heaven
3. The Descent of the Holy Spirit
4. The Assumption of Mary
5. The Coronation of Mary

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

- 1.) I am the Lord, your God; you shall not have other gods before me.
- 2.) You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
- 3.) Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day.
- 4.) Honor your mother and father.
- 5.) You shall not kill.
- 6.) You shall not commit adultery
- 7.) You shall not steal.
- 8.) You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- 9.) You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.
- 10.) You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

When you were baptized, made your First Communion, or got confirmed, the Holy Spirit gave you gifts to help you grow in your Catholic faith.

Wisdom: This gift helps us stay focused on God's will and his plan for us.

Understanding: Let us grasp truths. It means seeing with the heart, not just the mind.

Counsel: also called "right judgment," counsel enables us to weigh all the alternatives to make the right choice.

Fortitude: The ability to remain firm against all pressures. (Also called "courage")

Knowledge: A person with knowledge sees more than one dimension of an issue to determine the right path.

Piety: Helps us think of ourselves as children of God and be eager to serve Him.

Fear of the Lord: The wonder and awe God inspires encourages us to respect Him and all his creations.

The *Precepts of the Catholic Church* describe the minimum actions required of a person who is a practicing Catholic. In order to grow in holiness and become more fully the persons God created us to be, Catholics are expected to do more than the bare minimum; yet these precepts provide a basis for faithful practice of Christianity in the Catholic Church.

THE SEVEN PRECEPTS OF THE CHURCH (The Duties of a Catholic)

1. Remember to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation, in order to keep holy the day of the Lord's Resurrection: to worship God by participating in Mass every Sundays and holy days of obligation and responding when appropriate and meditating, listening and praying during the Mass.
2. Confess sins at least once a year - ensures preparation for the Eucharist by the reception of the sacrament of reconciliation, which continues Baptism's work of conversion and forgiveness.
3. Receive Holy Communion at least once a year between the beginning of Lent and the end of the Easter season. However, receiving the Eucharist every Sunday at Mass is recommended.
4. Observe the prescribed days of fasting and abstinence as a means of penance.
5. Provide for the material needs of the Church as best you can, in order to strengthen it. This is not only limited to one's parish and parish priests, but also to the universal church and the Holy Father.
6. To observe the marriage laws of the Church: to give religious training by example and word to one's children; to use parish schools or religious education programs.
7. To join in the missionary spirit and apostolate of the Church.

THE SEVEN SACRAMENTS:

- 1.) BAPTISM
- 2.) RECONCILIATION or PENANCE or CONFESSION
- 3.) HOLY EUCHARIST
- 4.) CONFIRMATION
- 5.) MATRIMONY
- 6.) HOLY ORDERS
- 7.) ANOINTING OF THE SICK

THE EIGHT BEATITUDES

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.
2. Blessed are the meek, for they shall possess the earth.
3. Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
4. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for justice, for they shall be satisfied.
5. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.
6. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.
7. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.
8. Blessed are they who suffer persecution for justice' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven.

WORKS OF MERCY

Corporal Works of Mercy

1. Feed the hungry
2. Give drink to the thirsty
3. Clothe the naked
4. Visit the sick
5. Shelter the homeless
6. Visit the imprisoned
7. Bury the dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy

1. Admonish the sinners
2. Instruct the ignorant
3. Counsel the doubtful
4. Comfort the sorrowing
5. Bear wrongs patiently
6. Forgive all injuries
7. Pray for the living and the dead

Study Guide for 8th Grade Confirmation Exam II

St. Timothy Religious Education Office

13807 Poplar Tree Road

Chantilly, VA 20151

(703) 378-9143

Prayers to know:

Be able to write or recite the following prayers:

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Hail Mary

Glory Be

Act of Contrition

Act of Faith

Act of Hope

Act of Love

Apostles' Creed

The basics of the Church:

Be able to list, identify or write a description about the following:

The Ten Commandments

The Seven Sacraments

The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The Four marks of the Church

The Four Cardinal virtues

The Three Theological virtues

The Seven deadly sins

The Six precepts of the Church

The Teachings of the Catechism

Know the teachings of the Catechism on the following:

The **one** true God, all-powerful and omniscient

The Holy Trinity

Creation and the purpose of it

God's intent towards his creatures and human free will

Jesus Christ, as both fully God and fully man

The Incarnation

Heaven and hell, and the people who merit them

The reason Jesus Christ took on a human nature

What salvation entails and what Jesus Christ did to save us

The purpose of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The basics of the Sacrament of Confirmation

Redemption

The Resurrection and Ascension

The Immaculate Conception and Assumption

PRAYERS

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. Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou amongst 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.

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As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

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But most of all because they offend Thee, my God,
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I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace,
To sin no more and avoid near occasions of sin. Amen.

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O my God, I firmly believe that thou art one God in three Divine Persons,
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Catholic Church teaches, because thou hast revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be
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O my God, relying on Your infinite goodness and promises,
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O my God, I love You above all things, with my whole heart and soul,
because You are all good and worthy of all love.

I love my neighbor as myself for love of You.
I forgive all who have injured me, and ask pardon of all whom I have injured.

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I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of Heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ, His only son our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty.
From thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. I am the Lord, your God; you shall not have other gods before me.
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3. Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day.
4. Honor your mother and father.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

THE FOUR MARKS OF THE CHURCH

The Church is **ONE** because all of its members profess the same faith, have the same sacraments, and are united under the leadership of the Pope.

It is **HOLY** because it was founded by Jesus Christ, and because it teaches according to the will of Christ holy doctrines and provides the means of leading a holy life for its members.

The Church is **CATHOLIC**, or “universal”, because it is destined to last for all time and strives to fulfill the command of Jesus to teach all truths revealed by God.

Finally, it is **APOSTOLIC** because it was founded by Christ on the apostles, and according to His divine will, has always been governed by the successors of the apostles.

THE SEVEN GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

When you were baptized, made your First Communion, or got confirmed, the Holy Spirit gave you gifts to help you grow in your Catholic faith.

Wisdom: This gift helps us stay focused on God’s will and his plan for us.

Understanding: Let us grasp truths. It means seeing with the heart, not just the mind.

Counsel: also called “right judgment,” counsel enables us to weigh all the alternatives to make the right choice.

Fortitude: The ability to remain firm against all pressures. (Also called “courage.”)

Knowledge: A person with knowledge sees more than one dimension of an issue to determine the right path.

Piety: Helps us think of ourselves as children of God and be eager to serve Him.

Fear of the Lord: The wonder and awe God inspires encourages us to respect Him and all his creations.

VIRTUES

The Holy Spirit strengthens us with virtues. A virtue is a strength which helps us to avoid evil and do good. The **THREE THEOLOGICAL VIRTUES** are:

FAITH, or the belief in God;

HOPE, or the trust in God;

CHARITY, or the love of God and your neighbors.

By faith, we firmly believe all the truths God has revealed to us. Through faith, we have hope – a firm trust in God who is all powerful and faithful to his promises, and who in His mercy gives us eternal happiness and the means to obtain it. By charity, we love God above all things and our neighbors as ourselves. These gifts and virtues help us by making us more alert to do the will of god.

As Catholic Christians, we also practice the **FOUR CARDINAL VIRTUES**. These are called “cardinal” because every other virtue, such as patience, humility, generosity, or zeal, depends upon them. They are:

Prudence – helps us to do good and avoid evil by making correct decisions in life.

Fortitude – gives us strength and determination in loving God and one’s neighbor.

Justice – moves us to respect the rights and dignity of all human beings.

Temperance – helps us to enjoy pleasures with moderation. It also helps us to become mature, disciplined Christians.

THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS

These are called “deadly” because they lead to the loss of the unity between our soul and God. There are only seven, because all other sins can be derived from one of the following seven:

Pride is a sin against the virtue of humility. Humility is when we see ourselves as we are and not comparing ourselves to others. Pride and vanity are competitive. If someone else's pride really bothers you, you have a lot of pride.

Greed or covetousness is about more than money. It is a sin against generosity, which means letting others get the credit or praise. Generosity is giving without having expectations of the other person. Greed wants to get its "fair share" or a bit more.

Envy or jealousy is a sin against love. As St. Paul said in his letter to the Corinthians, "Love is patient, love is kind..." Love actively seeks the good of others for their sake. Envy resents the good others receive or even might receive. Envy is almost indistinguishable from pride at times.

Wrath or anger is counteracted by the virtue of kindness. Kindness means taking the tender approach, with patience and compassion. Anger is often our first reaction to the problems of others. Impatience with the faults of others is related to this.

Lust is the sin against self-control. Self-control and self-mastery prevent pleasure from killing the soul by suffocation. Legitimate pleasures are controlled in the same way an athlete's muscles are: for maximum efficiency without damage. Lust is the self-destructive drive for pleasure out of proportion to its worth. Sex, power, or image can be used well, but they tend to go out of control.

Gluttony is a sin against two virtues: faith and temperance. Temperance accepts the natural limits of pleasures and preserves this natural balance. This does not pertain only to food, but to entertainment and other legitimate goods, and even the company of others.

Sloth or idleness is easily counteracted by the virtue of zeal. Zeal is the energetic response of the heart to God's commands. The other sins work together to deaden the spiritual senses so we first become slow to respond to God and then drift completely into the sleep of complacency.

OTHER TERMS

Redemption is used in reference to how Jesus redeemed us from sin. He offered His suffering and death to the Father out of total obedience and love to the Father for all mankind so that our sins would be forgiven and we would have eternal life with God in Heaven.

Salvation is a result of Jesus' death and resurrection. Salvation is being one with God, that is, in sharing His life and being in union with Him when we die.

The Passion and Death of Jesus freed us from sin and rescued us from tyranny of death. The gates of heaven were again opened.

The Resurrection resulted from Jesus' love and obedience to the Father. The Father raised Jesus so that they may be united perfectly in Heaven. Jesus was raised body and soul; His whole person was raised. The resurrection happened on Easter. Forty days later, the **Ascension** occurred, when Jesus went up into Heaven, returning to His Father.

The Incarnation refers to Jesus' acceptance of and entrance into human nature.

The Immaculate Conception refers to St. Ann's conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This is called the Immaculate Conception because Mary was born without Original Sin, for she was to be the Mother of God. It does not refer to the conception of Jesus through the Holy Spirit.

The Assumption is a remarkable event in Church history when Mary was taken body and soul up into Heaven, in order to live in perfect union with the Holy Trinity.

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are given to us in order to provide us with a means to live out our lives faithfully. They in turn produce the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

Holy Chrism is used during Confirmation to anoint the candidates. It is a mixture of oil and fragrance (usually balsam) that is blessed by the bishop during the Chrism Mass, usually held on Holy Thursday.

THE SACRAMENTS

BAPTISM

The Sign: Pouring of or immersion in water

The Formula: "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

Effects:

1. *Washes away Original Sin and all sin and infuses the divine life of God in our souls.* Baptism is the Sacrament of rebirth through which Jesus gives us the life of God in sanctifying grace. Original sin is our inherited condition from the sin of Adam and Eve by which we are born without grace and inclined to love ourselves more than God. Original Sin leaves us with a darkened intellect and weakened will – we face temptation and do not always choose to do what is good and right. This weakness caused by Original Sin is called **concupiscence**. We need God's grace to overcome concupiscence. In the case of adults, baptism will also remove any other sin and the punishment due to them besides Original Sin.
2. *Makes us members of the mystical body of Christ.* Through Baptism, we become members of the Church. For instance, when someone is baptized in the Catholic Church, he is considered a Catholic. St. Paul wrote, "There is but one body and one spirit, just as there is but one hope given all of you by your call. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all, and works through all, and is in all." (Ephesians 4:4-6)
3. *Makes us the adopted sons and daughters of Jesus.* Through Baptism, we have a special relationship with God. St. John wrote, "See what love the Father has bestowed on us in letting us be called children of God! Yet that is what we are." (1 John 3:1)
4. *Gives us a share in the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus.* Through Baptism, we are plunged into the paschal mystery of Jesus. We are now called to live a life like Christ's.

*The normal way of baptizing is with water. However, we also believe in two special types of Baptism: desire and blood. An unbaptized person receives the Baptism of desire when he or she loves God above all things and desires to do all that is necessary for his or her salvation. An unbaptized person received the Baptism of blood when he suffers martyrdom for the faith of Christ.

*Anyone can baptize in the case of emergency by pouring water of the head three times and saying, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

RECONCILIATION or PENANCE or CONFESSION

The sign: The confession of the sin, the absolution of the priest, and doing of the penance.

The formula: “I absolve you from our sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.”

Effects:

1. Forgiveness of sins committed after Baptism.

*To make a good confession, there are five steps:

1. Examination of conscience – recollection of sins committed since the last confession.
2. Sorrow for sin – we should be sorry for sins because we have offended God and our neighbor. This sorrow is called **contrition**.
3. Firm amendment – a resolution to avoid the sin in the future and amend one’s life.
4. Confession
5. Acceptance and carrying out of penance – it helps to heal the hurt caused by sin.

*One should go to confession frequently, generally once a month. This allows us to examine our conscience and really take a good look at ourselves to see whether we are truly leading a life like Christ. The more we allow sins to multiply, the easier it is to sin. In cases of mortal sin, we must become reconciled to God before we can receive the Holy Eucharist.

HOLY EUCHARIST

The sign: Unleavened bread and wine

The formula: The words of the Consecration at Mass

The effects:

1. an increase in the divine life of sanctifying grace and a deeper union with God
2. an increase in the three theological virtues
3. a closer union with Jesus and with every member of the Church
4. a pledge of resurrection and our future glory united with Jesus in Heaven
5. the forgiveness of our daily faults (venial sins) and the grace to overcome our inclination to sin
6. the promise of actual graces to help us love God and others more.

*The Mass is both a sacrifice and a meal. It is a sacrifice because we participate in a living reality of the one true sacrifice of Jesus. Jesus does not die again, but we share in His passion, death and resurrection. It is a meal because we are nourished by Christ’s body, blood, soul and divinity. It bonds the Church together with a sharing in Christ’s life.

CONFIRMATION

The sign: Anointing with Holy Chrism

The formula: “Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Effects:

1. an increase in divine life
2. a new and deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit
3. the sacramental mark or character of Confirmation
4. an increase of the strength to profess, defend and spread the faith

*We receive the **Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit** at Confirmation. They are **Fear of the Lord**, **Piety**, **Knowledge**, **Understanding**, **Counsel**, **Wisdom** and **Fortitude**.

MATRIMONY

The sign: The consummation of the marriage

The formula: The exchange of marriage vows

*Matrimony is the sacrament by which Christ unites a Christian man and woman in a life-long union, making them two in one flesh. In entering the marriage, the man, woman and God enter into a new covenant whereby they pledge their mutual and total commitment to each other. Matrimony is life-lasting and dissoluble.

HOLY ORDERS

The sign: The imposing of the bishop’s hands

The formula: “We ask you, all-powerful Father, give these servants of yours the dignity of the presbyterate. Renew the Spirit of holiness within them. By your divine gift, may they attain the second order in the hierarchy and exemplify right conduct in their lives.”

*The sacrament of Holy Orders is the one through which Christ gives the power and the grace to perform the sacred duties of bishops, priests and deacons. Bishops, as a group, replace the twelve Apostles. Priests carry out the work of Christ.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

The sign: Anointing with the Oil of the Infirmid

The formula: “Through this holy anointing, may the Lord in His love and mercy help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up.”

Effects:

1. increase in the divine life in the ill person
2. sometimes a restoration of health in the ill person
3. gives the actual graces needed to accept the illness
4. forgiveness of sin and removal of temporal punishment due to sin. When confession is impossible, even mortal sins can be forgiven.

CATECHISM QUESTIONS

Basic Truths of the Christian Faith:

“Anyone who comes to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.” (Hebrews 11: 6).

“Eternal life is this; to know you, the only true God, and him whom you have sent, Jesus Christ.” (John 17:3).

1) Who created us?

God created us.

2) Who is God?

God is the all-perfect Being, Creator and Lord of Heaven and Earth

3) What does “all-perfect” mean?

“All-Perfect” means that every perfection is found in God, without defect and without limit; in other words, it means that He is *infinite* power, wisdom and goodness.

4) What does “Creator” mean?

“Creator” means that God made all things out of nothing.

5) What does “Lord” mean?

“Lord” means that God is the absolute master of all things.

6) Does God have a body as we have?

No, God does not have a body, for he is pure spirit.

7) Where is God?

God is in Heaven, on Earth, and in every place; He is the unlimited being.

8) Has God always existed?

Yes, God always has been and always will be; he is the Eternal Being.

9) Does God know all things?

Yes, God knows all things, even our thoughts; he is all knowing.

10) Can God do all things?

God can do all that he wills to do; he is the all-powerful one.

11) Can God do also something evil?

No, God cannot do evil, because he cannot will evil, for he is infinite goodness. But he tolerates evil in order to leave creatures free, and he knows how to bring good even out of evil.

12) Does God take care of created things?

Yes, God takes care of created things and exercises providence over them; he preserves them in existence and directs all of them toward their own proper purposes with infinite wisdom, goodness and justice.

13) What purpose did God have in mind when he created us?

God created us to know him, to love him and to serve him in this life, and then to enjoy him in the next life, in heaven.

14) What is heaven?

Heaven is the eternal enjoyment of God, who is our happiness, and the enjoyment of all other good things in him, without evil.

15) Who merits heaven?

Every good person merits heaven - that is, he who loves God, serves him faithfully and dies in his grace.

16) What do the wicked deserve who do not serve God and who die in mortal sin?

The wicked who do not serve God and who die in mortal sin merit hell.

17) What is hell?

Hell is the eternal suffering of the loss of God, who is our happiness, and of fire, together with every other kind of evil, without any good.

18) Why does God reward the good and punish the wicked?

God rewards the good and punishes the wicked because he is infinite justice.

19) Is there only one God?

There is only one God, but in three equal and distinct Persons, who are the most Holy Trinity.

20) What are the three Persons of the Holy Trinity called?

The three Persons of the Holy Trinity are called the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

21) Of the three Persons of the Holy Trinity, was one “incarnate” that is, made man?

Yes, the Second Person, God the son, became “incarnate” that is, was made man.

22) What is the Son of God made man called?

The Son of God made man is called Jesus Christ.

23) Who is Jesus Christ?

Jesus Christ is the Second Person of the Most Holy Trinity, that is the Son of God made man.

24) Is Jesus Christ God and man?

Yes, Jesus Christ is true God and true man.

25) Why did the Son of God become man?

The Son of God became man to save us, that is, to redeem us from sin and to regain heaven for us.

26) What did Jesus Christ do to save us?

To save us, Jesus Christ made satisfaction for our sins by suffering and sacrificing himself on the cross, and he taught us how to live according to God.

27) What must we do to live according to God ?

To live according to God, we must believe the truths, which he has revealed and observe his commandments, with the help of his grace, which we obtain by means of the Sacraments and prayer.

28) What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is the Sacrament which makes us more perfect Christians and soldiers of Jesus Christ.

29) What is the matter of Confirmation?

The matter of Confirmation is the sacred chrism, that is, the oil mixed with balsam which the Bishop has consecrated on Holy Thursday. The matter of Confirmation consists in the imposition of the hand on the candidate's head together with the anointing of his forehead with sacred chrism. The anointing is done in the form of a cross. The anointing is in the form of a cross, indicating our redemption by Christ and our willingness to share in His sufferings and remain true to Him.

30) What is the form of Confirmation?

The form of Confirmation is the following set of words:

"Be Sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit."

31) Who is the minister of Confirmation?

The original and ordinary minister of Confirmation is only the bishop. However, special faculties are also extended to priests as extraordinary ministers.

32) Is it necessary to be in the state of grace to receive the grace of Confirmation?

Yes, it is necessary to be in the state of grace to receive the grace of Confirmation. If a candidate is not in the state of grace he/she would commit a mortal sin of sacrilege by receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

33) Does the confirmation sponsor need to be a confirmed Catholic?

Yes, sponsor needs to be a confirmed Catholic.

34) What does the Holy Spirit do for the salvation of mankind?

The Holy Spirit lives in the Church and in the hearts of the faithful to give life, light, love and strength. We have already received the Holy Spirit in Baptism, the Christian receives a fuller outpouring of the Spirit in Confirmation.

Know Your Faith, Your Church & Your Parish

1). What is the Sacrament in which Jesus gives Himself, body and soul, divinity and humanity, to us under the appearances of bread and wine?

The Holy Eucharist or the Holy Communion

2). a. Explain what the Trinity is: **The Trinity is ONE GOD in three persons Father, Son & Holy Spirit**

b. Explain what Incarnation is: **God became man in the person of Jesus Christ.**

c. Jesus has two natures. He is truly **God/ Divine** and **man / Human.**

3). Who is the ordinary minister of Confirmation? **The Bishop**

4). What are the two symbols of the Holy Spirit? **Fire and Dove**

5). What diocese is St. Timothy in and who is our Bishop?

Arlington Diocese **Bishop Michael F. Burbidge**

6). What is our Pastor's name? **Fr. David Meng.**

7). Excluding our pastor, who are the 3 other priests at St. Timothy parish?

Fr. William Schierer & Fr. Joseph Farrell, & Fr. Sunny Joseph

8). What was the name of our first Pope? **St. Peter**

9). What is the name of our Pope today? **Pope Francis**

10). Where does the Holy Father, our Pope live? **Vatican City, Rome**