

Saint Joseph Roman Catholic Church

Spring City, PA 19475

Confirmation Registration Form: Spring 2019

Candidate Information *[please print all information]*

Full Name: _____

Home Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Home Telephone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

School and Grade: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Father's Full Name: _____

Mother's Full (+Maiden) Name: _____

Saint's Name to be Taken at Confirmation: _____

SPONSOR INFORMATION

Full Name: _____

Relationship to Candidate: _____

Home Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Home Telephone Number: _____

Sponsor's Parish Church: _____

Parish Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Please return this form as soon as possible and no later than the end of December to:

**Saint Joseph Parish Religious Education Program
3640 Schuylkill Road, Spring City, PA 19475**

Saint Joseph Roman Catholic Church

Spring City, PA 19475

Sponsor Eligibility Certificate for Confirmation

Name of Sponsor: _____

Name of Candidate: _____

To be completed and signed by the Sponsor:

As a registered and participating member of _____ Church, I affirm that: *(please check all that apply)* *(name of parish)*

_____ I have received the three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, and I have received the sacrament of Reconciliation when necessary.

_____ I am or will be at least 16 years old at the time of the sacramental celebration at which I wish to serve as a sponsor.

_____ I regularly participate in Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, and I have received Holy Communion at least once in the past year.

_____ To the best of my ability and with the grace of God, I accept and live a life in harmony with the teachings of the Gospel and the Catholic Church.

_____ I actively strive to live out my commitment to Christ and to the Church in my daily life.

_____ I am not a parent of the candidate whom I have been asked to sponsor for Confirmation.

I realize and accept the serious responsibility I assume before God and the Church in becoming a sponsor at Confirmation. I promise to support the faith life of this candidate by my prayers and by the example of my daily life. By my signature I attest to the truth of these statements:

_____ Date: _____

(Signature of Sponsor)

Attestation by the Parish Priest / Deacon:

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, this individual is capable of assuming the responsibilities of the role of sacramental sponsor for Confirmation.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Parish Seal

Parish / Church _____

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**Saint Joseph Parish Religious Education Program
3640 Schuylkill Road, Spring City, PA 19475**

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Picture Form

Dear Parents,

We are continually involving our parish community in the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation for the young people of Saint Joseph. One step in this effort is the presentation and blessing of our sacramental candidates at our parish Masses on the first two weekends of January. At that time, parishioners will be invited to take the name of an individual candidate from the prayer tree in the back of the church and asked to pray for that candidate as the child completes his or her sacramental preparation.

The second step is to display the pictures of our sacramental candidates on banners in the church vestibule during the Easter Season. In order to do this, we ask you to send a NON-RETURNABLE picture of your child (no larger than wallet size) to your child's teacher or the PREP office, c/o Andrea Jackowski. Please put your child's first and last name on the back of the picture and identify the sacrament they are to receive this spring.

Please complete and return the form below and return it with the child's picture by the end of December.

In Christ's peace,

Mrs. Andrea Jackowski
Coordinator of Religious Education

Sacrament (circle one): **First Holy Eucharist** **Confirmation**

Please print your child's name as you would like it to appear with the picture:

Please do not include my child's name on the display board.

Parent Signature: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please return by the end of December to the parish office or drop in the collection basket.

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Contract of Investiture for Confirmation

I, _____ of Saint Joseph Parish desire to receive the Holy Spirit in a special way in the Sacrament of Confirmation. In order to show that I am sincere in my desire to become an adult Catholic, there are some things I am willing to do to express my commitment to the Catholic Church.

I AGREE TO:

1. Cooperate to the best of my ability with the Parish Program preparing me for the Sacrament of Confirmation.
2. Participate in the classes and activities, and try to the best of my ability to place the talents that God gave to me, at the service of others.
3. To pray that I may grow in Faith in God, Hope in God, and Love of God.
4. To strive for greater maturity as a Catholic Christian.
5. To accept more responsibility in my family, my church, and my community.

I ask the help of my Loving Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit to truly do all the things that I have said I want to do.

Signature _____

Date _____

**THIS CONTRACT HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY
REVEREND CHARLES R. O'HARA, THE PASTOR OF MY PARISH –
SAINT JOSEPH ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, SPRING CITY, PA**



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Arrangements for the Celebration of Confirmation

March 31, 2019 3:00 PM

Eligibility and Registration for Confirmation:

Children of Saint Joseph parish, who are in the seventh grade, and have the appropriate catechetical background and understanding of the sacrament, are normally eligible to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Parents wishing to enroll their children as candidates for confirmation in the spring should complete a *Confirmation Registration Form* and return the form the parish office **no later than the end of December**.

Qualifications for Sponsors:

Each candidate is required to have an individual sponsor for the Confirmation ceremony. It is recommended, but not mandatory, that one of the candidate's godparents at Baptism also serves as his/her sponsor at Confirmation, in order to express more clearly the close relationship between these two Sacraments of Initiation. The candidate's parents are not eligible to serve as his/her sponsor at Confirmation. The sponsor need not be of the same gender as the candidate.

Sponsors are required by the *Universal Law of the Church* to be sufficiently mature and at least sixteen years of age; to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and holy Eucharist; and to be living a life in harmony with the teachings of the gospel and the Catholic Church – that is, to be an actively practicing Catholic who is capable of serving as a role model for faithful adult Catholic living. Sponsors are required to complete and have witnessed by their parish priest the *Sponsor Eligibility Certificate* given to the candidate's parents; this certificate should be returned no later than **the end of December**.

During the *Rite of Confirmation*, the sponsor presents the candidate to the bishop for the sacramental anointing. After the ceremony, the sponsor is responsible to help the candidate fulfill his/her baptismal promises in a consistent, faithful way with the grace of the Holy Spirit and to continue growing to maturity in the Catholic Church.

Choosing a Confirmation Name:

Candidates are free either to reaffirm their own baptismal name (either first or middle name), provided that it is truly a Christian name, or to select another name from among the names of Christian saints honored in the Church. Each candidate is encouraged to research and become familiar with the life and virtues of the saint whose name is chosen.

While the reaffirmation of one's baptismal name expresses the continuity between Baptism and Confirmation and the candidate's continuing growth in his/her life of faith, the selection of another Christian name reflects the new beginning and deeper commitment the candidate proclaims upon receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit at Confirmation.

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Sacramental Preparation Program for Confirmation

Sacramental preparation for Confirmation at Saint Joseph includes the candidates themselves, their parents and (where possible) their sponsors.

Information and Faith Formation Program for Parents:

A session is currently in the design process that will be an evening program of information and faith formation for the parents of those children preparing to receive Confirmation. At least one parent, and preferably both parents, will be responsible to participate in this program. Wherever possible, sponsors are welcome to attend the session as well. Once completed and scheduled, you will be made aware of the date, time and place.

Preparatory Program for Confirmation Candidates:

It is important that children and young adults preparing for Confirmation complete both a spiritual and an educational preparation for the sacrament. For this reason, the candidates and their parents are expected to make a personal commitment to participate regularly at **Sunday Mass** and to a practice of **personal prayer** throughout the week. All our candidates will be required to participate in a **group retreat** experience organized by the parish. The date and time of the retreat will be announced.

Candidates are also expected to attend consistently and participate actively in formal religious education classes, here at our **parish religious education program**.

There will be **small group interviews** with Father O'Hara scheduled a month or so before confirmation. Father will be determining a candidates' readiness to receive the sacrament based on level of knowledge and understanding of the information found in the Confirmation Packets and previous religious education.

In order to involve the wider parish community in prayerful support of all those preparing to receive Confirmation or First Holy Eucharist in the spring, we will be conducting a formal **presentation of sacramental candidates** to the parish community during the 11 am Mass the first two weekends **January**. At that time, parishioners will be invited to take the name of an individual candidate from the prayer tree and to pray for that candidate as the child completes his or her sacramental preparation. All our candidates are encouraged to attend Mass with their parents and families at Saint Joseph for this ceremony.

An **individual confession** is an important part of every candidate's immediate preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. There will be many opportunities for parents to bring their children to confession during the Lenten-Easter Season. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered at Saint Joseph on Saturday afternoons from 3:00 to 4:00 pm. There will also be a required **Reconciliation Service** for the Confirmand scheduled for around a month before the sacrament.

There will be a single practice/rehearsal of one hour which is scheduled for the **Thursday evening, before confirmation**. All candidates are required to attend this one practice in order to become familiar with the order of the liturgy for the Confirmation ceremony. Either the sponsor or a parent must also attend rehearsal.