

**Due November 30, 2023**

# St. Peter Parish

Office of Religious Education (located in Msgr. Fallon Gym, side entrance)  
43 W Maple Ave, Merchantville, NJ 08109

Office: 856-663-4490 Email: [stpeterparish.religious.ed@gmail.com](mailto:stpeterparish.religious.ed@gmail.com)

*Amy Handlon, Coordinator Religious Education / Maryann Foster, Assistant*

## Requirements for Confirmation Sponsors & Signature

*Canon 892 – Insofar as possible, there is to be a sponsor for the person to be confirmed; the sponsor is to take care that the confirmed person behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations inherent in this sacrament.*

The following requirements are necessary in order for a person to fulfill the role of sponsor:

1. I am not younger than 16 years of age.
2. I have received the three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
3. I participate in the Mass on Sundays and Holy days; and receive the Sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation regularly.
4. I actively strive to live out their commitment to Christ and to the community life of the Church by their loving response to those with whom I come in daily contact.
5. **If married, must have been validly married according to the laws of the Catholic Church.**  
(If the intended sponsor is married, their marriage must have taken place in front of a priest or deacon of the Catholic Church. Catholics who are either civilly married, married in another church denomination, married by common law or living together are not in a valid Church marriage, and thus, are not eligible to be a sponsor. Since they are not in union with the Church, they may not receive Communion, nor may they act as a godparent at Baptism or as a sponsor at Confirmation. Any person who is married outside the Catholic Church does not meet the requirements for being admitted to the role of Confirmation Sponsor.)
6. **I am not the father or mother of the candidate.**
7. **I will provide a sponsor eligibility letter from their own church**

By my signature, I attest that I am in compliance with all of the above statements .

Sponsor's signature \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Email Address (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's name \_\_\_\_\_

I realize that I assume a great responsibility before God and the Church in becoming a sponsor. I will give support to the person I am sponsoring in the Sacrament of Confirmation, by my prayers and by the Christian example of my daily life.

\_\_\_\_ I am a member of St. Peter Parish, Merchantville, NJ ( No letter of Eligibility necessary)

\_\_\_\_ I am a member of \_\_\_\_\_ parish. **(YOU ARE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE A LETTER OF ELIGIBILITY FROM YOUR PARISH ASAP TO THE ST. PETER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE.)**

**Due March 22, 2024**

# St. Peter Parish

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## Choosing a Christian Confirmation Name

Saint Paul reminds us that we have been called to be saints (1 Cor 1:2), therefore, it is customary to take a saint's name as a model or inspiration at Baptism and Confirmation. The choice of name is important because it symbolizes the candidate's new identity as a Spirit-filled being. The name taken should be the name of a recognized saint of the Catholic Church. The saint chosen should serve as a patron and model for the person being confirmed.

The candidate should learn about the Christian life of the saint, and about the virtues that inspire the candidate to emulate this saint. Use this page and the link below to gather information about your chosen saint.

<http://www.catholic.org/saints/stindex.php>

Your full name:

Saint's Name:

Feast Day:

Tell something about this saint's life that inspires you:

Virtues practiced by this saint during their life:

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## Writing a letter to the Bishop:

Type (or neatly write):  
Your address, without your name.  
Skip a line, and type the date.  
Skip another line, and type the Bishop's name and church address.

Skip a line. Type "Dear Bishop Sullivan," Skip a line.

Begin the letter by identifying yourself and naming your parish.

Next paragraph: Explain why you want to be confirmed and that you are seeking the sacrament of your own free will. Write enough detail to fill a paragraph. Be specific so the bishop can see that you truly want to be confirmed.

Next paragraph: Explain what you have been doing to prepare for Confirmation, such as worship activities, helping in the community or doing other volunteer work for the Church.

Next paragraph: Identify the person who you asked to be your Confirmation sponsor. Explain why she is a good Catholic role model.

Next paragraph: Tell the Bishop your Confirmation name and the reasons why you feel close to that particular saint whose name you selected.

Next paragraph: Explain how you will contribute to the Church in the future in the final paragraph. Be specific and avoid mentioning things every Catholic should do, (such as going to church on Sundays.) Instead, discuss how you plan to volunteer or enrich the lives of others in the church.

Close the letter by typing "Respectfully," and skipping three lines. Type your full name, and sign above your typed name.

## Sample letter:

Most Reverend Dennis J Sullivan  
631 Market Street  
Camden, NJ 08102

Dear Bishop Sullivan,

I am Jane Smith, an eighth grade student and parishioner at St. Peter Parish in Merchantville, NJ.

After learning about my Catholic faith and taking part in Confirmation preparation, I ask to be confirmed for several reasons. \_\_\_\_\_

To prepare for confirmation I \_\_\_\_\_ (studies) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (service) \_\_\_\_\_ (prayer) \_\_\_\_\_.

One of the people who most influenced me in my faith was \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.

I chose \_\_\_\_\_ to be my Confirmation sponsor. He/she is a good Catholic role model because \_\_\_\_\_.

My Baptism name is \_\_\_\_\_. I would like to take \_\_\_\_\_ for my Confirmation name.  
*(Or my Baptism name will also be my Confirmation name)*

Saint \_\_\_\_\_, whose name I chose for my Confirmation name lived from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ and served the Church by \_\_\_\_\_. That impresses me because \_\_\_\_\_. I chose the name because \_\_\_\_\_.

I hope to serve the Church in the future by \_\_\_\_\_.

Respectfully,

*Jane Regina Smith*

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