

Revised 2026



CHURCH *of the*
INCARNATION
A PARISH OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CAMDEN

PREP CONFIRMATION PACKET

Complete this entire packet by **December 13, 2026**. Check this website for dates added as they become available:

<https://www.incarnation-church.org/newpage3c671161>

- Confirmation Information Sheet
 - Letter to the Pastor
 - Service Hours Essay
- Confirmation Saint Essay
 - Service Hours Log

PREP CONFIRMATION INFORMATION SHEET

Full Name (as printed on Baptismal Certificate):

Confirmation Saint Name: _____

NOTE: This is the saint you will use as your Confirmation Saint; you'll also write your "Saint Report" on this same saint.

Current Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Your Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth (City/State) _____

Date of Baptism: _____ Church of Baptism: _____

Mother's First Name and Maiden Name:

Father's First and Last Name:

Confirmation Sponsor Name: _____

(sponsor cannot be parent; must be Catholic; at least 16 years of age)

Sponsor's Parish and Location: _____

(You MUST have your sponsor request a verification letter/form from their parish; this is required. You can have this form/letter mailed to us or email it to us. Visit <https://www.incarnation-church.org/prep-forms> for forms.)

Letter to the Pastor

Before the celebration of Confirmation, the Pastor is required by Canon Law to determine if the Confirmandi have been properly prepared to receive the sacrament, i.e., that you have a desire to know and understand what Confirmation is and how it will change your life. Therefore, you need to write a letter to the pastor addressing all of the following areas:

1. What does the Sacrament of Confirmation mean to you? You should write 1-2 paragraphs explaining your understanding of Confirmation; think about what Confirmation is and how you understand it as a sacrament. What makes confirmation different from other sacraments? Explain your answer completely.
2. Why do you believe you are ready to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation? Explain your reasons; ask yourself, "What has changed in my life that I believe I am ready to be confirmed? "How have my beliefs changed from when I was younger, such as when I was in 6th grade or 7th grade?" Explain your answer completely.
3. Describe two ways the past two years of study, service hours, readings, and activities have helped you believe you are ready to be confirmed. Why? Explain your answer completely.
4. What gifts of the Holy Spirit are helping you prepare for Confirmation? Think about how these gifts are present in your life, such as when you were completing your service hours or perhaps when you were studying at PREP. The 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit are: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord.

The following information will help you prepare your answer: "**Wisdom** helps us recognize the importance of others and the importance of keeping God central in our lives. **Understanding** is the ability to comprehend the meaning of God's message. **Knowledge** is the ability to think about and explore God's revelation, and also to recognize there are mysteries of faith beyond us. **Counsel** is the ability to see the best way to follow God's plan when we have choices that relate to him. **Fortitude** is the courage to do what one knows is right. **Piety** helps us pray to God in true devotion. **Fear of the Lord** is the feeling of amazement before God, who is all-present, and whose friendship we do not want to lose." (From: <https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/scripture-and-tradition/catholic-basics/catholic-beliefs-and-practices/gifts-of-the-holy-spirit>)

5. Remember: You may decide to celebrate your Confirmation at another time in your life. If you believe you are not ready and want to wait, you can include this information in your letter to the Pastor. He would be happy to discuss this with you in person. Contact the PREP Office for more information.

Service Hours Essay Instructions

Directions: Reflect on your past service hours over the last year or two; think about what you did and why you did it. In no more than 500 words, explain what you learned from completing your service hours. Consider the following questions:

- Why are service hours required?
- What did you learn about serving others?
- What services did you provide? Why did you select those activities?
- How did your services reflect the Spiritual Works of Mercy and Corporal Works of Mercy?

Be specific; explain what you did. For example, how did your actions help you live-out feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, give drink to the thirsty? How might you have counseled the doubtful or comforted the sorrowful?

Remember – don't just list what you did for service hours; explain why you did what you did relating back to the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. You can write your essay by hand or use a computer. Be sure your handwriting is legible.

The following websites may be helpful in writing your essay:

Learn more about the Spiritual Works of Mercy:

<https://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/new-evangelization/jubilee-of-mercy/the-spiritual-works-of-mercy>

Learn more about the Corporal Works of Mercy:

<https://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/how-we-teach/new-evangelization/jubilee-of-mercy/the-corporal-works-of-mercy>

Essay on Your Confirmation Saint

Directions: You will need to select a saint for your Confirmation Name. Once you've done some research and learned about your saint, you then need to write an essay of approximately 500 words. This essay needs to include your saint's full name, place and date of birth and death.

You also need to answer and explain at least 3 of the following items:

1) What are at least 1 or 2 miracles attributed to your saint; 2) What specific virtue(s) are associated with your saint? 3) Why are these virtues associated with your saint? 4) What are 2 reasons you selected this saint? 5) How will you try to live your life like your saint? 6) What is a prayer associated with your patron saint?

Explain all your answers completely. Be sure to give your essay a creative title – not just the saint's name. Note: You may use resources, but most of the essay needs to be your own words and not copied from a source; copy and pasting from a web page is not allowed. This is your essay – written by you. All essays will be carefully reviewed and checked; if extensive use of sources is found, you will be asked to rewrite your essay. You can hand-write your essay (make sure your handwriting is legible) or use a computer.

Here are some websites to help you get started with your research; use them to help you learn about saints; do not copy/paste information directly into your essay:

- <https://www.catholic.org/saints/>
- <https://mycatholic.life/saints/>

If you have any questions, please contact the PREP office.

CHURCH OF THE INCARNATION - PREP OFFICE

<https://www.incarnation-church.org/prep2>

240 Main Street

Mantua, New Jersey 08051

Phone: 856-468-1314

Fax: 856-468-4886

Normal business hours are Monday through Friday from 9AM-4PM.

<https://www.incarnation-church.org/meet-the-prep-team>

Jerry Voltura, MA

PREP - Director of Religious Education

jvoltura@incarnation-church.org

Office: (856) 468-7566, Ext. 106

Abigail McCrane

PREP - Administrative Assistant

amccrane@incarnationchurch.org

Office: (856) 468-7566, Ext. 108

Alicia Melson

PREP - Secretary of Attendance

amelson@incarnation-church.org

Office: (856) 468-7566, Ext. 110

