Confirmation Study Guide

- What is the sacrament of confirmation?
  - Confirmation is the sacrament in which we receive the Holy Spirit in a special way to strengthen our faith and help us live as followers of Jesus Christ.
- Who is the Holy Spirit?
  - The Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Holy Trinity. He is God, together with God the Father and God the Son (the 3 members of the Holy Trinity). He guides us, strengthens us, and helps us do what is right.
- What are the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit?
  - Wisdom- Helps us see things as God sees them
  - Understanding – helps us understand our faith
  - Counsel – Helps us make good decisions
  - Fortitude – Gives us courage to do what is right
  - Knowledge – helps us know God and His creation
  - Piety – helps us love and worship God
  - Fear of the Lord – helps us respect God and avoid sin
- What is a sacrament
  - An effective sign of God's grace, instituted by Jesus Christ and celebrated by the Church, that gives us God's grace.
- What are the 7 sacraments
  - Initiation
    - Baptism
    - Confirmation – above
    - Eucharist (Holy Communion)-the sacrament in which we receive the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ under the appearances of bread and wine.
  - Healing
    - Reconciliation (Confession) – the sacrament in which God forgives our sins through the ministry of a priest when we are truly sorry and confess our sins.
    - Anointing of the Sick
  - Vocation / Service of God's People
    - Holy Orders
    - Matrimony (marriage)
- What is mortal sin
  - A serious sin that destroys God's grace in our souls. It involves a grave matter, full knowledge that it is seriously wrong, and deliberate consent.
- What is a venial sin
  - A less serious sin that weakens our relationship with God but does not destroy God's grace in our souls.
- When do you need to go to confession?
  - When we have committed a mortal sin, before receiving Holy Communion. Required to go at least once a year, but should go regularly
- How do you prepare for confession?
  - Pray to the Holy Spirit for help
  - Examine your conscience and remember your sins
  - Be truly sorry for your sins
  - Decide to avoid sin in the future.
  - Confess your sins honestly to the priest
  - Pray the Act of Contrition
  - Complete the penance given by the priest

- What is the Act of Contrition?
    - Please look up whichever one you are most comfortable with
- What are the 10 Commandments
    1. I am the Lord your God: You shall not have strange Gods before me.
    2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
    3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.
    4. Honor your father and mother.
    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.
- What is the name of the Saint you chose for your Confirmation name?
- What is their feast day?
- Tell me about them? (Brief bio)
- Who is your sponsor and why did you choose them?
- Who is Mary?
- What is the Communion of Saints?
    - *The Church is a "communion of saints": this expression refers first to the "holy things" (sancta), above all the Eucharist, by which "the unity of believers, who form one body in Christ, is both represented and brought about"*
    - *The term "communion of saints" refers also to the communion of "holy persons" (sancti) in Christ who "died for all," so that what each one does or suffers in and for Christ bears fruit for all.*
    - *"We believe in the communion of all the faithful of Christ, those who are pilgrims on earth, the dead who are being purified, and the blessed in heaven, all together forming one Church; and we believe that in this communion, the merciful love of God and his saints is always [attentive] to our prayers" (Paul VI, CPG # 30).*
- Do you read the Bible and why is it so important to do so
    - Ignorance of scripture is ignorance of Christ – St. Jerome
    - 73 Books total: Old Testament (46) & New Testament (27)
    - How to find something in the Bible -Book Chapter Verse
        - 1 Corinthians 10:31 - Chapter 10, verse 31 of 1 Corinthians
    - Good places to start reading - Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, John) or Psalms
- Why are you Catholic?
- Why do you want to be confirmed?
- What are you going to do after confirmation to keep your faith growing and to utilize the gifts of the Holy Spirit you have been given?
- What he probably won't ask, but you should still know
    - Holy Days of Obligation
        - Christmas (December 25th), Immaculate Conception (December 8th), Mary, Mother of God (January 1st), Assumption of Mary (August 15th), and All Saints Day (November 1st)
    - Five Precepts of the Church
        1. Attend Mass on Sundays & Holy Days
        2. Confess your sins at least once a year.
        3. Receive the Eucharist at least during the Easter season.
        4. Keep holy the holy days of obligation
        5. Observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church.

        - Help to provide for the needs of the Church.
    - Corporal Works of Mercy
        - Feed the hungry
        - Give drink to the thirsty
        - Clothe the naked
        - Shelter the homeless
        - Visit the sick
        - Visit the imprisoned
        - Bury the dead
    - Spiritual Works of Mercy
        - Instruct the ignorant
        - Counsel the doubtful
        - Admonish the sinner
        - Comfort the afflicted
        - Forgive offenses
        - Bear wrongs patiently
        - Pray for the living and the dead
    - Liturgical Seasons
        - Advent
        - Christmas
        - Lent
        - Triduum
        - Easter
        - Ordinary Time
    - Catholic Social Teaching
        - Life and Dignity of the Human Person
        - Call to Family, Community, and Participation
        - Rights and Responsibilities
        - Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
        - The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers
        - Solidarity
        - Care for God's Creation