

Statement of Intent (Letter to the Bishop)

Each 11th grade candidate in the Shepherd of Souls Confirmation program will complete a letter to the bishop as part of the final phase of Confirmation preparation. The pastor presents the candidates to the bishop and must vouch that they are fully prepared and ready for the sacrament – so we need a written statement by each candidate of their desire to be confirmed!

Letters should be at least 3/4 of a page (not counting headings), but no longer than 2 pages in length. They should be typed (standard font/size used in school) or in very neat handwriting, and should answer the following questions:

- **Why do you want to be confirmed? / Why do you feel you are ready to be confirmed?**
- **In what ways has your relationship with God grown or changed since beginning the Confirmation program?**
- **What is your Confirmation/saint name and why did you choose it?**
- **How do you plan to be involved in the church after confirmation?**

Please remind your teen to compose this statement carefully and honestly. Bishop Chad Zielinski will read these letters closely and will want to know the heartfelt reasons that our candidates are pursuing this sacrament. The letters not only help *us* know what the teens learned, but they are also a chance for the teens to reflect on how they've grown in their faith.

11th grade candidates must complete and submit their Statements of Intent by Dec. 9th. (We need to give Bishop Zielinski ample time to read them before the Confirmation Mass!) The letter can be e-mailed to nstewart@shepherdofsouls.org or mailed or hand-delivered to the Faith Formation Office.

In Christ,

Nathan Stewart
Parish Catechetical Leader
AFC Confirmation Coordinator
Shepherd of Souls Area Faith Community