Confirmation Letter to the Bishop

It is customary for each Candidate to write a personal letter to the Bishop expressing their desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. The purpose of this letter is to introduce yourself to the Bishop, explain what Confirmation means to you personally, why you wish to be confirmed, and that you are asking for the sacrament freely.
Letters to the Bishop should be typed and hand signed. They should be well written. Keep in mind, this is a letter not a research paper. The length should be approximately one page.

<u>Writing Your Letter to the Bishop:</u>
Heading:

- Date
- Address the letter: "Your Excellency _____" OR "Dear Bishop _____,"

Introduction:

- Introduce yourself: Describe who you are, your name, some personal information, what your interests and hopes for the future are.

Body (Ideas to include. You do NOT need to include everything):

- The reason you are writing (to ask for the Sacrament of Confirmation).
- Describe what you have done to prepare for Confirmation (prayer, study, classes, service, receiving other sacraments, etc.) and what part has had the most meaning for you.
- Share information regarding parents or sponsors or others who have influenced your decision to be confirmed.
- Describe why you chose the Confirmation saint that you did.
- Describe how you plan to make the gifts of the Holy Spirit a part of your life in the future.
- Relate how you have accepted the responsibility of living a Christian life through service to God and to others. What difference will you make in the Church?
- Summarize your desire to be confirmed. Point to a definite reason that you want to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Closing:

- Thank the Bishop.
- Express your interest in meeting him
- Close with "Sincerely" or another appropriate closing.
- Include your handwritten signature and your name typed below.

<u>DO NOT mail your letter individually.</u> **Turn in the printed and signed copy of your letter to the youth minister when it is completed.**