

# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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### Schedule

- ❖ Sponsors name, address and phone number must be turned in at the parent/sponsor meeting Sunday, November 06, 2011
  
- 1. Letter to the Bishop (must be typed)**
  - Should include:
    - What Confirmation means to the candidate
    - Reasons why he/she wants to be confirmed
    - Due On or Before December 11, 2011
  
- 2. Essay on Saint Name**
  - Explain why the candidate chose his/her saint name
  - Due on or before December 11, 2011
  
- 3. Community Service Hours**
  - 30 hours must be documented on time sheet
  - Include contact person(s)
  - Complete service hours questionnaire
  - Due on or before February 19, 2012
  
- 4. Attendance**
  - 3 tardies equal 1 absence
  - Only 3 unexcused absences are permitted
  - Must turn in notes for absences
  
- 5. Commissioning of Confirmation Candidates (Mandatory)**
  - January 15, 2012
  - 8:30am Mass
  
- 6. \$10.00 Fee for Confirmation Candidate Retreat**
  - Due on or before December 11, 2011
  
- 7. Confirmation Retreat (Mandatory)**
  - **TENTATIVE:** Saturday, March 3, 2012 in the Senior Citizen Bldg.
  - 9:00am – 3:00pm **Students check in at 8:30am** (Continental Breakfast)
  - Candidates will receive sponsor letter
  - (Sponsor letters due to teachers on or before Jan. 15, 2012)
  
- 8. Confirmation**
  - Date to be Announced
  - 8:30am Mass

*The Confirmation Booklet*  
*of*

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*They spent their time  
in learning from the Apostles,  
taking part in fellowship,  
and sharing in the fellowship  
meals and prayers.* Act 3:42

# **Our Mother of Mercy**

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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### **General Information**

Confirmation is a sacrament in which those who have been baptized receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit, Whom the Lord sent upon His apostles at Pentecost. It is a sacrament that celebrates God's special strengths and gifts in those who have been baptized.

In 1972, the church published The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA). The RCIA stresses the connections between the three sacraments of Christian initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.

In baptism, a person becomes a Christian and receives grace and life from the Holy Spirit. In Confirmation, the baptismal vows are renewed and the sealing of the Spirit serves as a preparation for a mature Christian life.

In Eucharist, the great sign on Christian unity, the faithful are nourished and strengthened. They are transformed into a more loving and united community of believers. Through these sacramental rites the faithful are officially acknowledged as Christians. They are commissioned to carry out the mission of Christ and His church.

Confirmation is a parish community celebration. It provides an opportunity for members of the parish family to renew their baptismal commitment. Confirmation time in the parish is a time when the community celebrates the gifts of the Holy Spirit among them.

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### Rite of Enrollment

I, \_\_\_\_\_, understand that my preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation is a responsibility that I choose to accept. I thereby agree to:

- Cooperate to the best of my ability with the parish program preparing me for the sacrament of Confirmation;
- Participate in the learning sessions, activities, and spiritual opportunities provided by my parish community;
- Try to become a more active and involved member of this parish;
- Offer my talents and services where needed;
- Accept more responsibility in my family, community and parish;
- Participate in the weekend and Holy day Masses regularly;
- Seriously reflect on my decision to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

I place myself in the loving hands of God asking blessings and assistance, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, that I may keep the promises that I have made by this agreement.

Candidate's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Witnesses: Parent(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Choosing Your Confirmation Name (Saint Name)

If the Candidate's baptismal name is that of a recognized saint of the Church, there is no need to select a new name for Confirmation. Using the baptismal name for Confirmation is preferred because it highlights the relationship between the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation.

If the candidate chooses to take a new name for Confirmation, however, it should be a name selected in honor of Jesus or Mary or from the list of recognized saints of the Catholic Church. Names of saints are chosen to serve as patrons and models for those being confirmed. Candidates should choose a patron whose Christian life or virtues can be imitated.

**Confirmation/Saint Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Feast Day:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Saint's Birth Place:** \_\_\_\_\_

Tell us about the Saint's:

**Family:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Occupation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Life and/or Death:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**What virtues did this saint practice in his/her life?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**What aspect of this person's Christian life attracted you?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**How is this saint a model for Christians today?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ask your parents or whoever named you how they picked the name you received at birth? Your baptismal name? Then write (on back) a brief story about what you found out.

**Candidate's Full Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



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### Service Project

Jesus said, *“For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who is at the table? But I am among you as one who serves”* (Luke 22:27)

Before making a commitment to a service project, think about the variety of ways in which you can use your talents and abilities to help others. These suggestions are only some of the ways other candidates have chosen to serve. Perhaps something on this list will help you decide the service you would like to perform. The list may give you some other ideas of what you would like to do. Perhaps you have your own special service in mind.

Before making your decision and commitment:

- Pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance
- Talk to your parents and sponsor
- Find out the real needs of people in your family, neighborhood, parish, school or community

### Prayer to the Holy Spirit

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful, and enkindle in us the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit and we shall be created; and you will renew the face of the earth. O God, Who did teach the hearts of Your faithful by the light of the Holy Spirit, grant us in the same Spirit to be truly wise, and ever to rejoice in His consolation. Through Christ Our Lord. Amen*

*(Traditional Prayer to the Holy Spirit)*

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CCE Confirmation Preparation

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## A Statement About My Service Project

1. What do I plan to do? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Why have I chosen that project: \_\_\_\_\_

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3. I will give a particular time to my project every week? When will I do it? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. How much time do I plan to spend on my project every week? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Whom do I hope to help me with my project? \_\_\_\_\_

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6. What good do I hope will come from my service project? \_\_\_\_\_

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# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

### Ideas / Suggestions for Service Projects

- Visit the elderly in rest homes
- Perform volunteer work in hospitals
- Learn how you can help people that have special needs (Elderly & Disabled)
- Plant trees to beautify your community
- Read to the blind
- Organize a walk-a-thon to support the Muscular Dystrophy Campaign
- Promote ecological issues in your area by organizing or participating in a bike-a-thon
- Collect scrap for recycling
- Contribute your service to the local library
- Encourage people to give blood to the Red Cross blood mobile
- Initiate cleanup campaigns for the local park
- Participate in parish census
- Help in the CCE Program
- Help out in the sacristy and in caring for the altar
- Become a teacher's aide
- Publicize ways in which the environment can be preserved and improved
- Bring blessed palms to shut-ins
- Help with a fund raising project for a charitable organization
- Organize letter writing campaigns to influence your Congressman
- Work at a food bank/pantry
- Babysit for someone who needs help
- Care for the lawn of elderly or sick neighbors
- Write an editorial on service to others for your school or local newspaper
- Altar Server
- Parish Bazaar Worker
- Participate actively in political campaigns
- Catholic Youth Organizations
- Actively support the pro-life committee
- Welcome new neighbors
- Take a few younger children on an afternoon outing
- Welcome newly baptized members of your parish community
- Volunteer at a Hospice



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## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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### Report on Service Activity

**Directions:** Please complete all the items below regarding the Pledge for Service that you made as part of your preparation for Confirmation.

1. The number of hours I Pledged was: \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The number of hours I have completed is \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The type(s) of job(s) I did were: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. By my service, I learned that: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. By my service, I realized that other people \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. I also learned that Christ \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. I was surprised that I \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. I don't want to forget that \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

9. The hardest part of the job(s) I did was \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. The best part of the job(s) I did was \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

11. From what you know about Confirmation, do you feel that a person should be confirmed without doing some minimum service? \_\_\_\_\_ Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Candidate Review Guide

# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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### The Church The People Of God

In preparing for Confirmation, a person becomes more aware of his/her commitment to become a full member of the Church. As part of that preparation, one learns that the Church is made up of people, the People of God. In the Bible we read about how we are all one in Christ, members of Christ's body. It is helpful for candidates to know more about their Church— the people, the places, the systems and organizations that make the Church a vital part of today's world.

**Fill in the information you know. Then find out the things you don't know to complete this research sheet.**

The name of my parish community is: \_\_\_\_\_

Our pastor's name is: \_\_\_\_\_

Other priests that serve the parish are: \_\_\_\_\_

The Director of Religious Education is: \_\_\_\_\_

Religious that live and work in our parish are: \_\_\_\_\_

**Define the following ministries and name someone in your parish who serves in that role:**

Deacon: \_\_\_\_\_

Eucharistic Minister: \_\_\_\_\_

Youth Minister: \_\_\_\_\_

Choir Director: \_\_\_\_\_

Lector: \_\_\_\_\_

Altar Server: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name the organizations in your parish and write a statement about the purpose of each.

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Define the word Diocese / Archdiocese: \_\_\_\_\_

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The name of our (Arch)Diocese is: The name of the (Arch)Bishop is: \_\_\_\_\_

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Does he have any Auxiliary Bishops? If so, name the Auxiliary Bishop(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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Who is the Pope? \_\_\_\_\_

What are his responsibilities? \_\_\_\_\_

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Where does the Pope live? \_\_\_\_\_

Name a national church organization that serves people. \_\_\_\_\_

Describe its work. \_\_\_\_\_

Name a diocesan church organization that serves people. \_\_\_\_\_

Describe its work. \_\_\_\_\_

# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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### A Review of Catholic Doctrine in Preparation for Confirmation

1. What is prayer?
2. Why do we pray?
3. Explain the meaning of the Sign of the Cross.
4. Say the Lord's Prayer, Hail Mary and Glory Be to the Father.
5. Say the Apostle Creed.
6. Why does man exist?
7. Explain the Doctrine of the Trinity.
8. What is Sin?
9. How did Sin come into the world?
10. Explain: Original Sin, Mortal Sin, and Venial Sin.
11. What three things are necessary to make a sin mortal?
12. What is Grace and what does Sin do to it?
13. Who is Jesus Christ?
14. What is the Doctrine of the Incarnation?
15. Give a brief resume of the life of Christ.
16. Why did Christ suffer His Passion and Death on the Cross?
17. What meaning does Jesus' Death have for you personally?
18. What does the Resurrection prove?
19. Who founded the Catholic Church?
20. Who was the first Pope? Who is the present Pope? Who is the present Archbishop of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston?
21. Why is the Church called Apostolic?
22. What are the "Two Great Commandments"?
23. What are the Ten Commandments?
24. Why must we worship God alone?
25. What is Faith?
26. What is the difference between Natural and Supernatural Faith?
27. Is hope in God important? Why?
28. Why is Love the greatest of all the virtues?
29. Is it wrong to participate in Non-Catholic Services?

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30. What is despair and why is it a sin against hope?
31. Why is hatred such a serious sin?
32. Why is superstition wrong?
33. Do Catholics worship the Blessed Virgin Mary?
34. Why is an oath such a serious matter? May you as a Catholic take one?
35. What is meant by taking God's name in vain?
36. What is cursing?
37. Is vulgarity sinful?
38. Why is there such a serious obligation to participate in the Mass?
39. Is "Civil Disobedience" wrong?
40. Do we have any duties toward our parents after we leave their home or reach maturity?
41. What does the Fifth Commandment say about our physical well being?
42. Is war wrong? Is it ever justified?
43. Is there such a thing as Catholic Conscientious Objection?
44. What is the virtue of purity? Of Chastity?
45. How does premarital sex affect love?
46. What is the Theory of Retribution?
47. How does the Seventh Commandment affect employers? Employees?
48. What is lie?
49. Why is perjury the worst kind of lie?
50. What is rash judgment?
51. Are we obligated to keep secrets?
52. What is the strictest of all secrets from which the person involved is never released?

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### Answers to Review of Catholic Doctrine

1. Prayer is the lifting of the mind and heart to God.
2. We pray to adore God, tell Him we are sorry for our sins, thank Him for His favors, and ask Him for the things we need.
3. It expresses our faith in the Trinity and in the Cross as the sign of our salvation.
4. See Pages **39 & 40**
5. See Page **28**
6. Man exists to know, love and serve God and to be happy with Him in Heaven.
7. The Trinity means that there are Three Persons in One God.
8. Sin is an offense against God.
9. Through the disobedience of Adam and Eve sin came into the world.
10. Original Sin is the Sin of Adam that we inherit, Mortal Sin is a serious offense against God, and Venial sin is a less serious offense against God.
11. The thing itself must be bad (serious matter) ; you must know what you are doing (sufficient reflection); and you must want to do what you are doing (sufficient consent of the will).
12. Grace is Christ's Life in the Soul. Mortal Sin kills grace; Venial sin weakens it.
13. Jesus Christ is the Second Person of the Trinity, Son of Mary.
14. The Incarnation means that God became Man.
15. (your personal answer on a separate sheet of paper)
16. To save us from our sins.
17. (your personal answer on a separate sheet of paper)
18. It proves that Jesus Christ is God.

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19. Jesus Christ founded the Catholic Church.
20. St. Peter was the First Pope; Benedict XVI is the present Pope; Daniel Cardinal DiNardo is the present Arch Bishop of the Diocese of Galveston-Houston
21. The Church is apostolic because it was founded on the Apostles and the Pope and Bishops are successors to the Apostles.
22. Love God and Love one another.
- 23. See page 40**
24. Because He Alone is our Creator and keeps us in existence.
25. Believing in God and accepting His word.
26. In natural faith the someone is human; in supernatural faith the someone is divine.
27. Yes, because it is the belief that God will fulfill His promise to us.
28. Because God is love
29. To merely be present for some good reason isn't. To fully participate is.
30. Despair is feeling that God has deserted us and it is a sin against Hope because is it a refusal to believe that God will fulfill His promise to us.
31. Because hatred is a total denial of God Who is Love.
32. Because it is attributing to a thing powers that belong to God alone
33. Catholics worship God alone. They venerate Mary and the Saints.
34. An oath is calling upon God to witness to the truth of what we say. It may be taken for a good reason.
35. Using God's name with disrespect
36. Calling down evil upon a person

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37. No, but it is not in good taste.
38. Because the Mass is Christ's Sacrifice to His Father and is the way that we show our absolute need for God.
39. No, it is a refusal to obey an unjust law.
40. Yes, we must still love and respect them and provide for them in their old age.
41. We are obligated to take proper care of our own bodies
42. War is permissible as a last resort and if it is carried on properly.
43. Yes, one who feels deeply that it is never permissible to take up arms against another
44. Purity is that virtue that deals with the proper use of sex organs. Chastity governs the use of the other senses in regard to sex.
45. It kills love since God is not a part of it.
46. If we have committed the sin of stealing we must restore the stolen goods if possible before we can be forgiven.
47. Employers must pay a proper wage. Employees must fulfill a proper days work
48. Telling an untruth to someone who has the right to know the truth,
49. Because it is calling upon God to witness a lie
50. Thinking the worst about a person
51. Yes, if they are real secrets.
52. The Secret of the Sacrament of Confession

# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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### Confirmation

**Directions:** Find out more about the listed topics. Write a summary of what you learned in the space provided.

**Some sources of information:** the Bible, books, teachers, parents, sponsors, priests, members of the parish, other candidates, and friends. If you need more space to write, use the back of this paper.

#### I. The Rite of Confirmation

a. Renewal of Baptismal vows \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

b. Laying on of hands \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

c. Anointing with oil \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

d. Sign of peace \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

e. Celebrant(s): \_\_\_\_\_

f. Presider: \_\_\_\_\_

g. Minister: \_\_\_\_\_

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### II. History of Confirmation

a. Describe Confirmation during the time of the apostles.

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b. Describe Confirmation during the time of your grandparents or parents.

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c. Compare the present day ideas about Confirmation with the ideas of another time in history.

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## III. The Jewish celebration of

a. Bar Mitzvah

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b. Bat Mitzvah

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# Our Mother of Mercy

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### Review Words & Terms

- **Faith** - believing in God and accepting His word.
- **Prayer** - This is talking to God and listening to Him
- **Disciple** - A friend and follower of Jesus.
- **Church** - A community of people who believe in Jesus and are baptized members of God's family.
- **Ten Commandments** - These are God's laws to all people.
- **Sacraments** - These are 7 special signs of God acting in our lives,
- **Apostles** - 12 men chosen by Jesus to help Him in His work.
- **Justice** - Being fair, kind and loving to all people no matter who they are.
- **Baptism** - The sacrament in which we are welcomed into God's family, God shares new life with us.
- **Christian** - A baptized disciple of Jesus who tries to live as Jesus taught us.
- **Eucharist** - The sacrament in which we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ
- **Good Shepherd** - Another name that Jesus is sometimes called.
- **Bible** - God's holy book
- **Pope** - This man is the leader of the whole Catholic Church.
- **Reconciliation** – In this sacrament we ask God's forgiveness for our sins and they are forgiven if we are sorry.
- **Holy Family** - Jesus, Mary and Joseph.
- **God's Kingdom** - The love, peace and justice Jesus brings to the world.
- **Confirmation** - In this sacrament God sends the Holy Spirit to help us tell others about Jesus.
- **Sin** - Choosing not to love God, not to love ourselves or not to love others.
- **Good news** - The message of Jesus and what he has done for us.,
- **Anointing Of The Sick** - In this sacrament God gives special peace, forgiveness and joy to people who are sick.
- **Saint Peter** - One of the 12 Apostles who became the first Pope.
- **Catholic Church** - This Church was founded by Jesus Christ to continue His work on earth.
- **Matrimony** - In this sacrament God blesses the love of a husband and wife.
- **Catholic** - A Christian, who belongs to the Catholic Church.
- **Bishop** - Leader of all parishes in a Diocese.
- **Holy Orders** - In this sacrament God makes someone a bishop, priest or deacon.
- **Pastor** - Leader of a parish,
- **Sacrifice** - Giving up things we like for someone else.
- **Law Of Love** – To love God and to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.
- **Apostles Creed** - A special prayer in which we tell God what we believe in our faith.

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- **Diocese** - A group of parishes with a Bishop as its leader.
- **Liturgy Of The Word** - The first major part of the Mass, in which we listen and respond to the Word of God.
- **Liturgy Of The Eucharist** - The second part of the Mass in which the priest changes the bread and wine into Jesus Body and Blood.
- **Missionary** - A person who brings the Good News of Jesus to others in faraway lands.

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### Sin

**Original:** The state of sin we are born into.

**Venial Sin:** Less severe sins of omission or commission.

**Mortal Sin:** Sin that takes away the life of the soul. Grievous Sins against the laws of God.

### Seven Deadly Sins

Greed

Lust

Anger

Envy

Laziness

Pride

Gluttony

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### Sacraments

**Baptism** – Baptism is the basis of the whole Christian life, as we are born of the water and the Spirit. Baptism is necessary for salvation (John 3:5), and conveys a permanent sign that the new Christian is a child of God.

**Confirmation** – Confirmation is the sacrament of the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit whom Christ Jesus sent (John 7:37-39, 16:7). Jesus instructed his Apostles that they "will receive the power of the Holy Spirit" and called upon the Apostles to be his "**witnesses** to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8)

**Reconciliation** (Confession/Penance) – the sacrament of penance brings God's merciful forgiveness for sins in which we have committed. The sacrament involves three steps: being sorry for his sins, the actual confession to a priest and absolution, and then penance or restitution for your sins. The experience leads one to an interior conversion of the heart. Jesus describes the process of conversion and penance in the Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-24).

**Holy Eucharist** – The bread and wine through Transubstantiation become the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, and we receive the Real Presence of Jesus when we receive Holy Communion. Our soul is nourished, helping us to become like Christ. The Eucharist is the heart and source of community within the Church. Receiving Holy Communion with others during the Mass brings unity of the Church, the Body of Christ (I Corinthians 10:16-17).

**Holy Orders** – the continuation of Christ's priesthood, which He bestowed upon His Apostles. There are three levels to this sacrament: the episcopate, the priesthood, and the diaconate.

**Matrimony** – Marriage, a lifelong union between a man and a woman for procreation and mutual support, is a natural institution. It reflects the union of Jesus Christ and His Church.

**Anointing of the Sick** – is the sacrament for the seriously ill, infirmed, or aged Christians. By the anointing with the blessed oil, the church asks God to help the sick in their time of suffering, forgive their sins, and bring them to salvation, and unite the sick person to the passion of Christ.

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### Vocabulary

**Apostolic** – A characteristic or mark of the church with two related meanings:

1. To be sent on a mission to preach the Good News as a disciple.
2. To be able to trace the Church's history back to the Apostles.

**Catechumen** – the process of formation in faith by which Christians welcome new members into the church

**Martyr** – One who witnesses to belief in Jesus through his or her death

**Values** - Ideas and attitudes we hold dear or cherish; what motivates us to act on our belief and helps to shape the direction of our lives.

**Catacombs** – Ancient Underground burial places

**Monasteries** – Great centers of learning, prayer and service during the early middle ages

**Hermit** – Christian who went to live alone in the desert or lonely place to be close to God

**St. Benedict** – A monk who wrote a “rule” for people living the monastic way of life

**Gregory the Great** – A Benedictine monk who became a great Pope

**Rosary** – A popular devotion honoring Mary; it is said on a string of beads

**God Consciousness** – a Way of looking at life by which we are aware of and life in god's presence.

**Medicants** – members of religious communities who begged for their support among the people

**Council Of Trent** – A great “reform” council held from 1545 to 1563; the nineteenth ecumenical council of the church

**Second Vatican Council** - the most recent ecumenical council, called by Pope John XXIII, held from 1962 - 1965

**Virtue** – the “power” or ability of a person to do good habitually; a habit of doing good.

**Beatitudes** – Jesus described the spirit by which we are to live for God's Kingdom

**Shalom** – the coming of peace and justice, love and freedom, and fullness of life for all people

**Despair** – an attitude of giving up, of feeling that life is no work living, opposite of hope

**Conscience** – the inner sense we have of what is right and wrong

**Hope** – the attitude or power by which we continue to have confidence in God even when things are going badly

# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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**Love** – the virtue that draws us into intimate, deep and life giving friendship with God.

**Mortal sin** – A total break in our friendship with God, a very grave sin

**Venial sin** – A failure to live for God’s Kingdom as well as we should; not a total rejection of our basic choice to live as members of God’s Kingdom

**Idolatry** – Placing someone or something else ahead of God in our lives; the worship of false gods or idols.

**Yahweh** – the most sacred name the Israelites had for God; mean “The One who Is”

**Abba** – a familiar name Jesus used for God; similar to our word dad

**Christians** – People who act in the world in the name of Jesus Christ

**Respect** – Christians are called to respect God’s name and the name of Jesus with faith, hope and love

**Ageism** – an attitude that says the elderly are useless

**Obedience** – Listening and following respectfully as thinking people those who have authority over us

**Covenant** – the special agreement and promises made between God and God’s people

**Social sin** – Sin committed by society and its institutions

**Lie** – something that is contrary to the truth

**Wisdom** – the act of taking time to understand our experiences, weigh the evidence and figure out what is true

**Prudence** – the act of proceeding with caution, not jumping to conclusions, seeking advise

**Greed** – a way of pampering ourselves at the expense of others

**Sexuality** – that which make us male and female

**Abortion** – the direct termination of the life of an unborn child

**Euthanasia** – the act of killing someone who is sick or injured for reasons of mercy

**Prejudice** – an attitude or an act of discrimination towards another for reasons of race, nationality, age, religion or any other reason

**Incarnation** – the act of the son of God becoming one of us

**Spirituality** – the life of God’s spirit in us calling us into union with God

**Sacrament** – a sign or symbol that reveals to us the “real presence” of God’s love for us. This love is called grade.

# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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### Apostles' Creed

Knowing the Apostles Creed gives us the summary of the mysteries of faith we believe as Christians and Catholics.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father; from thence he shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

### Laws of Love

1. Love God above all things, with your whole heart, soul and mind.
2. Love your neighbor as yourself

### Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-10)

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they that hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they that are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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### How to receive the sacrament of Penance

*You O Lord, according to your gentle grace,  
Promised forgiveness to those who repent of their sins,  
And in your many mercies  
Established penance for sinners as the way to salvation ...  
And now behold I am bending the knees of my heart before you;  
and I am beseeching your kindness,  
I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned;  
And I certainly know my sins.  
I beseech you; Forgive me, O Lord, forgive me!  
(The Prayer of Manasseh)*

### Sin in my life

Modern society has lost a sense of sin. As a Catholic follower of Christ, you need to make an effort to recognize sin in your daily actions, words and Omissions.

The Gospels show how important is the forgiveness of our sins. Lives of saints prove that the person who grows in holiness has a stronger sense of sin, of sorrow for sins, and a need for the Sacrament of Penance or Confession.

A helpful check on spiritual growth is how Christ like you are in having no enemies, forgiving others, loving and serving others, and carrying your cross. Another helpful check is how you are handling the Seven Capital Sins. These are (1) Pride (Am I self-centered?); (2) Greed (Are money and things my real goals in life?); (3) Lust (Am I pure in act, speech and thinking?); (4) Anger (Do I control my temper and tongue?); (5) Gluttony (Do I control my appetites and addictions?); (6) Envy (am I jealous of what others have or are?)-, and (7) Laziness (Am I lazy? Am I apathetic?)

We Catholics are fortunate to have the Sacrament of Penance. it is the ordinary way for us to get our sins forgiven. This sacrament is a powerful help to getting rid of our weaknesses, grow in holiness, and lead a balanced life.

The serious Catholic living in the state of grace, celebrates this sacrament every month.. - or every three months ... and certainly before Christmas and the Easter Triduum every year.

# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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### Examination of Conscience

*Don't be hasty ---- Don't be superficial ---- Avoid anxiety*

Many of these sins are mortal and the Eucharist is forbidden until a good confession is made to a priest. If in doubt whether a sin is mortal or venial, confess it and consult a good catechism or priest very loyal to the Holy Father and Rome's teachings. A mortal sin involves a serious matter, there is sufficient reflection and it is committed with full consent of the will.

- Did I deny or doubt God's existence?
- Did I refuse to believe God's revelation?
- Did I believe in horoscopes, fortune telling, dreams, good luck charms or reincarnation?
- Did I deny that I was a Catholic?
- Did I leave the Catholic faith?
- Did I despair of or presume on God's mercy?
- Did I neglect prayer for a long time?
- Did I blaspheme God or take God's name in vain, curse or break an oath or vow?
- Did I miss Mass on Sunday or Holyday of Obligation through my own fault?
- Am I always reverent in the presence of Jesus in the most Blessed Sacrament?
- Was I inattentive at Mass?
- Did I come to Mass late? How late?
- Did I leave Mass early?
- Did I do unnecessary physical work on Sunday?
- Did I disobey or disrespect my parents or legitimate superiors?
- Did I neglect my duties to my husband, wife, children, or parents?
- Did I fail to actively take an interest in the religious education and formation of my children?
- Have I failed to educate myself on the true teachings of the Church?
- Did I give a full day's work in return for my full day's pay?
- Did I give a fair wage to my employee?
- Did I give scandal by what I said or did, especially to the young?
- Was I the cause of anyone leaving the faith?
- Was I impatient, angry, envious, unkind, proud, jealous, revengeful, hateful toward others, lazy?
- Did I give bad example, abuse drugs, drink alcohol to excess, fight or quarrel?

# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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### Confessing my sins

After examining your conscience and telling God of your sorrow, go into the Reconciliation Room. You may kneel at the screen or sit so as to talk face-to-face with the priest.

When you speak, use words such as these: *I confess to Almighty God and to you, Father, that I have sinned. My last Confession was \_\_\_ weeks (months, Years) ago. Since then I know of no mortal sins (or) since then my mortal sins are these (and tell the sins, number of times and important circumstances.)*

*My venial sins are these: (Tell the sins and the number of times) or Since then I know of no venial sins, my main fault is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am working to overcome it. In my past life there were sins of \_\_\_ for which I am still sorry.*

*For these and all the sins of my past life, I am deeply sorry.*

Listen to the words of the priest. When invited, make an Act of Contrition such as:

*O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you.. I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell; But most of all because they offend you, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of your grace, to sin no more and to avoid the occasions of sin.*

Listen to the words of forgiveness, making the sign of the cross with the priest. If he closes by saying, *Give thanks to the Lord for He is good*, answer: *For his mercy endures forever*. Then say your assigned penance.

# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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### Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit

*“On him will rest the spirit of Yahweh, the spirit of wisdom and insight, the spirit of counsel and power, the spirit of knowledge and fear of Yahweh ..”* Isaiah 11

*“..The Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self control.”* Galatians 5:22

The **Gifts of the Holy Spirit** help Christian’s live their lives more fully committed to Christ.

These gifts are:

**Wisdom**

**Understanding**

**Counsel**

**Fortitude (Courage)**

**Knowledge**

**Piety**

**Reverence for God (Fear of the Lord)**

From the Gifts of the Holy Spirit come the Fruits, which are:

**Charity**

**Joy**

**Peace**

**Patience**

**Kindness**

**Goodness**

**Long-suffering**

**Mildness**

**Fortitude**

**Modesty**

**Continenence**

**Chastity**

# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

### The Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit

**Directions:** Find two synonyms or words that have similar meanings for each of the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit listed below. Then write a statement describing how a person your age needs to use that particular virtue in his/her life.

#### Gifts of the Holy Spirit

	Synonyms	Application
Wisdom		
Understanding		
Counsel		
Fortitude		
Knowledge		
Piety		
Reverence for God		

#### Fruits of the Holy Spirit

	Synonyms	Application
Charity		
Joy		
Peace		
Patience		
Kindness		
Goodness		
Long-suffering		
Mildness		
Fortitude		
Modesty		
Continence		
Chastity		

Candidate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

### Fruits and Gifts of the Holy Spirit

#### Confirmation Art Project

This art activity is to help you think about the Fruits and Gifts of the Holy Spirit. From the time of the early Church, art has been used to help people meditate and communicate. Drawings in the catacombs, statues, and stained glass windows in cathedrals are all meditations we share with the artists of the past.

**Supplies Needed:** poster board, markers, paints, scissors, glue, or any other materials you decide to use to portray the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit.

#### Directions:

1. Read some scriptural excerpts that include the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5: 22; 2 Timothy 1: 7; Ephesians 4: 11-12, 1 Corinthians 12: 4-11 or any other scripture text you choose).
2. After reading the scripture text you chose, pick a gift or fruits of the Holy Spirit to meditate on. After thinking about the word for a little while, try to make it concrete. Think of symbols or pictures that you can use to make an artistic representation of the particular Christian virtue you have chosen.
3. Make a poster, collage, montage, newsprint, banner, sketch, sampler, paper mache sculpture, or hanging that depicts a Gift or Fruit of the Holy Spirit.



# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

### Seven Corporal Work of Mercy

1. To Feed The Hungry
2. To Give Drink To The Thirsty
3. To Clothe The Naked
4. To Visit The Imprisoned
5. To Shelter The Homeless
6. To Visit The Sick
7. To Bury The Dead

### The Sacramentals

Those rites, actions or things used to obtain grace, signs of devotion are the following:

- Holy Water
- Candles
- Blessings
- Vestments
- Ashes
- Stations of the Cross
- Ashes
- Medals
- Rosaries

### The Stations of the Cross


1. Jesus is condemned to death
2. Jesus carries His cross
3. Jesus falls the first time
4. Jesus meets his sorrowful Mother
5. Simon helps Jesus carry the-Cross
6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus
7. Jesus falls the second time
8. Jesus speaks to the women
9. Jesus falls the third time
10. Jesus is stripped of his garments
11. Jesus is nailed to the cross
12. Jesus dies on the cross
13. Jesus is taken down from the cross
14. Jesus is placed in the tomb
15. The resurrection

# Our Mother of Mercy

CCE Confirmation Preparation

## Corporal Works Of Mercy

Directions: For each, draw a symbol of the given Work of Mercy and write what it means for Christians today.


<i>Feed The Hungry</i>	<i>Help The Sick And Imprisoned</i>
<i>Give Drink To The Thirsty</i>	<i>Welcome The Stranger</i>
<i>Bury The Dead</i>	<i>Clothe The Naked</i>
<i>Shelter The Homeless</i>	

# Our Mother of Mercy

CCE Confirmation Preparation

## Spiritual Works of Mercy

Directions: For each, draw a symbol of the given Work of Mercy and write what it means for Christians today.

<i>Instruct The Ignorant</i>	<i>Counsel The Doubtful</i>
<i>Comfort The Sorrowing</i>	<i>Bear Wrongs Patiently</i>
<i>Forgive All Injuries</i>	<i>Correct The Sinner</i>
<i>Pray For The Living And The Dead</i>	

# **Our Mother of Mercy**

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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### **Blessing of the Ashes**

The ashes are blessed on Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. These are made by burning the palms used in the previous year's Palm Sunday Procession. We use ashes to remind us of our death and to ask God's forgiveness of our sins.

### **Blessing of the Throat**

The throats are blessed on the Feast of St. Blaise ... Feb. 3rd... This is done by using two crossed candles while saying a prayer that asks God to save us from any sicknesses connected with the throat.

### **Blessing of the Candles**

The candles are blessed with special prayers on the Feast of the Purification of Our Lady ... Feb. 2nd. . . Candles are a -symbol of God's presence with us. Candles are used in the Mass, giving of the sacraments, placing them before statues to act as a reminder that we should pray always. They are also burned during storms etc.

### **Blessing of Ourselves with Holy Water**

This is done by making the sign of the cross and asking God to place us under his care.

# **Our Mother of Mercy**

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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### **Hail Mary**

Hail Mary, full of grace  
The Lord is with you, blessed are you among women  
And blessed is the fruit of your womb Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now,  
And at the hour of our death. Amen

### **Glory Be**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
World without end. Amen.

# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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The following should already be mastered by anyone entering a Confirmation preparation program. Parents and sponsors should assist candidates in reviewing this material.

### Ten 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 your 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.

### The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy Name*  
*Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will be Done on Earth as it is in Heaven*  
*Give us this day our Daily bread and forgive us our trespasses,*  
*As we forgive those who trespass against us,*  
*and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil*  
*For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen*

# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

### The Commandments

#### Old Testament

- Find the Book of Exodus, chapter 20, in the Old Testament.
- Read and meditate on Exodus 20.
- Write the commandments as they are found in chapter 20 on the lines below.
- After each commandment, write an application statement.

First Commandment:	What these words mean to me and my life today:
Second Commandment:	What these words mean to me and my life today:
Third Commandment:	What these words mean to me and my life today:
Fourth Commandment:	What these words mean to me and my life today:
Fifth Commandment:	What these words mean to me and my life today:
Sixth Commandment:	What these words mean to me and my life today:
Seventh Commandment:	What these words mean to me and my life today:
Eighth Commandment:	What these words mean to me and my life today:
Ninth Commandment:	What these words mean to me and my life today:
Tenth Commandment:	What these words mean to me and my life today:

# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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### The Commandments

#### **New Testament**

- Find the Gospel of John, chapter 13, verses 31 to 35, in the New Testament.
- Read and meditate on John 13: 31-35.
- Write the new commandment on the lines below.

New Commandment:	What these words mean to me and my life today:
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# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

### The Sounds of Pentecost

#### *Group Project for Confirmation Candidates*

This activity will assist you in recreating the *confusion* experienced by the apostles on Pentecost. It will also help you to reflect on the New Testament account of the Pentecost story found in Acts 2: 1-13.

Your group will need several copies of the New Testament and a tape recorder. After the group decides how they will make this *sound collage*, you will know what other items will be needed.

#### **Procedure:**

1. Read the Pentecost story in Acts 2 and think about it.
2. Discuss what is happening in the story.
3. Can you think of any sounds that can depict the action in the story?
4. Each person in the group should take some time to think about how people present for the Pentecost experience felt.
5. List these feelings- bewilderment, fear, amazement, awe, excitement, surprise, curiosity, etc,
6. The group should divide into two smaller groups, choral readers and sound effects people.
7. The readers should prepare to read Acts 2:1-13-in unison. They must be sure to make this a dramatic choral reading.
8. The sound effects people should prepare background sounds that can be used like a Pentecost sound-track. **Some possibilities:**
  - foreign languages
  - rhythm band
  - balloons releasing air
  - humming
  - hands clapping
  - buzzing
  - music playing
  - people whistling
  - people singing
  - people whispering
9. When the readers and sound effects people are ready, begin the sounds and the reading on cue. Someone should be chosen to orchestrate the volume of the readings and the sounds at different points. Have another person in charge of taping the final presentation.
10. An alternate procedure: Have everyone in the group make the sounds. Tape the sounds sequence in advance and use it as a background to the entire group doing the choral reading.

#### **Group Notes:**

# Our Mother of Mercy

CCE Confirmation Preparation

## The Holy Spirit and Pentecost

We can learn more about the Holy Spirit by reading the Bible.

- a. Choose any three readings from the references below. Meditate on each reading.

Acts 8: 14-17

1 Corinthians 1: 4-9

Acts 19.1-7

Romans 8: 1-27

Galatians 5: 16-26

Matthew 3: 13-17

John 7: 31-39

Romans 8: 8-11

Mark 1: 1-13

John 15: 18-27

Titus 2: 4-8

Luke 12: 11-12

John 20: 19-23

Ephesians 1: 15-19

- b. Write a summary statement about each reading.

First Scripture Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Statement: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Second Scripture Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Statement: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Third Scripture Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Statement: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

### Confirmation Cinquains

The cinquain (sing-kan) is a poem with five-line stanzas. The name comes from the French word meaning five. Follow the structure of a cinquain and write short meditations and reflections on Confirmation and related themes.

Cinquain structure:

- First line: one word = title, topic, subject, or theme
- Second line: two words description of title, topic, subject, or theme.
- Third line: three words expression of some action related to line one.
- Fourth line: four words connection of line 3 with line 5.
- Fifth line: one word = another word for title, topic, subject, or theme, or a word directly connected to line one.

**Confirmation**

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**Pentecost**

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**Grace**

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**Advocate**

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**Gifts**

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**Fruits**

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# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

### Confirmation Puzzle

Directions: Place your pencil on start. Then, **without picking up your pencil**, move either UP, DOWN, or SIDEWAYS to the next box (no diagonal moves) until all of the boxes are used. When you get to the last box, you will find a Gospel Message. Write it on the lines provided below.

E	H	T	O	Y	O	V
S	P	R	U	H	C	D
R	I	E	F	T	A	A
I	T	V	O	I	T	R
F	O	E	R	W	E	E
T	Start ↓	D	Y	E	T	H
R	T	N	O	B	O	T
U	H	E	U	A	N	O
T	E	S	L	L	I	W
Finish H	F	A	T	H	E	R

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# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

### Confirmation Puzzle

Directions: Find the message in the box by answering the clues. Transfer the letters to the corresponding numbers in the box.

**Clues:**

1. The Paraclete

1   2   3   4
5   6   7   8   9   10

2. Gift of Courage

11   12   13   14   15   16   17   18   19

3. Love

20   21   22   23   24   25   26

4. Quality of being Wise

27   28   29   30   31   32



20	02	32	19		21	12	03	26		05	06	15	23	24	25
11	28	03	03		25	01	19		21	19	22	23	16	29	
31	11		04	12	17	23		11	22	07	10	21	11	17	03

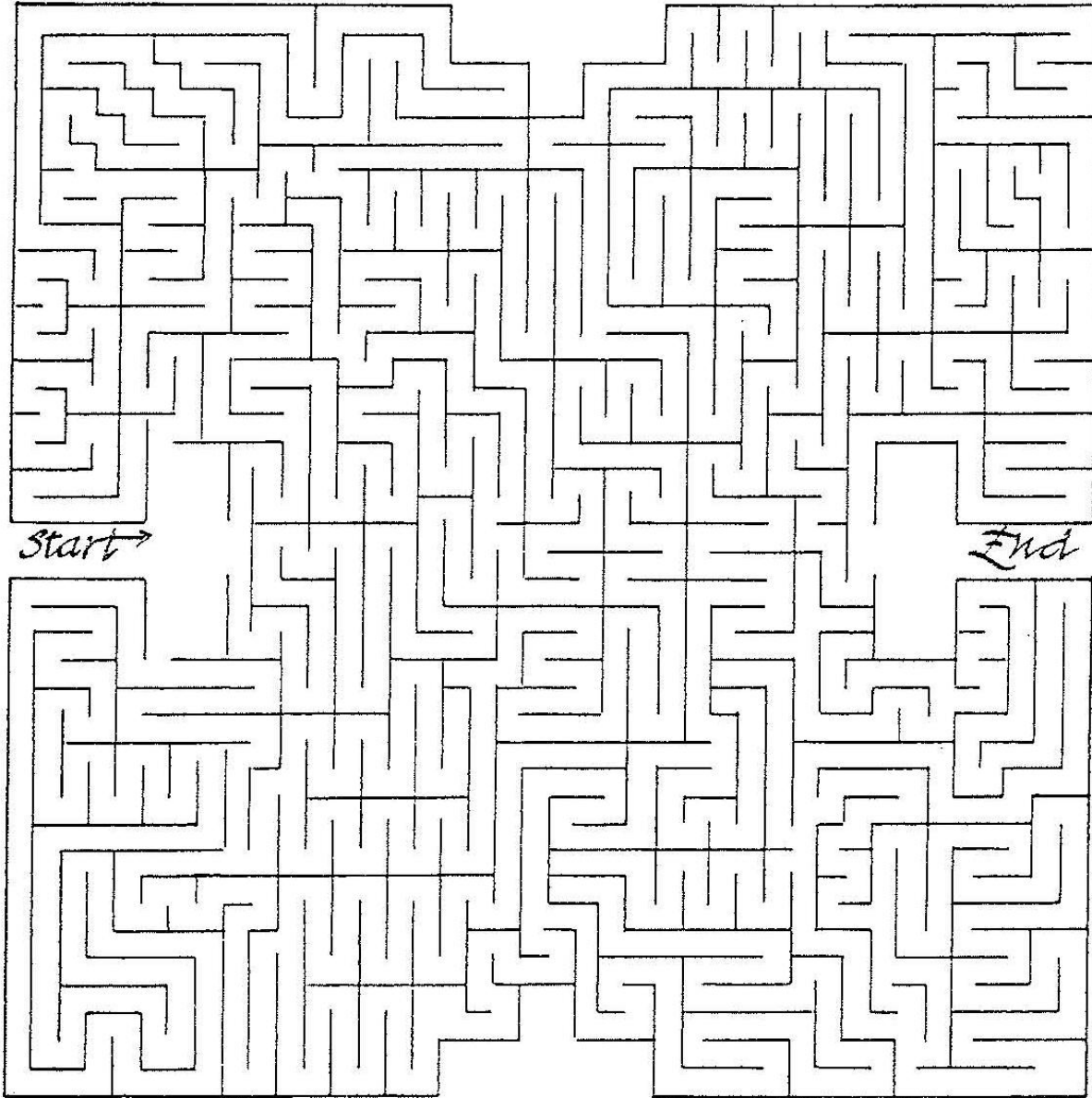
# Our Mother of Mercy

CCE Confirmation Preparation

## MAZE

**Directions:** Use a pencil with an eraser, Mark your starting and finishing time.

Start time: \_\_\_\_\_ Finishing time: \_\_\_\_\_



### 1. Rate Yourself:

- \_\_\_ Yes, I found my way through the maze in two minutes.
- \_\_\_ No, I got stuck at too many blocks and gave up.
- \_\_\_ Maybe I detoured and backtracked, but I kept on trying to find my way.
- \_\_\_ Circle each spot above where you had to stop and make a decision

# Our Mother of Mercy

## CCE Confirmation Preparation

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MAZE (cont'd)

**2. Answer the following questions:**

a. In what way is Confirmation a decision?

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b. What is patience?

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c. What is perseverance?

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# Our Mother of Mercy

CCE Confirmation Preparation

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## A POEM To Be Continued By You

I used to ...     But now ...

I used to be small, but now I'm tall.

I used to be quiet, but now I'm a riot.

I used to be afraid of the dark, but now

I used to \_\_\_\_\_

I used to \_\_\_\_\_

I used to \_\_\_\_\_

I used to \_\_\_\_\_

I used to \_\_\_\_\_

I used to \_\_\_\_\_

I used to \_\_\_\_\_

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I used to \_\_\_\_\_

I used to \_\_\_\_\_

I used to \_\_\_\_\_

I used to \_\_\_\_\_

I used to \_\_\_\_\_

I used to \_\_\_\_\_

- Choose your best two lines to read to the group.
- Join some friends and compose a ten line poem using something from each person's creative writing.
- Give the piece a new title.

# Our Mother of Mercy

CCE Confirmation Preparation

## Coat of Arms

### Personal Reflection on Confirmation

1. An Important event in my life from birth to age six:

2. An important event in my life from age seven until now:

3. A recent success I have had:

4. Something I'm pretty good at:

5. Something I'm striving for:

6. A time I noticed God's Spirit in my life:

My Personal Motto: