

Writing a letter to the Bishop requesting the Sacrament of Confirmation:

You are being asked to write a letter requesting to receive Confirmation. Please use a scrap sheet to write out your thoughts and then write a handwritten letter on a nice sheet of unfolded paper to be sent to the Bishop. This should be a sincere letter from you. There are guidelines below of things that should be included but the wording in the letter should be yours. Be sure the letter is legible.

Please open your letter with the following line:

“Dear Bishop Malone, Fr. Leon Biernat and Mrs. Meyerhofer,”

Start your letter by identifying yourself. Explain that you are seeking the sacrament of confirmation.

Explain why you want to be confirmed in a new paragraph. Provide enough detail to fill a paragraph. Be specific so the bishop can see that you truly want to be confirmed.

Here are some other items you may mention, it is not necessary to mention them all or to put them in the order listed below. These are just ideas to get you started. You are not limited to this list.

- How will being confirmed make a difference in your life?
- Describe the role God/faith has in your life and what Confirmation means to you personally.
- information about your sponsor and why you chose them
- Information about the saint's name you have chosen and why you chose it.
- Share how others (family, friends, priests, youth ministers) have influenced your decision to be confirmed.
- Explain how you will contribute to the parish in the future. Be specific and avoid mentioning things every Catholic should do, such as going to church on Sundays. Instead, discuss how you plan to volunteer or enrich the lives of others in the church. How will you make a difference? Identify your unique gifts and a willingness to share these gifts with the community
- express an openness to on-going growth in faith and a commitment to Christian service

Finally, close the letter with a statement once again requesting the Sacrament.

Use "Respectfully," or "Sincerely" or another appropriate closing and sign your name. Be sure this is legible!

The final copy should be turned in with your Confirmation packet. The parish will send all the letters from our candidates as a group which makes it easier for the Bishop to read the numerous letters before he confers the Sacrament at each church.