



ARCHDIOCESE of OMAHA

## STUDY GUIDE FOR CONFIRMATION INTERVIEW

Name \_\_\_\_\_

The following are the topics you should be very familiar with. You WILL be asked questions on ALL of these topics. Included are questions that require memorized answers and also questions that require you to speak from your experiences and reflections.

### 1. Be able to tell what you know about the Holy Spirit.

- The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Blessed Trinity. The Holy Spirit is God. Having received the gifts of the Holy Spirit in Baptism, they are strengthened in Confirmation. The Holy Spirit is the source of all holiness and prayer.

### 2a. Be able to name and define the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit

The gifts of the Holy Spirit are:

- Wisdom-knowing the right choices to make to live a holy life
- Understanding-the ability to grasp the meaning of the teachings of the Catholic Church
- Counsel-the ability to receive and give good advice
- Fortitude-helps you stand up for your faith in Christ
- Knowledge-helps you to know what God asks of you and how you should respond
- Piety-helps you love and worship God and helps you be respectful to others
- Fear of the Lord-helps you recognize the greatness of God and your dependence on him

### 2b. Reflect upon and be prepared to tell how these gifts work in your life.

### 3. Be able to tell about the service you performed, what you did, and what you learned from the experiences. Talk about your plans for service in the future. Be able to talk about your personal gifts and how they relate to stewardship. Be able to define stewardship.

- God gave us all personal gifts to serve Him, His church, and His people. Some gifts could be gifts of teaching, healing, prayer, caring, etc.
- Stewardship is the way we use the personal gifts that God has given us through our time, talents, and treasures.

### 4. Be able to recite the Apostles' Creed from memory. Remember, the Apostle's Creed is a summary of what Catholics believe.

- The Apostles' Creed is a statement of what we believe as 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 power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. From there he will 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 the life everlasting. Amen!

#### **4. Continued...Tell what you know about the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

The mystery of one God in three persons is the Blessed Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

- The Father is the first person of the Blessed Trinity.
- The Son is the second person of the Blessed Trinity.
- The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Blessed Trinity.
- There are three persons and only one God.
- The Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit are all God.

#### **5a. Be able to define prayer and name the types of prayer. Understand why Catholics invoke Mary and the saints. Name the four sets of mysteries of the Holy Rosary.**

- Prayer is conversation with God, talking and listening to Him.
- We can pray formally (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, etc.) and informally (prayers we make up).
- There are five types of prayer: adoration, contrition, thanksgiving, petition, and intercessory.
- Invoking the Saints and Mary is asking them to join us in asking God for a favor; we are asking for their help in approaching God. This is intercessory prayer and so is the Rosary.
- The four sets of mysteries of the Rosary are Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious.

#### **5b. Reflect upon your favorite way to pray and be able to tell why.**

#### **6. Be able to talk about the Mass and tell how it is part of your prayer life.**

- Mass was established by Jesus at the Last Supper so that by participating in his death and resurrection we can renew and make real our salvation. The Mass renews the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross as the sacrifice offered by the Church.
- We fulfill the obligation of the 3<sup>rd</sup> commandment by attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
- The most important part of Mass is receiving the Holy Eucharist, the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- By attending and being actively engaged in Mass every Sunday, we grow in our faith and in holiness as a person.

#### **7a. Be able to tell how the Ten Commandments are part of our lives as Catholics. State the first 5 Commandments.**

##### 1. the Lord, am your God. You shall not have other gods before me.

- Commands: faith, hope, love, and worship of God alone; reverence for holy things; nourish and protect our faith
- Forbids: idolatry, superstition, astrology, fortune telling, indifference with your faith, ingratitude, hatred of God, putting other things before God (hobbies, TV or work), committing a mortal sin with the idea that you can "just go to confession," sacrilege, tempting God, choosing the "in crowd" over God

##### 2. You shall not take the name of the Lord God in vain.

- Commands: reverence in speaking about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, Blessed Virgin Mary, Saints, the Pope, priests or other consecrated persons and holy things; keeping oaths and vows
- Forbids: swearing, not confessing mortal sins; blasphemy, false oaths and the breaking of vows, perjury

##### 3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.

- Commands: participating in Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation; rest of mind and body; performing works of mercy
- Forbids: missing Mass on Sunday through your own fault; doing unnecessary work; leaving Mass before it is over

##### 4. Honor your father and your mother.

- Commands: love, respect, and obedience to one's parents; looking after one's parents in their old age; honor and respect those in authority over us; fulfill duties as a citizen
- Forbids: disrespect, disobedience, or hatred of parents and those in authority over us; making fun of old people; rejecting your Catholic upbringing; fighting with siblings

##### 5. You shall not kill.

- Commands: respect for life, health, and dignity of one's own life and that of others; controlling one's anger; avoiding war

- Forbids: suicide, abortion, murder, unjust fighting, listening to immoral or disrespectful music; excessive use of TV, computer games or the Internet; euthanasia, endangering one's life or that of others; excesses such as food and alcohol consumption, hatred for people of other races and cultures; unjust killing, and artificial contraception.

**7b. Reflect upon these first 5 commandments and be ready to tell how they guide our lives.**

**8a. Be able to state Commandments 6-10.**

**6. You shall not commit adultery.**

- Commands: chastity in thought, word, and action; respecting one's own body and that of others
- Forbids: obscene speech, being unfaithful to one's spouse, sex outside of marriage, pornography, impure actions alone or with others, living together before marriage, lust, masturbation, rape, homosexual practice, polygamy

**7. You shall not steal.**

- Commands: respect for the property and rights of others; restitution for damaging others' property
- Forbids: stealing or keeping the goods of others, damaging someone's property, cheating, plagiarism

**8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.**

- Commands: truthfulness, respect for another's good name; keeping secrets when required
- Forbids: lying, ruining another's reputation, bragging, boasting, complaining, listening to immoral or disrespectful jokes, not keeping secrets when required, gossiping, flattery

**9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.**

- Commands: purity in thought and heart; modesty in dress and action
- Forbids: willful impure thoughts and desires, immodest dress and action, not avoiding the near occasion of sin, lust

**10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.**

- Commands: respect for the rights of others and their property
- Forbids: the desire to take, keep, or damage the property of others; cruelty to animals, jealousy, greed, gambling, envy, plagiarism, pirating computer software, materialism

**8b. Reflect upon these last 5 commandments and be ready to tell how they guide our lives.**

**9. How do you give witness that you are Catholic?**

There are many ways a person shows that they are Catholic:

1. Attends Mass each week
2. Makes the sign of the cross in public
3. Uses sacramentals such as holy water, the rosary, holy cards, statues, crucifixes, etc.
4. Fasts, abstains and gives alms during Lent and does acts of penance on Fridays during the year.
5. Receives Reconciliation at least once a year
6. Practices stewardship (giving of your time, talents, and treasures to the church)
7. Attends or participates in some type of continued learning about the faith
8. Asks others to attend Mass or other Catholic activities
9. Is conscious of his/her thoughts, words, and actions regarding what is right and wrong
10. Behaves consistently with love for neighbor in all things
11. Makes decisions based on the teachings of Christ and His Church.
12. Others \_\_\_\_\_

**10a. Be able to define the word "sacrament" and to name the seven sacraments.**

- A sacrament is an outward sign of grace given to us by Jesus Christ and preserved by the Church for the purpose of participating in the life of God.
- The seven sacraments are:
  1. Baptism - makes us members of the Church; washes away original sin
  2. Eucharist - spiritual food which nourishes our faith life and strengthens us in our daily life and decisions.
  3. Confirmation—completes the grace of Baptism by a special outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit

4. Penance or Reconciliation--confessing our sins to a priest to receive forgiveness from God and be reconciled with the Church
5. Anointing of the Sick—anointing by the priest of someone who is ill or of advanced age
6. Holy Orders-- men ordained by the bishop to serve the people of God, as a priest, deacon, or bishop
7. Matrimony-- covenant or partnership of life between a baptized man and woman, for their well-being and for the procreation and upbringing of children.

**10b. Reflect upon the seven sacraments and be ready to tell how they give grace.**

**11a. Be able to tell who you have chosen for your sponsor and why. Name the qualities of faith that you most like about him/her.**

**11b. Be able to tell at least 4 things about your Confirmation name. Why was it chosen? What did you learn about the saint, Christian mystery or virtue.?**

**12. Be able to tell how Confirmation will help you on your faith journey and what you will do to continue growing in faith.**

**13. Be ready to discuss, “ What attracts you about Jesus?”**

**14. Be ready to discuss, “What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus in the world today?”**

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