

CONFIRMATION LETTER TO FR. ANDRIE

St. Therese Confirmation, 2023-2024

You have been working hard, and doing a lot of important things, to get ready for Confirmation. You should be proud of how far you have come. For all of us, though, it can sometimes be easy to get lost in all the little details and stop thinking about *why* we're doing something. So, for this final step before the ceremony, we're asking you to take a step back and ask yourself the question, "Why do I want to be confirmed?"

This assignment will take the form of a letter to Fr. Andrie, for two reasons. One is that, when you have to write out an explanation of your thoughts to someone else, it can actually help you understand your own mind better. Taking the time to put your thoughts into coherent sentences will make them even clearer to you. So, this exercise is partly a chance for you to help yourself come to terms with why you want to be confirmed.

The second reason is that, even today, it remains customary to put a request for something important in writing, in a hard copy, with a physical signature. The paper and ink make the request weightier, both literally and figuratively, and help our own minds understand the significance of what we are asking for.

So, now is the time for you to officially ask the Catholic Church, through its representative Fr. Andrie, to accept your request to be confirmed. You don't have to be scared about "impressing" anyone; just explain, honestly, why you want the sacrament, and what kind of things you have been doing to get ready for it.

Please include the following points in your letter, which should be about one full page:

- (1) Greet Father with a proper salutation: "Dear Father Leonard Andrie..."
- (2) Introduce yourself by giving a brief description of who you are (name, age, school, etc.).
- (3) State the reason for your letter — your desire to receive the sacrament of Confirmation — and explain why you want to get confirmed.
- (4) Describe what you have done to prepare yourself for the sacrament and make practice of the Catholic faith a regular part of your life.
- (5) Close your letter by informing Fr. Andrie of how you plan to remain connected to your faith and the Church in the future (such as a ministry that you will volunteer with, going to Mass and Confession regularly, prayer habits, etc.).
- (6) Conclude your letter with your hand-written signature.

Please turn this letter in at our Confirmation session on January 21st, 2024.