

LETTER TO THE ARCHBISHOP

DUE:

Each year, Archbishop Naumann requests that all candidates for Confirmation in the archdiocese send him a letter stating their desire to be Confirmed. He wants to connect with each of you, so that when he anoints you with Holy Oil it is not some anonymous task, but a truly authentic encounter. Christ has appointed him our shepherd, and the Archbishop wants to listen to you and to share in your journey of faith.

This letter is your own description of your personal faith journey so far. Please approach this task seriously and write what is in your heart.

Here are some guidelines to follow when writing your letter – although it should be done in your own words and style. This should be double-spaced, 12pt, times new roman font, and should be about one page (but do not exceed one page).

GREETING

You can begin your letter with “Dear Archbishop Naumann,”

BODY OF LETTER (one paragraph per point)

- a) Tell him you are seeking to be Confirmed at St. John Paul II on TBD and explain why you want to be Confirmed.
- b) Tell him what you have done to prepare yourself for Confirmation.
- c) Tell him who your saint is and why you chose them.
- d) Tell him who your sponsor is and why you chose them.
- e) Tell him any other information about your faith journey you want to share.

CONCLUSION

Finish the letter and include your full name in your signature.

The letter should be no more than one page single-spaced.

This is not homework. There is no “right” way to write this letter. Everyone’s letter will be different since everyone’s journey of faith is unique. The most important thing is that you share from your heart! See below for an outlined sample letter.

Please email a PDF version of your letter to Claire Hollis at clairehollis@jp2kc.org anytime before _____.

EXAMPLE:*

Dear Archbishop Naumann,

My name is Claire Hollis and I am seeking to be Confirmed at St. John Paul II Parish on _____. I am seeking to be confirmed for various reasons. Here is a sentence about those various reasons. And here is another sentence about why I want to be confirmed that sounds like I am summarizing the sentence I just wrote. I am very excited about it because of this reason.

I have been preparing for Confirmation by doing these various activities and things. This includes praying everyday, attending my small group, researching the saint I chose, talking to my parents and sponsor about the Catholic faith and Confirmation, and/or volunteering at this place that was really impactful. I also researched Catholic pick-up lines cause you never know when that might come in handy (<https://youtu.be/QqoLfG9RBZA>). Here is another sentence about these things. And here is a sentence about how they have impacted me and my life or a sentence about something I learned that I didn't know before.

I chose this really cool saint to be my patron saint for Confirmation. I chose this saint because of this interesting reason that relates to my life somehow. I hope to model my life after this freaking awesome saint because they did this thing or acted in this certain way that I find really cool. Did you know that this cool saint did this really cool thing at one point in their life?

I asked my aunt/uncle/godparent/sibling/family friend/distant relative/obscure man I met on the street one day who only had on one shoe named _____ to be my Confirmation sponsor. I asked them because I see these qualities in them that I really admire and I know that they will be able to help guide me in my faith. I can ask them questions like "How does Moses make his Coffee?" (the answer is "Hebrews it"). I can also talk to them about things that are going on in my life.

In this optional paragraph I tell the Archbishop in a few sentences about anything else I want to share like: where I plan on going to high school, a mission trip my family went on or I'm planning on going to, a book I read that really influenced my life, or anything else.

Thank you so much and I look forward to meeting you.

God Bless,

Claire Hollis

*DO NOT copy this letter, it will not go well for you. This is simply to give you some ideas for your own letter.