



Confirmation Corner

A Newsletter for Parents

December 02, 2017

Advent/Christmas 31 Day Scripture Writing Plan

Each of the scriptures below takes ten minutes or less to copy out. Commit to spending ten minutes each day listening to God's voice as you simply copy these texts of our your Bible. Encourage and invite your family, especially your candidate, to join you in this time of reflection and preparation.

Day 1 - Isaiah 7:14-17	Day 11 - Psalm 95:1-7	Day 21 - Luke 1:51-56
Day 2 - Isaiah 9:6-7	Day 12 - Malachi 3:1-3	Day 22 - Luke 2:4-7
Day 3 - Isaiah 11:1-5	Day 13 - Matthew 1:18-20	Day 23 - Luke 2:8-12
Day 4 - Isaiah 11:6-10	Day 14 - Matthew 1:21-25	Day 24 - Luke 2:13-16
Day 5 - Isaiah 40:1-5	Day 15 - Matthew 2: 1-6	Day 25 - Luke 2:17-20
Day 6 - Isaiah 52:7-10	Day 16 - Matthew 2: 7-12	Day 26 - Galatians 4:4-7
Day 7 - Jeremiah 33:14-16	Day 17 - Luke 1:26-29	Day 27 - Philippians 2:5-8
Day 8 - Psalm 72:1-7	Day 18 - Luke 1:30-34	Day 28 - Philippians 2: 9-11
Day 9 - Psalm 72:8-14	Day 19 - Luke 1:35-38	Day 29 - James 1:16-18
Day 10 - Psalm 72:15-20	Day 20 - Luke 1:46-50	Day 30 - Titus 3:3-7
		Day 31 - Choose your own verse

The Meaning of Christmas

Parents are asked to work with their candidate to share holiday/family traditions and the meaning of Christmas. Please have the candidate write in their notebooks by December 31, 2017.

Holy Day of Obligation

Friday, December 08

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
6:30PM OLMC

Sunday, December 24

8PM Posadas
The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
12:00AM Midnight

Monday, December 25

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)
10:00AM English/12:00PM Spanish, OLMC

Monday, January 01

The Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
10:00AM English/12:00PM Spanish, OLMC



End of Year Giving - Financial Stewardship

End of Year Giving is the perfect opportunity to give from the heart. It is also an opportunity to invite others to be part of OLMC rebuilding. Friends, family, neighbors, coworkers from out of the city, state, or even country can contribute online. Two extra ways to give back to our church

- 1) DSF (Diocesan Services Fund) www.archgh.org/dsf parish id 7309 - Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Houston
- 2) mtcarmelalive.org

Parents are asked to assist the candidates practicing good stewardship to the parish. Please provide the candidates with monetary donation for collections. It is in the act of giving that we are want to encourage and practice. Using the offertory envelopes can better track your donations and claim end of year giving for tax purposes.

Fees and Payment Plan

Confirmation II fees include a mandatory off-site retreat and Sacramental Preparation. We are a self-funded ministry. All fees are to offset expenses for the use of facilities and utilities for Confirmation II related activities.

Please make payment(s) on time. Credit card payments are highly encouraged as the transaction are instant and receipts will be emailed (no handling of cash or waiting for checks to clear). If paying by check, please make it out to *OLMC* or *Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church*. For questions on the fee statements, please contact Janie Nunez, 713-644-2930 or nunez_janie@hotmail.com.

\$25, non-refundable deposit required at time of registration, no later than September 12, 2017.

\$20*, required at time of late registration, after November 1, 2017.

\$50, payment plan due by September 24, 2017.

\$50, payment plan due by October 22, 2017.

\$35, payment plan due by November 26, 2017.

\$20, payment plan due by December 24, 2017.

Communication

By Text: Parents can sign up to receive text messages that are sent out to the candidates. Please send a text to 713-498-6066 with the message "Candidate's Name Mom/Dad". Example: "Francis Mom"

By Email: Parents can sign up to be on a distribution list to receive reminders and the monthly schedule by email. Please send an email to fvbui@yahoo.com with the subject "OLMC Conf II Parent".

Translations: Parents may request to receive Confirmation II materials in spanish. Please advise one of the catechists so that we can prepare these in advance for you. As always, the spanish version will be on our website to download and print.

Parents Meetings

Due to limited meeting space, the Second Sunday Parents Meetings will be temporarily moved to after the First Saturday Family Mass. Next meeting will be on **Saturday, January 6, 2018, 6pm**. If the parents aren't able to attend, an adult may substitute in their absence.

Rosary

Parents are invited to join the candidates at 4:30PM on the First Saturday and 11:30AM on the Fourth Sunday to pray the rosary. Let the community pray for you. We lift our intentions, we give praise, and we seek peace when we pray together. Rosaries will be provided and the Mysteries will be lead by the candidates.

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

(Isaiah 11:1-3)

Wisdom

God's gift of Wisdom – the Holy Spirit – enables us to see things with God's eyes. Wisdom moves our vision far out into the future; it gives us perspective. God's gift of Wisdom enables us to see our own sufferings in the light of God's loving plan for us.

Understanding

Understanding is like 'stand under', to 'get to the bottom of things'. Sometimes in order to understand how to use a gift – like a new iPod – we have to read the directions. God's gift of how we should live our lives comes with directions also – the sacred Scriptures. Prayerful reading of the Bible enables us to understand God's plan and to get to the bottom of things.

Right Judgment

Decisions! From the time we decide to get up and out of bed, we make choices. Right Judgment helps us to avoid rash judgments. The Spirit of Right Judgment is the gift to make good choices – to make God's choices and seek His advice.

Courage

The word courage is derived from the Latin word *cor*, 'heart'. Courage is the gift that enables us to face danger and overcome fear with confidence. In the Gospels, before performing a cure Jesus often says, 'take courage... take heart... be confident...' The gift of Courage enables us to see where our real strength lies: God is our strength.

Knowledge

It's important to know things. The Gift of Knowledge helps us know the right things. Knowledge helps us know which things are important and which are not. The Gift of Knowledge helps us to know Jesus. A good way to tell if we are really using the Gift of Knowledge is to examine whether or not the things we know lead us to charity in our actions.

Reverence

Reverence places us at the foot of the cross, looking up to the face of Jesus. The perspective lets us see our relationship to God: the saved and the Savior. The Gift of Reverence enables us to act in the light of this reality and to show our gratitude by our piety and devotion.

Wonder & Awe

It takes time and leisure to wonder and be amazed. Take the time to see God's beauty around you. Take time to step back from your daily routine and to take stock of your lives.

<p>December</p> <p>Wednesday, December 06, 7PM, \$ Adore Recalculating Series</p> <p>Wednesday, December 06, 6:30PM (for Parents) Bilingual Parish Advent Penance Service</p> <p>Friday, December 08, 6:30PM, S <i>Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass</i> (Holy Day of Obligation) Catholic High School candidates attend Mass with school</p> <p>Sunday, December 10, 9:30AM, BYOB, P, N Second Sunday Gifts of the Holy Spirit Session *Rosary, 11:30AM, R *Family Mass, 12PM, S, \$</p> <p>Saturday, December 16, 7:30AM-12:00PM, S Service Project: Society of St. Vincent de Paul Food Fair</p> <p>Sunday, December 24, 9:30AM, BYOB, P, N Fourth Sunday Candidates Session Fourth Sunday Rosary, 11:30AM, R Fourth Sunday Candidates Mass, 12:00PM</p> <p>Sunday, December 24, 12:00AM The Nativity of the Lord Midnight Mass</p> <p>Monday, December 25, 10:00AM or 12:00PM The Nativity of the Lord Mass</p>	<p>January</p> <p>Monday, January 01, 10:00AM or 12:00PM <i>The Solemnity Mary Mother of God Mass</i> (Holy Day of Obligation)</p> <p>Saturday, January 06, 5:00PM, S, \$ First Saturday Family Mass Epiphany Social, 6:00PM</p> <p>Sunday, January 14, 9:30AM, BYOB, P, N Second Sunday GHS Session</p> <p>Sunday, January 21, 11AM Fundraiser: Fiesta Club Party and Bingo</p> <p>Sunday, January 28, 9:30AM, BYOB, P, N, R, S, \$ Fourth Sunday Candidates Session Fourth Sunday Rosary, 11:30AM Fourth Sunday Candidates Mass, 12:00PM</p> 
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Save the Dates

Parents Service Project Option A: SVdP Food Preparation

Parents are invited on Friday, December 15, 9:00AM-12:00PM, at Society of St. Vincent de Paul, 6654 Gulf Freeway, 77087, to assist with preparing and packing food from the Houston Food Bank for client distribution. Each hour that the parents volunteer will be credited towards the candidates community service hours. Please check-in with Patrice St. Pierre and identify yourself from OLMC. Sign-up will be available 12/03-12/10.

Parents Service Project Option B: Parish Christmas Party

Parents are invited on Friday, December 15, 5:00pm-9pm, to assist with Parish Christmas Party. Each hour that the parents volunteer will be credited towards the candidates community service hours. Please check-in Clara Cruz. Sign-up will be available 12/03-12/10.

Parents Service Project Option C: Christmas Decorations

Parents are invited on Sunday, December 24, after the 12PM Mass, to assist with the changeover of the OLMC campus from Advent to Christmas. Each hour that the parents volunteer will be credited towards the candidates community service hours. Please check-in with Bernadette Sanchez and identify yourself as Confirmation II parents. Sign-up will be available 12/03-12/10.



Call for Extra/Unwanted Gifts

Do you have any extra or unwanted gifts laying around and taking up storage space? Donations will be accepted January 01 - February 01, 2018. Each parents are asked to bring a minimum of three extra or unwanted gifts. Make sure that the candidate's name are labeled so that credit can be given. Please do not go out and buy gifts.

Quiz - Sunday, December 10 - Parents please review and assist the candidates to memorize the below.

Come Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth. Amen.

Wisdom

God's gift of Wisdom – the Holy Spirit – enables us to see things with God's eyes. Wisdom moves our vision far out into the future; it gives us perspective. God's gift of Wisdom enables us to see our own sufferings in the light of God's loving plan for us.

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Act of Contrition (version may vary, in English or Spanish)

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart, and I detest them. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you, whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy. Amen.

Service Project: SVdP Food Fair

Candidates will have an opportunity to serve our community at the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Food Fair, 6654 Gulf Freeway, 77087 (same side as Home Depot). Volunteers will assist with packaging and distributing pre-packed produce at the food fair. This is an indoor/outdoor event so please dress accordingly. Red polo required.

Saturday, December 16, 7:30AM-12:00PM

Aguilera, Cecilia	Aguilera, Jesse	Avila, Johana	Barron, Marina	Bonilla, Michelle
Buenrostro, Elliott	Buenrostro, Juan	Castro, Jorge	Cervantes, Jorge	Damian, Juan
Duenez, Analissa	Falcone, Virginia	Fonseca, Gerardo	Garcia, Anthony	Garcia, Laihsa
Garcia, Viviana	Garfias, Esmeralda	Gutierrez, Cynthia	Gutierrez, Genesis	Hernandez, Rossy
Jimenez, Jessie	Jimenez, Jesus	Kennedy, Kevin	Kennedy, Steven	Kulhanek, Austin
Lopez, Abraham	Lopez, Monse	Jocelyn Martinez #1	Medina, Laysha	Morales, Briana
Morales, Janie	Munoz, Zahid	Olvera, Mayra	Ortiz, Cielo	Zaebst, Max
Zamudio, Mayra				

Day at the Casino Thank You!

Thank you all of the parents for your support. The trip would not have been successful and fun without your generous donations of time and supplies.

Congratulations to 2017 All Souls Day Candles Sales Winners

Virginia Falcone - "Most Candles Sold"

Gerardo Pizano - "First to Turn in Completed Orders"

Contacts		
Clara Cruz, CRE office 713-645-6673 cell 281-414-8747 ccruz@olmchou.org 6723 Whitefriars Dr. Houston, Texas 77087	Bianca Escobar, 713-244-4417 Cecilia Perez, 713-584-8960 Clara Cruz, 281-414-8747 Dolores Negrete, 281-662-8655 Francis Bui, 713-498-6066, fvbui@yahoo.com Gerry Lopez, 832-370-4265	Janie Nunez, 713-644-2930 Jovana Acua, 832-589-6548 Roxana Ramirez, 832-758-1900 Suzette Alvarenga, 832-285-6959 Tinafi Andrade, 832-845-4989 Need Jesus? 713-732-2241

I am grateful for it all!

The highs, the lows, and all that reside in the middle.

The lessons revealed as blessings in disguise.

The setbacks that lead to triumph.

The hate that leads to forgiveness.

The love that flourishes in the end.

Grateful is the journey that leads us to create a blueprint for those who come after us in the hope of life eternal, one in being with HIM! - Denise Zaebst

Estamos agradecidos con Dios por darnos la Vida. Gracias padre por darnos tu amor y misericordia infinita al darnos a una familia amigos y salud y especial por darme el don de fe y tengo la Esperanza de que cuando algunas veces me separo de ti te agradezco que tu lo agas. Tengo la confianza de que tu eres un padre hamoroso y que nunca me vas a dejar sin alimento me vas a dar los medios para trabajar y para conseguirlo. Te agradecemos Por la education que estamos obteniendo en este momento en la Iglesia para seguir los Pasos de tu hijo Jesus. GRACIAS AMEN - Martha Molina

I am thankful for God's daily blessings.

I am thankful for Thanksgiving dressing.

I am thankful for my little family.

I am thankful for living happily.

Even when the days are dark

This is when our family will make their mark.

We continue to ask for God's guidance and light

So that our days to come will be bright.

Amen Jesus! - Ana Rangel Duenez

Sponsor Information and Acknowledgment

A Sponsor's Role

- ✚ *Be a Catholic.*
- ✚ *Been confirmed. Preferred not to be in the last two years.*
- ✚ *Received the Sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist.*
- ✚ *Leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken.*
- ✚ *Completed the sixteenth year of age.*
- ✚ *Not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared (e.g. if married, the marriage must be recognized by the Catholic Church as valid).*
- ✚ *Not be cohabiting (living) with anyone unless he/she is the spouse and married by the Catholic Church.*
- ✚ *Not be the father or mother of the one to be confirmed.*
- ✚ *Reside in the Houston metropolitan area (able to travel frequently to Houston).*
- ✚ *Able to participate in all sponsors event and activities.*
- ✚ *Not be the pastor of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Community.*
- ✚ *Not be a Confirmation II catechists or Peer Leaders at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Community.*

Choosing a Sponsor

- ✚ *Is this person someone with whom I feel comfortable?*
- ✚ *Does this person live near enough to me to be able to truly guide and support me?*
- ✚ *If not, will they be committed to communicate regularly with me despite the distance?*
- ✚ *Will this person be willing and able to be my sponsor – to take an active role in my life?*
- ✚ *Will this person be able to fulfill all or most of the responsibilities of a sponsor?*

Sponsor's Responsibilities

- ✚ *Attend and participate as a witness to OLMC Confirmation II journey.*
- ✚ *Attend Mass on weekends and on Holy Days of Obligations.*
- ✚ *Attend Sponsors Day of Reflections in February, April, June, September 2018.*
- ✚ *Attend Sponsors service project(s).*
- ✚ *Participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.*
- ✚ *Follow up on the candidate's preparation process through discussions with the candidate.*
- ✚ *Working with the candidate to resolve questions, concerns, or confusion that might arise during the preparation process.*
- ✚ *Sharing with the candidate his or her own faith experience and struggles in the faith journey.*
- ✚ *Praying for the candidate's spiritual growth and decision concerning the celebration of Confirmation.*
- ✚ *Attend rehearsal and the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation.*

Sponsor's Signature

Date

Print Sponsor's Name

Candidate's Signature

Date

Print Candidate's Name