

Candidate Last Name _____ Candidate First Name _____

St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Church
Confirmation Preparation Portfolio
Part IA

This should be completed and submitted with all registration materials.

My name is (full Baptismal name) _____.

I was born in (city of birth) _____ on this date _____.

I was baptized at (name of parish) _____ on this date _____.

My sponsors for baptism were (names and their relation to you) _____
_____.

My First Communion was at (name of parish) _____ on this date _____.

Your family is an important community of faith, hope, and charity formed by God (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2204-5). You and your family spread your "gifts" of faith, hope and charity every day. These are not "material gifts", but words and actions used to spread Christ's peace to your home and beyond. Please list all the members of your family, **including yourself** and describe one way that each family member spreads faith, hope, or charity.

Names of Family Members	How this family member spreads faith, hope or charity
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

What do you plan to do on your own to help yourself prepare for Confirmation? Take a deep breath, think and pray for a few minutes. Then, complete the following commitment statement.

To prepare for my Confirmation I plan to...

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Part IB

This section will need to be hand written (and easy to read) or typed on separate paper.

SPONSOR INTERVIEW – Now that you have chosen your sponsor, take time with her/him to really get to know about his/her faith journey. It would be best to meet with your sponsor in person, but if this is not possible because your sponsor lives out of town, you can interview your sponsor by phone. Try to meet for at least an hour...at your house or your sponsor's house, for breakfast, lunch or dinner; or you could go for a walk together. BE CREATIVE! **After your interview, please write 3 – 5 paragraphs summarizing your interview. Please include your sponsor's name and their relationship to you.** You do not need to cover the answers to all the questions listed below. Here are some possible questions for you to use in your interview:

1. At what age did you get confirmed?
2. What do you remember about getting confirmed?
3. What did you like about Confirmation and what did you not understand?
4. How has the Holy Spirit played a role in your life?
5. Since getting Confirmed what has been your most influential faith moment?
6. When did you get baptized? Were you a baby or did you go through RCIA?
7. How did you first learn about what it means to be Catholic?
8. What does it mean to be Catholic for you?
9. How has the Catholic faith strengthened and nourished you?
10. How has your appreciation of the Mass changed for you over your life?
Was there a time when you did not like going to Mass? Do you like going to Mass now? And Why?
11. What role does the Holy Eucharist have in your life?
12. What does "forgiveness" mean to you? How does this understanding of forgiveness help you with the Sacrament of Reconciliation?
13. What has been your experience of the Sacrament of Reconciliation? Has it been a rewarding experience for you?
14. Do you have a favorite place and time to pray? Describe a time when it was challenging to pray and a time when you really felt God's presence.
15. In what ways has being a Christian shaped your life?
16. Describe a time when you felt really close to God.
17. Who has been a good role model for you? How has this person taught you or shown you what it means to be Catholic?
18. In what areas would you like to see growth in your Catholic faith?
19. What is your favorite Scripture passage, verse or story? Why?
20. What advice would you give to me in becoming an adult in the Catholic faith?
21. What is the greatest challenge of being Catholic? What is the best thing about being Catholic?

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Part II

Choosing a Confirmation name is an important decision. The Church encourages you to use your Baptismal name (your first name) as your Confirmation name to emphasize the connection between the two sacraments. Whether you use your Baptismal name or choose a new name, it is important that you learn about your name. If you do choose a new name for Confirmation, you should use the name of a Saint. When you list information about the Saints you are connected to, please include information other than just dates and locations.

Look up your first name. If you can't find your first name, look up the name it originated from (like Marlene is a form of Magdalen). Which Saint did you look up? _____

What did you learn about the Saint? (please no dates or places) _____

What is the meaning of your first name? _____

Look up your middle name or its origin. Which Saint did you look up? _____

What did you learn about the Saint? _____

What is the meaning of your middle name? _____

Look up your birthday. Which Saint is remembered that date? _____

What did you learn about the Saint? _____

Look up the date of your Baptism. Which Saint is remembered that date? _____

What did you learn about the Saint? _____

Look up your favorite Saint. What is their name? _____

What did you learn about her/him? _____

The name I choose to be confirmed with is (note - this name will be on your Confirmation name tag, in the worship aid and on your Confirmation Certificate) _____

I choose this name because _____

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Part III

This section will need to be hand written (and easy to read) or typed on separate paper. While this part of the portfolio will take more time and thought, our prayer for you is that through the process of answering these questions you will grow in self-awareness and gain the confidence needed to 'go and serve the Lord' as a fully initiated member of our Church.

1) BIBLE AND THE HOLY SPIRIT – Using the Bible, look up and read these Scripture passages related to the Holy Spirit. Pick **three** of these passages that you feel most connected to (or find others of your own relating to the Holy Spirit). List the Scripture references and then write 3 -5 sentences for each describing what the Scripture says and how it connects to you.

1 Thessalonians 5:19

Titus 3:6

1 Corinthians 12:7

Romans 8:26

Romans 15:13

2 Corinthians 3:17

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Matthew 28:19-20

Luke 11:13

Romans 5:5

Acts 2:3-4

Acts 2:38

John 14:26

Mark 13:11

Acts 5:32

Jude 1:20-21

Acts 13:2

2 Peter 1:21

John 15:26

Luke 3:21-22

Acts 4:31

John 1:33

Matthew 1:20

1 Corinthians 2:11

1 Corinthians 3:16

2) RESEARCH – Read the Introduction to the YOUCAT on pages 6 -11. Using the YOUCAT, answer the following questions:

- What are the 4 parts of the YOUCAT?
- Look at PART ONE and find where it answers the question “What is the right way to read the Bible?” Give the reference number, page number and answer (summarized in your words) that it gives to the question.
- In PART TWO, find where it asks the question “What is Confirmation?” Give the reference number, page number and answer (summarized in your words) that it gives to the question.
- In PART THREE, find the answer to the question “Why are the Beatitudes so important?” Give the reference number, page number and answer (summarized in your words) that it gives to the question.
- PART FOUR, SECTION TWO is about the Lord’s Prayer: The Our Father. Read this entire section. Find three things you didn’t know about the prayer or meaning. Write the reference number, page and summary of what you learned from that question.

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Part IV

The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy illustrate ways to show charity toward others.

Corporal Works of Mercy

- † Feed the hungry
- † Give drink to the thirsty
- † Clothe the naked
- † Shelter the homeless
- † Visit the sick
- † Visit the imprisoned
- † Bury the dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy

- † Admonish the sinner
- † Instruct the ignorant
- † Counsel the doubtful
- † Comfort the sorrowful
- † Bear wrongs patiently
- † Forgive all injuries
- † Pray for the living and the dead

Service to our parish or the community that you have done

Please list three ways you have served as an individual or with your family.

Using the above lists, identify which Corporal and/or Spiritual Work of Mercy you did.

Name of Service	Corporal or Spiritual Work of Mercy Fulfilled
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Service Possibilities after Confirmation when you are Fully Initiated

Please list five talents or gifts that you have that could be useful at St. Max. Use a St. Max bulletin OR the parish website (www.saint-max.org) to find a ministry that uses your gift.

Talents/Gifts that I have	Specific Parish Ministry That Would Use This Gift
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Prayer for Strength and Perseverance as a Disciple

Write a prayer asking for strength and perseverance to join a ministry at St. Max that would use one or more of the talents and gifts you listed above.

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St. Maximilian Kolbe Catholic Church
LETTER TO FATHER RIEHLE

Now that you are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation and have decided to accept this great gift from God, it is time to express this decision by asking to be confirmed. You will do this by writing a letter to Father requesting this sacrament.

This letter should contain **at least** two main parts:

The first part/paragraph should clearly express (1) that receiving the sacrament is your decision/ how you reached this decision (2) that you are preparing for the sacrament through study and instructions, and (3) that you have already accepted the responsibility of living a mature Christian life by being of service to the community. You might give specific examples of how your service,

The second part/paragraph(s) should be more about your personal faith journey. You could tell Fr. Riehle about your prayer and faith life. You might tell him about people/experiences that have spiritually influenced you. Tell him about discussions or teachings that have really stood out for you, during this preparation for Confirmation and/or throughout your years in the Catholic Church. Don't hesitate to include any questions you might have. Your questions would be wonderful to talk about during your interview.