

St. Bonaventure Confirmation Interview Questions

1. Who have you chosen for a sponsor and why? What qualities of faith do you find most impressive about this person?

2. What have you learned about the Holy Spirit and how the Holy Spirit works in our lives?
 - † 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

3. What attracts you about Jesus?

4. Do you want to be confirmed? How will Confirmation help you on your faith journey? What will you do to continue growing in your faith?

5. Recite the Apostles' Creed.
 - † 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 Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; 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 life everlasting. Amen.

6. What does it mean to be a disciple of Jesus in the world today?

7. How do you give witness that you are Catholic?
 - † Examples include:
 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 _____

8. Tell me about the Saint name you have chosen for Confirmation and why did you chose this Saint?

9. Tell me 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.

10. Tell me something about the gifts of the Holy Spirit and how these gifts work in your life.

- † 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 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 interdependence on him.

11. What is prayer? When do you pray? Tell me about the difference types of prayer and which is your favorite. Why do Catholics invoke Mary and the saints in prayer?

- † Prayer is conversation with God, talking and listening to Him.
- † We can pray using our traditional prayers (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, etc.) and private prayers (using our own words).
- † There are five types of prayer: blessing, petition, intercession, thanksgiving, and praise.
- † When invoking the Saints and Mary we are asking for their help in approaching God. This is intercessory prayer. An example is the Rosary.
- † The four sets of mysteries of the Rosary are Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious.

12. How were you of service to your faith community or to the community at large? Tell me about that service experience. What did you gain from these experiences? What personal gifts do you have to use for others? What is stewardship and what is its relationship to your personal gifts?

- † 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.

13. Tell me about the 7 Sacraments and how each gives grace.

1. **Baptism**—makes us members of the Church; washing away of 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

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14. How are the Ten Commandments part of our lives as Catholics? Can you name the first 5 commandments and tell how they guide our lives?

1. *I 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 your faith
 - † **Forbids:** desecration of the Holy Eucharist, idolatry, superstition, astrology, fortune telling, believing in good luck charms, 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 your 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:** not confessing mortal sins, swearing, blasphemy, false oaths and the breaking of vows, perjury
3. *Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.*
 - † **Commands:** going to 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; intentionally not fasting or abstaining on the appointed days
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; fulfilling duties as a citizen
 - † **Forbids:** disrespect, disobedience, or hatred of parents and those in authority over us; making fun of 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:** willfully leading another into serious sin, suicide, deliberate abortion, murder, unjust fighting, excessive tattoos or body piercing, 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 or alcohol consumption, hatred for people of other races and cultures, unjust killing, artificial contraception.

15. What can you tell me about Mass? How is Mass a part of your prayer life? Do you actively participate weekly and on Holy Days? Why or why not?

- † 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.
- † Catholics fulfill the obligation of the 3rd commandment by attending Mass on Sundays and designated Holy Days .
- † The most important part of Mass is receiving the Holy Eucharist, the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- † By attending Mass on a weekly basis, we grow in our faith and in holiness as a person.

16. Can you name the last 5 commandments and tell how they guide our lives?

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, 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, and plagiarism
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
 - † **Commands:** truthfulness, respect for another's good name, keeping secrets when required
 - † **Forbids:** ruining another's reputation, bragging, boasting, complaining, listening to immoral or disrespectful jokes, not keeping secrets when required, gossip, 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:** desire to take, keep, or damage property of others; cruelty to animals, jealousy, greed,
 - † gambling, envy, plagiarism, pirating computer software, materialism