

<p><u>CONFIRMATION SERIES</u> APPROVED SERIES</p>
--

All of the following textbook series are approved by the Committee on Catechesis for their content, correlation with diocesan Curriculum Standards for Catechesis, and conformity with the Catechism (as approved by the Ad Hoc Committee to Oversee the Use of the Catechism, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops).

Loyola – Confirmed in the Spirit © 2007

I. GENERAL OVERVIEW:

This text is for preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The student text/catechist manual contains 8 chapters: Confirmed in the Spirit; Confirmed in Discipleship; Confirmed in Faith; Confirmed in Love; Confirmed in Holiness; Confirmed in the Church; Confirmed in Grace; Confirmed in Witness. It includes a section entitled “Things Every Catholic Should Know:” Living our Faith; Celebrating our Faith; Devotions of our Faith. It also contains a good glossary.

II. SPECIFIC STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES:

CATEGORY	STRENGTH	WEAKNESS	COMMENT/EXPLANATION
<i>COMPATIBILITY WITH STANDARDS</i>	X		Covers the Standards for immediate preparation for Confirmation. Does well on God the Creator, etc.
<i>PRAYER TOOLS & LITURGICAL TOOLS</i>	X		Each chapter concludes with a prayer. Each chapter stresses another different aspect of Confirmation. Catechist manual contains “mini-retreats” before each chapter begins.
<i>CATECHISM & SCRIPTURE REFERENCE</i>	X	X	Contains many references to Scripture, but student text lacks references to the Catechism. However, the catechist manual does contain many references to the Catechism.
<i>PARISH/SCHOOL COMPATIBILITY</i>	X		It is compatible with both parish and school.
<i>FAMILY INVOLVEMENT</i>		X	It is hard to say that it has “family involvement” or not, but each chapter has a “Reach out” section that each confirmand is to do.
<i>TEACHER RESOURCES</i>	X		Catechist manual is very helpful in each session and has many helpful suggestions.
<i>ASSESSMENT TOOLS</i>	X		Each chapter has a summary and review. The catechist manual has a “black line master” of quizzes for each chapter.

CATEGORY	STRENGTH	WEAKNESS	COMMENT/EXPLANATION
<i>OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS</i>		X	There are no “suggested resources, “ but the catechist manual has a section called “Enriching the Faith Experience” where the confirmand is recommended to do some charitable work/action.
<i>ONLINE RESOURCES</i>		X	None listed.
<i>DIVERSITY FOR THE LEARNER (LEARNING STYLES, CULTURE, ETC.</i>	X		Provides various activities for different learning styles.
<i>APPEARANCE & FORMAT</i>	X		The text is colorful, and very easy to read and follow.

III. SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS:

- ◆ This text provides a useful guide for covering the Diocesan Standards on preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The student text lacks references to the Catechism, so it is suggested that the catechist communicate to the student the Catechism references that are given in the catechist manual.

CONFIRMATION SERIES
APPROVED SERIES

All of the following textbook series are approved by the Committee on Catechesis for their content, correlation with diocesan Curriculum Standards for Catechesis, and conformity with the Catechism (as approved by the Ad Hoc Committee to Oversee the Use of the Catechism, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops).

RCL – Confirmation: Filled with the Holy Spirit © 2007

I. GENERAL OVERVIEW:

This text is a series to be used with younger and older adolescents and contains eight (8) chapters: 1) Gathering as Church, 2) Proclaiming God’s Word, 3) Renewing Baptismal Promises, 4) Laying on of Hands, 5) Anointing with Chrism, 6) Exchanging the Gift of Peace, 7) Sharing in the Eucharist, 8) Sending forth on Mission

II. SPECIFIC STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES:

CATEGORY	STRENGTH	WEAKNESS	COMMENT/EXPLANATION
<i>COMPATIBILITY WITH STANDARDS</i>	X		This series is in conformity with our diocesan standards in all areas except it does not explicitly mention the virtues (although it often speaks of the importance of justice, living according to the values and priorities that Christ taught). It would be important to introduce the concept of virtues and discuss this in the classroom.
<i>PRAYER TOOLS & LITURGICAL TOOLS</i>	X		The structure of the whole series is based on the <i>Rite of Confirmation</i> with each chapter covering one part of the rite. There is also an appendix that outlines the <i>Rite of Confirmation</i> . There are also optional “opening rituals” and what will be experienced sacramentally when the candidates are confirmed by the bishop.
<i>CATECHISM & SCRIPTURE REFERENCE</i>	X	X	While there are an abundance of Scripture references as well as references to the documents of the Second Vatican Council, there are few references to the <i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i> . Even in an appendix entitled “Key Teachings of the Catholic Church” no references to the <i>Catechism</i> are included.
<i>PARISH/SCHOOL COMPATIBILITY</i>	N/A		The website has suggestions of ways to incorporate this series into a school curriculum.

CATEGORY	STRENGTH	WEAKNESS	COMMENT/EXPLANATION
<i>FAMILY INVOLVEMENT</i>	X		At the end of each chapter in a section entitled “My Thoughts” the candidate is to reflect on what he/she has learned and journal. Included in this section is a question to discuss with their sponsor and parents. RCL also has a very good website which includes a family section. There is also a Program Director’s Manual which includes a variety of items to share with sponsors and parents.
<i>TEACHER RESOURCES</i>	X		The catechist manual is well done and the website is helpful.
<i>ASSESSMENT TOOLS</i>	X		A variety of assessment tools are available including online help.
<i>OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS</i>	X		See their website www.FaithFirst.com which has much to offer. This series also has a Sponsor Handbook to help involve sponsors in the preparation of the candidates.
<i>ONLINE RESOURCES</i>	X		Their website has much to offer.
<i>DIVERSITY FOR THE LEARNER (LEARNING STYLES, CULTURE, ETC.</i>	X		Traditional and ethnically diverse as well as racially diverse student and adult pictures are consistently integrated into the series. Diverse learning styles and methods are also used.
<i>APPEARANCE & FORMAT</i>	X		The text is attractive and well organized with lots of bright color and a lively appearance. It is user-friendly and pleasant.

III. SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS:

- ◆ It will be necessary to use this textbook series in conjunction with the diocesan policy for the Sacrament of Confirmation of the Curriculum Standards for Catechesis (see section IX)

CONFIRMATION SERIES
APPROVED SERIES

All of the following textbook series are approved by the Committee on Catechesis for their content, correlation with diocesan Curriculum Standards for Catechesis, and conformity with the Catechism (as approved by the Ad Hoc Committee to Oversee the Use of the Catechism, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops).

IGNATIUS –Spreading and Defending the Faith © 1990

I. GENERAL OVERVIEW:

This single volume text is intended for immediate preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. It covers: The Early Church, Confirmation the Sacrament, The Mystical Person-Christ and the Church, The Holy Spirit and Truth, Defending the Faith, Spreading the Faith, Responding to the Holy Spirit, and The Rite of Confirmation.

II. SPECIFIC STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES:

CATEGORY	STRENGTH	WEAKNESS	COMMENT/EXPLANATION
<i>COMPATIBILITY WITH STANDARDS</i>	X		Covers many of the Standards for immediate preparation for Confirmation. Needs more on God the Creator, communion of saints, eternal life, and conversion.
<i>PRAYER TOOLS & LITURGICAL TOOLS</i>	X		Contains a review of prayers. Describes the Rite of Confirmation.
<i>CATECHISM & SCRIPTURE REFERENCE</i>		X	Contains some Scripture references. No CCC references in either student text or teacher manual.
<i>PARISH/SCHOOL COMPATIBILITY</i>			Not relevant. Confirmation preparation programs are parish, not school, based in our diocese.
<i>FAMILY INVOLVEMENT</i>		X	No specific family/parent sections or resources. Suggestions for interviewing family members.
<i>TEACHER RESOURCES</i>	X		Teacher manual contains ideas for presenting the lessons.
<i>ASSESSMENT TOOLS</i>		X	None available.
<i>OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS</i>		X	A very short Suggested Resources listed in the back of the student and teacher books.
<i>ONLINE RESOURCES</i>		X	None.
<i>DIVERSITY FOR THE LEARNER (LEARNING STYLES, CULTURE,</i>	X		Provides a variety of activities for different learning styles.

CATEGORY	STRENGTH	WEAKNESS	COMMENT/EXPLANATION
<i>ETC.</i>			
<i>APPEARANCE & FORMAT</i>	X		Pleasing format; easy to read and follow. Text is broken up into newspaper format articles, sidebars, lists, etc. One drawback: some photos are out of date.

III. SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS:

- ◆ This text provides a useful guide for covering the standards. It is not a repeat of religious education; it is a preparation for the sacrament. Need to add more in some areas (see chart above for details).
- ◆ This text is intended for use with students being confirmed in junior high; however, it is presented in such a way that it is also appropriate for use with older students.