

Saint John Neumann Catholic Church
Office of Religious Formation

What Confirmation Candidates Must Know

Question/Answer Review Key



WHAT CANDIDATES FOR CONFIRMATION MUST KNOW

Review and Answer Key

Part A: Revelation and the Bible

- A1.** What does "Revelation" mean? *The information that God has revealed to us through nature and supernatural revelation.*
- A2.** What are the two sources from which God's supernatural revelation has come to us? *Scripture & Tradition (teachings of the Church)*
- A3.** What do we mean when we say that the Bible is the "inspired" Word of God? *God inspired the authors to write down without error all we need to know in order to experience His love in this life and salvation in the next.*
- A4.** What are the two main sections of the Bible? *The Old and New Testaments*
- A5.** How many books are in each section of the Bible? *There are 46 books in the Old Testament and 27 in the New.*
- A6.** What is the first book of the Bible called? *Genesis*
- A7.** What event divides the first section of the Bible from the second? *The birth of Christ*
- A8.** What is the New Testament about? *The life & teachings of Jesus Christ, His passion, death & resurrection and the establishment of the Church.*
- A9.** Name the human authors of the four Gospels: *Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John*
- A10.** Who, besides these men, is the human author of much of the New Testament? *St. Paul*
- A11.** What is the title of the last book of the Bible? *The Book of Revelation*

Part A: Revelation and the Bible - Open Answer Question:

(Required question for the Candidate Interview)

Imagine that you had to explain what Revelation is and the role of the Bible in Revelation to a friend who did not know anything about it. Formulate a response using your own words.

Your response must incorporate at least 5 of the 11 answers to the questions in Part A.

Part B: Creation and the Fall

- B1.** What does the story of creation as found in the Book of Genesis tell us about the human race and relationship with God? *The story of creation tells us that God created everything and because He created it, the material is good. Also, men & women were created in the image and likeness of God and so each person has a dignity that can never be denied or ignored.*
- B2.** What is Original Sin? *Original Sin is the sin of our first parents, Adam & Eve, who disobeyed God.*
- B3.** Why did Adam & Eve sin? *They sinned because they believed the lying temptation of the devil who told them that by disobeying God and eating the forbidden fruit they would be equal to God in power.*
- B4.** How is every sin similar to the Original Sin? *Every sin is an act of disobedience and when we sin we try to make ourselves equal to God in determining what is good and evil.*
- B5.** What were the five (5) most important consequences of the Original Sin for the human race?
- *Sanctifying Grace, that is a share in God's life, the greatest gift we could have, was lost.*
 - *We are now prone to sin (actual sin.)*
 - *We now experience suffering and death.*
 - *Our rational control of our appetites was diminished~*
 - *The natural harmony between men & women was lost. Work is now a necessity.*
- B6.** Who saves us from sin and its effects? *Jesus Christ*
- B7.** How and why?
Out of love for God the Father and for us Jesus Christ was obedient even unto death on the Cross for our salvation. Jesus gave the "yes" to the Father that our first parents refused to give.

Part Two: Creation and the Fall - Open Answer Question :

(Required question for the Candidate Interview)

Imagine that you had to explain what Original Sin is and how we are saved to a friend who doesn't know anything about Jesus. Formulate a response using your own words.

Your response must incorporate at least 5 of the 7 answers to the questions in Part B.

Part C: Salvation History

C1. **Get your Bible.** Read about these persons and events from the Old Testament:

Person / Event	Scripture Passages
Adam and Eve	Genesis, chapters 2 and 3
Cain and Abel	Genesis, chapter 4 , verses <i>1</i> through <i>16</i>
Noah	Genesis, chapter 6 , verses <i>5</i> through <i>22</i> ; chapters 7 and 8
The Covenant with Noah	Genesis, chapter 9 , verses <i>1</i> through <i>17</i>
The Call of Abram	Genesis 12:1-9
The Covenant with Abraham	Genesis 15
Covenant of Circumcision	Genesis 17
Promise of a Son (Isaac) to Abraham	Genesis 18:1-15
The Testing of Abraham	Genesis 22:1-19
Jacob named "Israel"	Genesis 25:19-34 and 28:10-22 and 32:23-31
Twelve Sons of Israel	Genesis 35:16-29
Joseph	Genesis, 37, 42, 43 and 45
Moses	Exodus, 1 and 2
The Exodus	Exodus 3, 5 and 7 through 14
The Sinai Covenant	Exodus 19, 20 , and 24
Aaron	Exodus 28:1-5 ; and 29:1-9
David	1 st Samuel 8:1-22 ; 17:1-35 ; 19:1-18 and 2 nd Samuel 5:1-5 ; 7:1-17
Solomon	1 st Kings 3 and 8

C2. What is a covenant? *A covenant is an agreement that establishes a permanent sacred bond between persons.*

C3. What is “Salvation History”?

God has always had a plan to save humanity from sin and for Himself. Salvation History is the story of how God’s Plan works in history. We can look at all Salvation History as a series of covenants between God and His People.

C4. Know the major covenants of Salvation History:

Covenants of Salvation History						
Covenant Mediator	Adam	Noah	Abraham	Moses	David	Jesus
Covenant Role	Husband	Father	Tribal Chief	Judge	King	Royal High Priest
Covenant Form	Marriage	Household	Tribe	Nation	National Kingdom	Catholic Church
Covenant Sign	Sabbath	Rainbow	Circumcision	Passover	Throne	Eucharist

Part Three: Salvation History – Open Answer Question

(Required question for the Candidate Interview).

Imagine that you had to explain about the role of Covenants in Salvation History to a friend who doesn’t know much about the Bible. Formulate a response using your own words.

Your response must incorporate at least 4 of the above key persons and/or events from the Old Testament.

Part D: Jesus Christ

D1. Give two titles for Jesus Christ which indicate who He is:

- *Son of God, Lamb of God*
- *Savior of the world, Redeemer, Messiah*

D2. What does the term "Holy Trinity" mean? *That God has revealed Himself to be Three Divine Person, the Father, Son & Holy Spirit, in One God.*

D3. What does "Immaculate Conception" mean? *That God preserved Mary from the effects of original sin so that she could be a fitting mother of His Son*

D4. What does "perpetual virginity" mean? *That because Mary had consecrated her life completely to God, she remained a virgin through-out her life.*

D5. Give three reasons for why Jesus allowed Himself to be crucified:

- *Out of love for God the Father, Jesus Christ was obedient to the Father's will "even unto death." By doing this Jesus made up for original sin, the disobedience of our first parents, Adam & Eve.*
- *Out of love for us Jesus gave His "yes" to the Father's will so that we human beings would once again have the opportunity of eternal life with God.*
- *Jesus wanted to show us that true love is self-sacrificing.*

D6. Why did the people want to crucify Jesus? *They thought He was a blasphemer for saying that He is the Son of God.*

D7. What happened to Jesus after he was crucified? *As He promised, Jesus rose from the dead on the third day*

D8. What does Jesus want for us?

- *Jesus wants us to know of the Father's love for us and to respond to that love by our obedience*
- *Jesus wants us to share eternal life with the Holy Trinity and all the saints in heaven*

D9. What two things must we do in order to receive what Jesus wants to give us?

- *We must repent of our sins*
- *We must believe in the good news of the Gospel*

Part D: Jesus Christ – Open Answer Question:

(Required question for the Candidate Interview)

Imagine that you had to explain who Jesus is to a friend who has never heard of Him.

Formulate a response using your own words.

Your response must incorporate at least 6 of the 9 answers to the questions in Part D.

Part E: The Holy Spirit and Confirmation *(Get your bible and read Chapter 2 of the Acts of the Apostles)*

E1. What did the Apostles start doing after the Pentecost event? *They began preaching to others that Jesus is the Son of God and Savior of the world.*

E2. Why was this gift given to them? (Hint remember the "w" word) *So they would have courage to give WITNESS to their faith in Christ.*

E3. How is what happened to the Apostles at Pentecost related to what happens to us through the Sacrament of Confirmation? *The Holy Spirit comes to us so that we will have the courage to give witness to our faith in Christ by what we say and do.*

E4. List the four (4) effects of the Sacrament of Confirmation

- *The Holy Spirit comes to us in a special way*
- *We receive the Gifts of the Holy Spirit*
- *We are bound more closely to the Church*
- *We are given the courage to give witness to our faith in Christ*

E5. List the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit and match them with their description. (Hint "PUFF Can Wear Keds".)

- *Piety: The desire to be holy*
- *Understanding: The ability to grasp our purpose in life, which is to know, love, and serve God, and to fulfill it.*
- *Fortitude: The courage to live by the Gospel despite difficulties*
- *Fear of the Lord: Show God the reverence that is due to Him*

- **Counsel:** *Divine guidance, the help of God in forming judgments*
- **Wisdom:** *The Knowledge of Divine things*
- **Knowledge:** *The information we need for judging human affairs*

E6. What are the three conditions a Catholic must meet in order to be Confirmed?

- *to be Confirmed one must study the Catholic Faith,*
- *be prepared to be a WITNESS FOR CHRIST*
- *be in a state of grace.*

E7. When a person is Confirmed what are the two gestures that the bishop or priest makes to confer the sacrament?

- *The bishop/priest extends his hands over the candidate and prays that they will receive the Holy Spirit.*
- *He then anoints the candidates head with the oil of chrism.*

E8. What two phrases are said to the person being Confirmed?

- *"Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit."*
- *"Peace be with you."*

Part E: Confirmation – Open Answer Question:

(Required question for the Candidate Interview)

Imagine that you had to explain what Confirmation is and why you want to be confirmed to another Catholic friend who is undecided about whether or not to be confirmed.

Formulate a response using your own words.

Your response must incorporate at least 6 of the 8 answers to the questions in Part E.

Part F: The Seven (7) Sacraments

F1. What is the definition of a Sacrament? *A Sacrament is a visible sign, instituted by Christ, to give grace.*

F2. Name the Seven Sacraments and list them in their proper categories as Sacraments of Initiation, Healing, or Service.

- *The Sacraments of Initiation are: Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist*
- *The Sacrament of Healing are: Penance & Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick*
- *The Sacraments of Service are: Matrimony and Holy Orders*

F3. Who instituted the Mass and when? *Jesus Christ at the Last Supper*

F4. What sacrifice is “re-presented” at each Mass? *Christ’s sacrifice on the Cross is made present*

F5. What are we actually receiving in the Holy Eucharist? *The Body and Blood of Christ.*

F6. Why do Catholics believe this? *Because this is what Jesus taught us in the Gospels.*

F7. What three conditions must be met for a person to receive Communion worthily?

- *A person must be a member of the Catholic Church*
- *Be living in a state of grace that is free from mortal sin*
- *Must fast for one hour before receiving the Eucharist*

Part F: Sacraments – Open Answer Question:

(Required question for the Candidate Interview).

Imagine that you had to explain to a friend who is not catholic what a “sacrament” is and why you go to Mass on Sundays. Formulate a response using your own words.

Your response must incorporate at least 4 of the 7 answers to the questions in Part F.

Part G: Holiness and Sin

G1. What is holiness? *To be holy is to be like Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Holiness means the perfection of charity (love).*

G2. Why did God give each of us a conscience? *So that we would know the difference between right and wrong.*

G3. What two sources of God's revelation do we need to form our conscience? *Scripture and Tradition*

G4. What is a virtue? *The habit of doing good.*

G5. Name the three theological virtues that we receive with Baptism. *Faith, Hope, and Charity*

G6. What is sin? *A sin is a thought, word, or deed which is contrary to God's law.*

G7. What are the three qualities that make an action or thought a mortal sin?

- *It involves a serious matter,*
- *We have full knowledge that it is wrong*
- *We give complete consent of our will.*

G8. What are the "Two Great Commandments that Christ said sum up the Ten Commandments?

- *You shall love the Lord your God with your whole heart, and with your whole soul, and with all your mind. (This commandment summarizes the first three of the Ten Commandments.)*
- *You shall love your neighbor as yourself. (This commandment summarizes the last seven of the Ten Commandments.)*

G9. What are the Ten Commandments in order? (Remember they are given in order of importance.)

1. *I am the Lord, your God, you shall have no other gods before Me.*
2. *You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God in vain.*
3. *Keep holy the Sabbath day.*
4. *Honor your father and mother.*
5. *You shall not kill.*
6. *You shall not commit adultery.*
7. *You shall not steal.*
8. *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*

9. *You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.*
10. *You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.*

G10. When we say that a sin is a “mortal sin”, what do we mean? *A mortal sin is a fundamental rejection of God's love. By it God's grace is driven from the sinner. Mortal means “death dealing”. This sin kills God's life and love in the person sinning.*

G11. If someone commits a mortal sin what must they do as soon as possible and certainly before receiving Holy Communion? *They must go to Confession as soon as possible.*

G12. What four things should we do on a regular basis in order to have strong relationship with the Lord in this life and to enter into eternal life in heaven?

- *Take time each day to pray*
- *Attend Mass each week and come to Confession regularly*
- *Read the Bible, especially the Gospels*
- *Perform acts of Charity in the name of Christ*

G13. What do we mean when we say that the Church is "the Body of Christ?" *The followers of Christ who make up His Church are Christ's abiding presence in the world.*

G14. What do we mean when we say that the Pope is "infallible"? *This means the pope cannot make an error when, as head of the Church, he solemnly defines a doctrine concerning faith & morals.*

Part G: Holiness and Sin – Open Answer Question:

(Required question for the Candidate Interview)

Imagine that you had to explain what it means to be holy and how to grow in holiness to a friend. Consider what kinds of questions your friend might ask you and then formulate a response using your own words.

Your response must incorporate at least 8 of the 14 answers to the questions in Part G.

Part H: Prayers

Know these prayers by heart:

H1. The Our Father.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

H2. Prayer in Praise of the Holy Trinity (The Glory be)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

H3. Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

H4. The Act of Contrition

O my God, I am truly sorry for having offended Thee, and I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell. But most of all because I have offended Thee, my God, Who art all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to do penance and to amend my life. Amen

H5. Grace Before Meals:

Bless us, O Lord, and these Thy gifts, which we are about to receive, from Thy bounty, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.