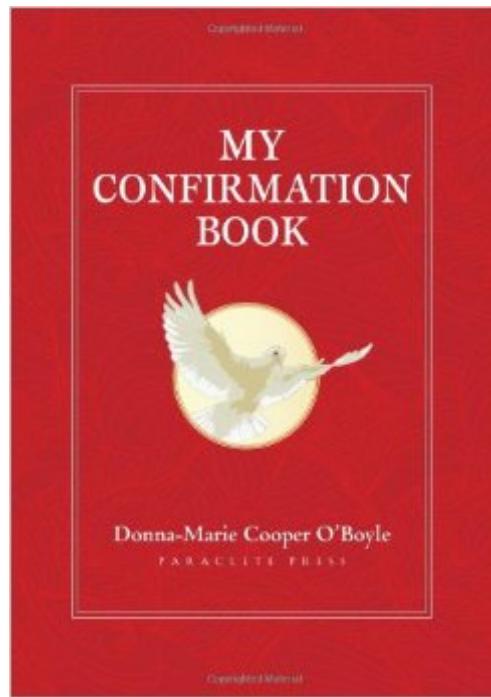


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# My Confirmation Book



## Synopsis

Part keepsake, part teaching book, this small volume is filled with inspiration, encouragement, and reflections to ponder for 4th graders and up. Through simple text, it explains the privileges and responsibilities imparted through the sacrament of Confirmation. Compelling stories about saints and children their own age will help kids become more familiar with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and learn how the gifts can be active in their own lives. The apostolic mission of a confirmed Catholic is emphasized and readers are reminded that the sacrament of Confirmation is excitingâ "the same Holy Spirit who appeared to the apostles and the Blessed Mother at Pentecost is the one who will come to them when they are confirmed.â œToo often we whisk our youth through the Sacrament without a clear understanding of what's happening. That's tragic, because a grace misunderstood is easily unappreciated, and a grace unappreciated is easily lost. My Confirmation Book empowers young people to receive the Holy Spirit in a way that's active, personal, willing, and enduring. Highly recommended.â • Mike Aquilina, co-host ofâ The Lamb's Supperâ on EWTN, and Executive Vice-President of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theologyâ œA wonderful tool for parents, religious education leaders, and all who are concerned about raising up strong young Catholics â " Catholics who will be able to boldly and joyfully proclaim their faith and engage a culture so in need of God.â •

## Book Information

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## **Customer Reviews**

Just finished reading My Confirmation Book and am amazed at the encapsulated nuggets of wisdom. It is easy for the confirmands to understand and full of beautiful ideas and concepts to practice on a daily basis. Scriptural knowledge is interlaced throughout without being intimidating. It is the perfect gift for those entering or completing Catholic Confirmation classes.

I bought "My Confirmation Book" for myself, and one as a gift for a boy I'm sponsoring for Confirmation. It is a lovely gift for anyone preparing for Confirmation, or to help one understand the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The book walks you through each gift of the Holy Spirit, and also, woven throughout are Scripture verses, wise and motivating words from Blessed Mother Teresa, and stories that bring to life, in an easy-to-understand way, how each of the gifts of the Holy Spirit that God has poured out upon us can be applied to our daily life, for the glory of God, and for our good.

We Confirm early in our diocese and because this is still fairly rare, there haven't been gobs of great resources targeting young people in preparing for this special sacrament. I received the book last year and was looking forward to sharing it with my youngest, who will be Confirmed this spring at age 8. We'd spent some time with it, and then I was going to go over some other materials with him, but he surprised me by requesting we return to this book. "Can we read the little red book again Mom?" I think he especially liked the little scenarios Donna-Marie paints through words at the ends of the little chapters. We read through them, then he answered the questions, which helped bring the Gifts of the Holy Spirit alive for him. I wish I'd had this book when my older four were going

through this process. It's definitely one I will recommend to others about to enter this special time. Even older kids could benefit from its wisdom. As a parent trying my best to be my kids' first teacher of the faith, it's an invaluable tool and help.

You can't go wrong if you use this book as either a gift or part of your catechesis for Confirmands (great for a retreat). Solid and enlightening. My one suggestion as a Confirmation director and catechist is that a less expensive paperback edition be published, making this a realistic option for parish use.

Pope John Paul II in his weekly catechesis stated: The grace conferred by the Sacrament of Confirmation is more specifically a gift of strength. This gift corresponds to the need for greater zeal in facing the 'spiritual battle' of faith and charity in order to resist temptation and give the witness of Christian word and deed to the world with courage, fervor and perseverance. This zeal is conferred by the Holy Spirit. (L'osservatore Romano, 8 Apr 92. Summa Theol. III, q.72, a.5) The Holy Father went on to say, "Since the Middle Ages, theology -- which developed in a context of generous commitment to 'spiritual combat' for Christ -- has not hesitated to highlight the strength given by Confirmation to Christians who are called 'soldiers for God'." In today's society, our youth face a myriad of temptations and need to be armed for the battle they face in the present day as well as in the future. As John Paul II describes above, they also need to be able to witness during this era of New Evangelization. This New Evangelization, which began during the reign of John Paul II (the Advent period), is now coming to life and reaching its full potential in our present time. Our youth need to be well-prepared as both defenders of the faith as well as witnesses of the faith. I can think of no book that does this better than Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle's *My Confirmation Book*. In this beautiful book, Donna-Marie describes the sacrament of Confirmation and the precious gifts that are bestowed upon the Confirmand in the sacrament. Writing in her usual gentle and intimate style, speaking directly to readers, she opens their eyes to the valuable graces they receive in the sacrament. She states the purpose of each gift, provides excellent examples, and asks insightful questions, which reinforce moral decision making skills. This small volume is packed with inspiration, encouragement, and reflections to ponder for 4th graders and up. I highly recommend it for youth and for catechists.

My daughter loves it! It is a beautiful book and wonderful keepsake. It has a place to write in Sacrament information and Godparent names as well as informing the Confirmands. I couldn't be

happier with this purchase!

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