

# *Risen Savior Confirmation Preparation*

## **Code of Behavior**

*We are happy and excited to have you in our Confirmation Preparation Program at Risen Savior Catholic Community. The Code of Behavior has been developed as a way to help participants understand what is expected of them during this process, and of making the experience a healthy one for all involved. Please read through the Code carefully, as you will be expected to honor and uphold it throughout Confirmation preparation - at church, at home, at school, everywhere!*

*As necessary as rules are to maintain order, they can't and won't guarantee a successful Confirmation Preparation experience. Success depends on people's willingness to work together for the common good. As one of our wise Confirmation facilitators said, this is not just about Confirmation Preparation; this is about life and we, as Catholic Christians, are expected to set the bar higher because of our belief in the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and the reward of eternal salvation. Our faith should not be compartmentalized; it should be fully integrated into who we are and what we do.*

- **I will attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and participate fully.**

Attending Mass is an obligation - true. But it is also a privilege, and can be an awesome, Spirit-filled experience - depending on your level of participation. Come in the right frame of mind, ready and eager to glorify God with like-minded people. Sing, smile, respond, pray, pay attention, ponder, receive Jesus, and then stay for a few minutes after Mass to greet your parish family. Go to breakfast afterward and discuss the readings and the priest's or deacon's homily.

- **I will be (actively) present at classes and retreats.**

Candidates are expected to attend all classes and retreats unless explicitly excused by the Confirmation Coordinator. But attendance is the minimum requirement; you also need to be on time; arrange to be picked up promptly, if applicable; be prepared with Bible, notebook, pen, and any homework assignment; and participate fully in the activities and discussions. Ask for clarification if there is something you don't really understand. Be ready to answer questions or offer your opinion.

- **I will be responsible as a servant-leader.**

It is expected that you will participate in your service projects/chosen ministry and follow through on all that is required of you. Show up - on time - and perform the assigned task to the best of your ability. Bring along a cheerful disposition!

- **I will be responsible when it comes to letting the appropriate people know when I cannot keep a previously scheduled commitment.**

Be communicative. Let your Home Facilitator, Ministry Head, and/or Confirmation Coordinator know what's going on in your life - especially if it affects your ability to attend/participate in classes, ministry, retreats, etc.

- **I will distinguish myself by my actions, not by my appearance.**

Excessive or inappropriate piercings (lip, tongue, etc.) and/or tattoos are discouraged. If you already have them, remove or cover them. If you don't have them, don't get them! It is important to note that while Jesus brought attention to Himself by being a radical in what He did and how He treated people, not once in the Bible does it say that Jesus was dressed in an unconventional manner, nor does it mention any tattoos or piercings aside from those He received at His crucifixion. Be like Jesus and draw attention to yourself by what you DO - not how you look.

- **I will dress appropriately.**

One of the fruits of the Spirit is modesty. Candidates are expected to dress modestly and tastefully throughout Confirmation Preparation. Ladies: no spaghetti straps, exposed midriffs, short skirts, tight clothing, cleavage, etc. Gentlemen: no exposed boxers, muscle shirts, etc. All: no t-shirts, hats or wrist bands with pictures or slogans advocating drugs, alcohol, violence or contain profanity. (This includes "band wear" - hats, t-shirts - whose songs contain profanity or objectionable lyrics. This would include 50 Cent, Marilyn Manson, etc.) No t-shirts with sexual innuendos. For example: "Come 'lei' around in Hawaii" - bad pun, but acceptable. "I got 'lei-d' in Hawaii" - not acceptable. (If you're not sure, don't wear it!) And please - unless it is raining inside or the sun is shining in your eyes inside - remove your **hat!**

*Note: If you show up to a home class inappropriately attired, your home class facilitator has two options: offer you acceptable attire to wear for the duration of the meeting (i.e., a large t-shirt) or call your parents to come and pick you up; you will have to make up the class by calling the Confirmation Coordinator.*

- **I will not engage in destructive behavior.**

Another fruit of the Spirit is self-control. Your behavior, including your language, should be in line with what the Church teaches, what is socially acceptable, and what the law of the land says. No smoking cigarettes, drinking alcohol, using illegal drugs, cutting, starving yourself, engaging in inappropriate sexual behavior, shoplifting, etc. This also includes your behavior when you are behind the wheel of a car. Jesus said: "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's," meaning that unless there is compelling reason otherwise, you are expected to follow the law of the land.

- **I will practice good moral-decision-making skills by making the right choices when it comes to the friends I choose, the music I listen to, the movies I watch, the books and magazines I read, the Internet sites I visit, and the video games I play.**

A steady diet of junk food can have detrimental effects on your overall physical well-being. Likewise, a steady diet of junk music, movies, and video games also affects you - psychologically and spiritually. The occasional "Twinkie" isn't going to kill you but if that constitutes your entire diet, it's time to make better choices!

- **I will respect the dignity of every living thing, first and foremost my fellow human beings.**

Young people often say things like "that's so gay" or "that's retarded." It is necessary to understand that comments such as these are not just politically incorrect - they are insensitive. Every living thing is unique, and created by God, and worthy of respect. No one should be teased because of their heritage, their family, their clothing, their IQ, their school, their neighborhood, etc. At Risen Savior, we are not Bears, or Knights, or Matadors, or Eagles, or Chargers, or Sartans, etc.; we are Catholics! Love your neighbor!

***I understand and agree to the Risen Savior Confirmation Preparation Code of Behavior. I also understand that my parent(s) or guardian will be notified of any infractions necessitating my dismissal from the program.***

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Student/Candidate Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date