



SAINT MARK CATHOLIC CHURCH

14740 Stumptown Road, Huntersville, NC 28078 • stmarknc.org • 704.948.0231

2023-2024 Confirmation Packet

Please submit all paperwork to the Faith Formation Office by
January 7, 2023

Confirmandi may not be able to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation if all materials are not submitted and Confirmation requirements are not fulfilled.

A complete Confirmation packet includes:

- ___ Confirmandi Information Sheet
- ___ Affirmation of Understanding of Confirmation
- ___ Saint Report (This will be your confirmation Saint)
- ___ Sponsor Affirmation of Faith and Morals with Pastor Signature
(St. Mark Parishioners should submit the Affirmation without Father John Putnam's signature)
- ___ Official Copy of Baptismal Certificate with parish seal *

*If the candidate **did not** receive Baptism and First Holy Communion at St. Mark Catholic Church, the Church that administered the sacrament must send a **new official certificate with the parish seal** to St. Mark Catholic Church at the address listed above. **The official copies must have date stamps no earlier than September, 2023.** Photocopies of the original baptismal certificate are not accepted. These Baptismal certificates must have the First Holy Communion notation on the reverse of the certificate.

Please ensure that the Confirmand's name is on every page.

If you have any questions or concerns during the preparation process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

In Jesus and Mary,

Mariana Vázquez
mariana.vazquez@stmarknc.org
704-948-1306, ext. 105



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Confirmandi Information

Please print legibly in ink.

Baptismal Name:

(As appears in Church register)

FIRST

MIDDLE

LAST

Birth Date:

MONTH

DAY

YEAR

Baptismal Date:

MONTH

DAY

YEAR

Baptismal Church:

CHURCH

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE

ZIP

COUNTRY (IF NOT U.S.)

Confirmandi Height:

(For Confirmation Robe)

FEET

INCHES

Confirmation Saint Name:

Sponsor's Full Name:

Parent Email (Please Print):



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Affirmation of Understanding of Confirmation

Name: _____

Confirmandi should initial each line legibly in ink.

_____ I desire to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation. I understand that by the sacrament of Confirmation, I become more perfectly bound to the Church and am “more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed” (CCC 1285).

_____ I understand that “It is evident from its celebration that the effect of the sacrament of Confirmation is the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the apostles on the day of Pentecost” (CCC 1302).

_____ I understand that “Confirmation brings an increase and deepening of baptismal grace:

- it roots us more deeply in the divine filiation which makes us cry, ‘Abba! Father!’;
- it unites us more firmly to Christ;
- it increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us;
- it renders our bond with the Church more perfect;
- it gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ more boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross.” (CCC 1303)

_____ I understand that “Like Baptism which it completes, Confirmation is given only once, for it too imprints on the soul an *indelible spiritual mark*, the ‘character,’ which is the sign that Jesus Christ has marked a Christian with the seal of the Spirit by clothing him with power from on high so that he may be his witness” (CCC 1304).

_____ I understand that “This ‘character’ perfects the common priesthood of the faithful, received in Baptism, and ‘the confirmed person receives the power to profess faith in Christ publicly and as it were officially (*quasi ex officio*)’ (CCC 1305).

_____ I understand that “To receive Confirmation one must be in a state of grace. One should receive the sacrament of Penance in order to be cleansed for the gift of the Holy Spirit. More intense prayer should prepare one to receive the strength and graces of the Holy Spirit with docility and readiness to act” (CCC 1310).



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Confirmation Saint Report

****Students who attend St. Mark School will complete their Saint Report through the school****

Saints are heroes of the faith who lived their lives as examples of faith, hope, and love. The tradition of taking a saint's name at Confirmation is an ancient practice in the Church. The patron saint becomes a role model for the person, and an example of how the Gospel can be lived in a practical way.

Select a saint you would like to imitate and complete a report about this saint. The name chosen is the name by which the candidates will be presented to the Bishop at Confirmation.

Paper Guidelines

Your report must be **typed** and **2 pages double-spaced** in length (12 point font and 1 inch margins).

Please use reputable sources for your saint paper (do not use Wikipedia) and include a **reference page** (not included in 2 pages).

All papers are read by the Confirmation Coordinator. Parents are responsible for ensuring that their son and/or daughter does not submit a plagiarized paper. Plagiarism includes the submission of work that is not your original work, including reports written by siblings or friends. You should ensure that any information obtained online about saints is your own (not copied and pasted from online with few words altered). If a St. Mark School student submits a plagiarized paper, the Confirmation Coordinator will notify the School.

Important items to include:

- Introduction (interesting information about the saint you chose)
- Biography (history: date of birth, location, family, general information about the saint, what did the saint do, what is the saint known for, canonization date, feast day) *1-2 paragraphs only*
- Why did you choose this saint? What qualities do you admire in this saint? What characteristics would you like to imitate? What event in the life of this saint most impressed you and why?
- Every saint is known for a particular quality or virtue. What special virtues did this saint have?
- What about this saint inspires you to be a better Catholic? How is this saint a model for you today?



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Frequently Asked Questions

Where do I submit the packet?

Packets must be submitted to the Faith Formation Office at St. Mark. You may bring completed packets to the Welcome Desk Monday-Friday, 9:00-4:30 pm or Sunday 8:30-12:30 pm. Packets may also be mailed to Mariana Vazquez at St. Mark Catholic Church, 14740 Stumptown Road, Huntersville, NC 28078. Students attending Edge may bring their packets to their Edge session.

***Please do **NOT** submit completed packets to St. Mark Catholic School. ***

What if my son and/or daughter cannot participate in their assigned Confirmation Mass?

St. Mark will make every effort to accommodate your family at the alternate Confirmation Mass if they are unable to attend their assigned Mass. Please note that changes to Masses will only be made to accommodate illness, sponsor travel plans, and family conflicts. Changes cannot be honored to reassign Confirmandi to a Mass with their friends.

What if my son and/or daughter is unable to attend one of the two Confirmation retreats?

If a student does not attend one of the two retreats, they will be invited to a spring 2025 Confirmation retreat and their Confirmation delayed until 2025.

Does my child's sponsor have to attend the rehearsal?

Sponsors are highly encouraged to attend the rehearsal. If a sponsor is unable to attend a rehearsal, a parent or guardian must attend in their place.

What if my child's sponsor cannot attend the Confirmation Mass?

Students are highly encouraged to select a sponsor who can attend the Confirmation Mass to present them to the celebrant. If unforeseen circumstances arise and the sponsor is unable to attend the Mass, a proxy can be assigned. A proxy stands in place of the sponsor to present the student to the celebrant for Confirmation.

Who can serve as a sponsor?

A sponsor must be 16 years-old by the Confirmation Mass, and they cannot be a parent or stepparent who already share in the responsibility of raising the child in the Catholic faith.

A sponsor must be a Catholic in good-standing. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC2041-2043), this means that they attend Mass weekly, participate in sacramental confession at least once a year, participate in worthy reception of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season, observe the Church's Days of Holy Obligation, observe prescribed days of fasting and abstinence, and support the Church in her needs (time, talent, and treasure).

Someone cannot serve as a sponsor if they are married outside the Catholic Church (married civilly only, married in a non-Catholic Church, etc.), divorced legally without an annulment, cohabitating with a significant other outside of the sacrament of marriage, etc.