

Saint Patrick Religious Education



Confirmation 1 Handbook Grade 7

**Saint Patrick Parish Stoneham
Religious Education
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Preparation for Sacrament of Confirmation

Congratulations on taking the next step in your faith formation! Confirmation is really the fulfillment of the promises your parents made for you at your baptism. Now, you as a teenager, are freely choosing to become a full member of the church.

The goal of the Confirmation Program at Saint Patrick Parish is to help you to identify the gifts you possess and challenge you to put these gifts to use in fulfilling the mission of the Church. The requirements of the Confirmation program will give you a greater understanding of the teachings of the faith, as well as the tools you will need to be able to grow in faith after having received the sacrament of Confirmation. The entire faith community at Saint Patrick's is eager to welcome you fully into the Body of Christ.

Program Components

Candidates, together with their families, must read over and discuss the expectations and requirements of the Confirmation preparation program outlined in this handbook. Entry into the program assumes the candidate fully intends to fulfill these requirements.

Your Faith Starts in the Home

The Eucharist is central to Catholic life. It is the means by which we nourish our faith and worship God. It is also through hearing the Scriptures read and discussed that we learn more about our faith and about God. This two-year Confirmation preparation program is intended to complement the faith formation that takes place in the candidate's family home. Therefore, the program assumes that candidates are: 1) attending mass, and 2) exploring and learning about their faith on their own and with their family.



Detailed Information for Confirmation 1 Grade 7

Required Masses

Confirmation candidates are expected to attend Mass every weekend. Approximately once a month from October through February, candidates and their families are required to attend the 6pm Mass to build community and celebrate our faith as a group. Dates for these Masses are listed on the Important Dates and Deadlines page of this handbook.

In addition, there are two Masses that hold special significance for the program. The **Commitment Mass on October 5 at 6 pm** is a celebration where parents and candidates promise to work together toward the goal of Confirmation for the student. The **Sponsor Mass on December 14 at 6 pm** is a time where Confirmation 2 students bring their sponsor (or a parent if the sponsor is not able to attend) and enter into an agreement where the Sponsor promises to guide the candidate along a path toward living a Christian life. **Confirmation 1/Grade 7 families are expected to attend both Masses in support of our older students.**

Confirmation Meetings

Confirmation meetings will be held from 7:00-8:15 pm in Our Lady of Providence Hall. Dates are available at the end of this handbook on the Confirmation Meeting Dates page.

The Confirmation Program this year is using a mix of programs that rely on video content to educate, inspire, and inform our children. These videos will be used to spur small group discussion during our meetings. As such, attendance is very important so the child may have the opportunity to interact with peers and mentors. Please make every effort to have your child attend every session.

Missed Meeting Policy

Students should make every effort to attend every meeting. However, if a child is unable to attend the meeting for a legitimate reason, he or she must complete the following and turn in the writing assignment by email before the next meeting:

- Attend Mass and write 1-2 paragraphs on how the homily or readings spoke to you. (If student is ill, he or she can watch the Mass on www.catholic.tv.org).

The writing assignments can be emailed in PDF format to us at reled@stpatrickstoneham.org. Please do NOT send as a Google Doc as we are unable to open them.

Christian Service Hours

Christian Service is the donation of time to help others in ways that reflect the **Corporal** or **Spiritual Works of Mercy**.

- **The Corporal Works of Mercy** address physical and material needs: feeding the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, clothing the naked, visiting the imprisoned, sheltering the homeless, visiting the sick, and burying the dead.
- **The Spiritual Works of Mercy** focus on the heart, mind, and soul: admonishing the sinner, instructing the ignorant, counseling the doubtful, comforting the sorrowful, bearing wrongs patiently, forgiving injuries, and praying for the living and the dead.

The goal of service is to help students discover the joy that comes from giving their time and talents to others in need. If a service activity does not clearly fit under a corporal or spiritual work of mercy, it must be approved by the Religious Education Coordinator.

Confirmation 1 & 2 candidates are required to complete **5 hours of service** by **March 1, 2026**. Hours must be submitted online through the Confirmation Webpage: [Confirmation Preparation](#).

Confirmation 1/Grade 7 Mass & Service Project

On February 8, Grade 7 will host the 10 am Family Mass and do the Mass jobs for this Mass. After the Mass, we invite all Confirmation 1 students and families to join us for a brief service project to create care bags for the homeless. Details will be shared closer to the project. This is an optional activity.

Grade 7 Saint Assignment

In preparation for choosing your Confirmation name next year, all Confirmation 1/Grade 7 students are required to research the life of a saint they find interesting and complete a brief report about that saint. This will be submitted online via the Confirmation Webpage

[Confirmation Preparation](#).



The Saint Report includes questions on:

- Name and dates of the Saint's life
- What he or she did as a follower of Christ
- Why you chose this Saint
- How you identify with the Saint and/or their actions

Important Dates & Deadlines Confirmation 1/Grade 7:

Date:	Time:	Description:
10/5/2025	6 pm Mass	Monthly Fellowship Mass: Commitment Night *All families in the Confirmation 1 & 2 should attend. *Student and parent/guardian required. Siblings and family welcome.
11/9/2025	6 pm Mass	Monthly Fellowship Mass: Grade 7 will do the Mass Jobs for this Mass
12/14/2025	6 pm Mass	Monthly Fellowship Mass: Sponsor Night Mass *On this night, Confirmation 2 students and their sponsor or a parent/guardian have a ceremony and reception after. Confirmation 1/Grade 7 Students should attend. Grade 7 students will meet for class after Mass.
2/1/2026	6 pm Mass	Monthly Fellowship Mass *All families in the Confirmation 1 & 2 should attend.
3/1/2026	Forms Due:	5 Hours of Christian Service are due. Online form to be completed with questions about service

Confirmation Meeting Dates

Sunday: 7:00-8:15 pm

<u>Date</u>	<u>Session Description</u>
10/5	6 pm Commitment Mass (Required) Confirmation 1 & 2: Session 1
10/12	No Meeting -Columbus Day Weekend
10/19	Session 2
10/26	Session 3
11/2	Session 4
11/9	6 pm Fellowship Mass (Required) Session 5
11/16	Session 6
11/23	Session 7
11/30	No Meeting -Thanksgiving Weekend/1st Sunday of Advent
12/7	Session 8
12/14	Sponsor Night Mass (Required) and Grade 7 only Meeting
12/21-1/4	No Meetings -Christmas Break
1/11	Session 9
1/18	No Meeting -MLK Day Weekend
1/25	Session 10
2/1	6 pm Fellowship Mass (Required): Session 11
2/8	10 am Mass-Grade 7 to do Mass Jobs + Service Project after Mass
3/8 or 3/15	Grade 7 only Meeting/Wrap Up

