



Good Shepherd Parish
8200 Gold Coast Drive
San Diego, CA 92126
(858) 271-0207

Faith Formation 2026-27

Confirmation Program – Registration

Online registration opens	May 1, 2026
Registration closes	Friday, September 30, 2026
Parent and student orientations Note: All Confirmation students are interviewed before placement into program. *Con-Journey: Students who are not baptized and/or have not received Sacrament of the Eucharist. <i>Parents are required to attend class with student.</i>	Con-1: Sat, Sept 12, 2 pm; Sun, 13, 3 pm; Tues, Sept 15, 6:30 pm Con-2: Sat, Sept 12, 3:30 pm; Sun, 13, 6:00 pm; Wed, Sept 16, 6:30 pm Con-Journey*: Sun., Sept. 13, Noon; Mon, Sept. 14, 6:30 pm <i>Additional options will be announced</i>
Class Times- <i>(times include check-in and conclude with participation in the 5 pm Youth Mass)</i>	<u><i>Start Dates continuing alternating Sundays</i></u> Con-1: Sept 20, 1:45 to 6:00 pm Con-2: Sept 27, 1:45 to 6:00 pm Con-Journey*: Sept 20, 1:45 to 6:00 pm

Online Registration via Parish Flocknote

Flocknote Account Required. Parent or legal guardian must create a Flocknote account or update the family's existing Flocknote profile to include each child being registered.

- The online registration form must be completed and submitted by a parent or legal guardian.
- Baptism certificate is required if child's first year in Faith Formation at Good Shepherd. If your child was baptized at Good Shepherd, please provide the date of baptism and we will search our parish records.
- Documents may be uploaded through Flocknote or emailed to FaithFormationAssistant2@goodshepherdparish.net.
- Required releases and acknowledgement (including Medical Consent, Digital Communications Consent, and Photo/Video Release, Sacramental Preparation Requirements Acknowledgement/Agreement, Code of Conduct) will be reviewed and signed at orientation. (Document available for preview on our website.)
- **Paper forms option is available.** Forms are available on our website or you may pick-up at the office.
- Registration/acceptance into the program is complete 1) after student is interviewed by the Youth Ministry/Confirmation coordinator, 2) parents and student attend one orientation session, and 3) submit the required releases and acknowledgements/acceptances.

Registration Fees

- Early registration: \$130 per child if paid by July 31, 2026.
- Beginning August 1, 2026: \$150 per child.



- Registration fee does NOT include retreat fees (expect it to be for Con1-- \$175 payable in October, and for Con-2 \$300 due in January). There may be additional fees for selected youth activities days/events as well.
- Payment option available through Flocknote registration process. A payment plan is available upon request. To arrange a payment plan, families must first submit a payment plan form and meet with the coordinator and/or business manager. Plans are subject to the approval of the Pastor/Associate Director.
- No refund will be made if the family is dropped due to failure to meet the requirements. No refunds will be made after the registration closes on September 30, 2026.

In-Person Help, Fee Payment, and General Information

Families may receive assistance with registration, submit documents, and make fee payments at the following times:

- Sunday, May 3, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. – Parish Picnic (all programs)
- After Masses on selected weekends for all programs in church vestibule or plaza: June 6–7, July 25-26, and August 29–30

Parish Office document and fee submission hours:

- Tuesday: 9:30–11:30 a.m.
- Wednesday: 9:30–11:30 a.m. and 1:30–5:30 p.m.
- Thursday: 9:30–11:30 a.m. and 1:30–5:30 p.m.

Registration Advising by Appointment

To request an advising appointment, email the coordinator for your language program and include your preferred dates and times.

- **Melissa Mina**, YouthMinister@goodshepherdparish.net

For general information about the Faith Formation program, contact **Charlotte Fajardo**, Associate Director for Evangelization, char@goodshepherdparish.net.



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Good Shepherd Parish Confirmation Program

Youth Ministry/Faith Formation 2026-27

Confirmation is a Sacrament of Initiation that is closely connected to the Sacrament of Baptism and Eucharist. It completes the Sacrament of Baptism, brings an increase and deepening of baptismal grace and strengthens the gifts of the Spirit received at Baptism. The Sacrament of Confirmation also leads us to the Eucharist as the way to live out our lives as fully initiated Catholics. These sacraments empower us to go forth as missionary disciples of Christ to share the good news of the Gospel with the whole world.

Preparation for Confirmation at Good Shepherd Parish is a two-year process for high school students designed to lead them toward a more intimate union with Christ and a lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit, preparing them to assume the role of disciple and witness to Christ. To this end the confirmation program strives to awaken a sense of belonging to the universal Church, as well as within all the communities they live – their families, their parish, school, friends, sports teams, and workplace.

Candidate Requirements

- Candidates must be baptized and have received the Sacrament of the Eucharist. New students must present their sacrament certificates at enrollment. *(See section below regarding High School ages students who have not been baptized and/or haven't received the sacrament of the Eucharist.)*
- The Diocese of San Diego requires that candidates be at least 15 years of age when the sacrament of Confirmation is conferred. Candidates typically begin in the 9th grade year of high school, but they can begin their 10th or 11th grade year as well.
 - First time 12th grade students or students with special needs may be accepted upon development of a special learning plan that may include participation in the general program, plus additional classes and/or activities.
 - First year of confirmation is known as Con1 or PreCon. Second year is Con-2 or Con.
- Candidates are required to demonstrate their understanding of

Candidate Requirements for **2-year parish program**

- ☐ Be baptized and have received the Sacrament of the Eucharist.
- ☐ Be at least 15 years by the time Confirmation is conferred.
- ☐ Participate in interview with Youth Ministry/ Confirmation Coordinator (or designee) to determine appropriate placement level.
- ☐ Demonstrate readiness including basic understanding of Catholic faith and teachings.
- ☐ Parent/Family with student commit to meeting attendance-participation requirements for:
 - Orientation Session
 - Sunday Mass
 - Bi-monthly sessions, approx 12 each catechetical year
 - Youth Nights (at least 7)
 - Retreat 2-day (Con-1) 3-day (Con-2)
 - Community Service (20 hrs/yr)
 - Parent/Family Faith Formation Classes/Experiences (including one Parent/Student afternoon retreat) **15 units**.
- ☐ Comply with the Code of Conduct at all times.
- ☐ Share responsibility for regular communications with Youth Ministry Leader
- ☐ Open communications with Youth Ministry/Confirmation Coordinator or Pastor designee regarding special needs or situations that may impact student's sacramental preparation.

the Catholic faith, an appreciation of what the Church teaches, participation in sacred liturgy and prayer (*assessed at initial interview with Youth Ministry coordinator, evidenced by consistent attendance at class, youth nights, retreats, weekly Mass*).

- Students who have not received the Sacrament of Baptism, Reconciliation and/or Eucharist, and those students who do not demonstrate the basic level of understanding of the Catholic faith and teachings for readiness to adequately prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation, will be placed in **Confirmation-Journey (Con-Journey)**. Parents are required to attend each class with their student. Parents are not required to attend additional parent classes, however, with their student, they will perform half of the required community service hours with their student (10 hours). Parents who are also missing sacraments may be able to prepare themselves to receive the Sacrament of Baptism, Reconciliation and Eucharist.

Con-Journey students have the same requirements for attending classes, youth nights, weekly mass, and community service hours. Con-Journey students do not participate in the Con-1 student retreat, but may attend the Parent-Student retreat scheduled for spring.

- Candidates demonstrate the Christian Way of Life through proper formation of conscience for living according to the moral and social teaching of the Church (*as evidenced by community service, participation at classes, youth events and retreats*)
- Candidates experience Christian Living through regular reception of the sacraments of the Eucharist and Reconciliation, by their commitment to ongoing spiritual growth through prayer, good works, and involvement in parish life (*as evidenced by participation in parish community events including prayer liturgical celebrations, serving in ministries, and community service*)

Confirmation Program Design, Requirements, Expectations

Class Design/Delivery. Our Confirmation program is led by a collaborative instructional team that includes Faith Formation staff, experienced catechists, parish clergy, and occasional guest speakers. Sessions are designed to engage students in multiple ways—combining interactive activities, large-group instruction, and small-group discussions to foster both understanding and personal reflection.

Young adults and previously confirmed high school students also serve as mentors and leaders, assisting during class sessions, Youth Nights, and retreats. Their presence helps build a supportive, peer-centered environment that encourages authentic faith sharing and discipleship.

Class Sessions & Schedule

Classes are held on **alternating Sunday afternoons**, with scheduled breaks for holidays and major parish or diocesan events. Approximately 12 double sessions (24 topics) will be offered from **September 2026 through May 2027**.

Check-in for sessions begins at **1:45 p.m.** and concludes with participation in the **5:00 p.m. Mass**, which is considered an integral part of the formation experience.

- **Confirmation Year 1 (Con-1)** begins: *September 20*
- **Confirmation Year 2 (Con-2)** begins: *September 27*
- **Con-Journey** sessions follow the same schedule as Con-1

Attendance Requirements & Participation Expectations.

Regular attendance and active participation are required for preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

- Candidates are expected to attend **all scheduled class sessions**, including participation in the **5:00 p.m. Mass** with their class.
- Attendance is recorded by the parish. Parents/guardians will receive periodic updates to help monitor their child's progress.

Attendance Policy

- Missing more than **two (2) class sessions** (approximately 15-20% of the total sessions) may impact a candidate's readiness to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation as scheduled.
- When absences exceed this threshold, a meeting with the student, parent/guardian, and the Youth Ministry/Confirmation Director (and/or Pastor) will be required to determine appropriate next steps, which may include continuing preparation into the following year.

Youth Nights

Candidates are required to attend **at least seven (7) Youth Nights** during the year.

- Youth Nights are typically held on the **first and third Fridays of each month**, with approximately **15–20 opportunities** offered annually, including make-up or bonus events.
- A **monthly attendance report** will be emailed to parents/guardians and candidates to assist in tracking progress.
- A calendar will be provided in September and updated monthly.
- Youth Nights are open to all parish high school students, RSVP required.

Retreats

Participation in a retreat each year is **mandatory** and may not be waived.

- **Con-1 Retreat:** 2 days / 1 night, typically held on campus in October
- **Con-2 Retreat:** 3 days / 2 nights, held at an off-site retreat center, typically in late January or early February
- **Con-Journey:** No student retreat requirement.

Due to the nature of the retreat experience, candidates are expected to attend the retreat **in full** (no late arrivals or early departures).

If a candidate is unable to attend the parish retreat, they are responsible for arranging a **comparable diocesan-approved retreat** at another parish. Any alternative retreat must be **approved in advance**. Candidates are strongly encouraged to attend the parish retreat, as it is a central and formative part of the program.

Community Service

Candidates are required to complete **20 service hours per year** as part of their formation.

- Up to **5 hours** may be completed outside of parish or diocesan-sponsored events.
- Candidates must participate in **at least one parish-wide community event** each year (e.g., Oktoberfest, Beautification Day, Parish Picnic, Advent/Christmas or Lent/Easter events, or similar).
- To encourage a variety of service experiences, no more than 10 hours may be claimed from a single event.

Service hours must be documented using the **Service Hours Verification Form** and submitted promptly to the parish office for credit (within 30 days of the service performed). Parents/guardians and candidates will receive **monthly updates** of recorded service hours to help track progress and ensure all service is properly documented.

Communications – A Shared Responsibility

Clear and consistent communication is vital to ensuring the success and well-being of our candidates, and we aim to keep you informed every step of the way. At Good Shepherd Parish, we utilize various communication channels to keep you updated and informed about important matters concerning your child's faith formation. These include: email, Flocknote parish website, and parish social media.

You can expect regular updates and communications from us according to the following schedule:

- **Monthly:** Attendance notifications, service hours updates, event notifications, service opportunities, etc.
- **As needed:** Special announcements or urgent matters.

Appointment Scheduling. We recognize the value of open dialogue and collaboration between parents and our team. If you wish to discuss your child's progress, address concerns, or seek clarification on any matter, we encourage you to schedule an appointment with the youth/confirmation program director – Youth Ministry Confirmation Coordinator, Melissa Mina (youthminister@goodshepherdparish.net) or call the Parish at 858-271-0207.

Family Faith Experiences and Formation

The family is often called the **Domestic Church**—the first place where children learn to know, love, and follow Jesus. In keeping with the guidance of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Diocese of San Diego, Good Shepherd's Faith Formation programs include opportunities for Family Formation as part of sacramental preparation.

Families with children preparing for Reconciliation, Eucharist, or Confirmation are asked to participate in 15 Family Formation credits during the year. Recognizing the many demands of family life, these credits may be fulfilled through a variety of flexible opportunities, including sessions held while children attend classes, parish and diocesan events, retreats, guest speakers, and other approved faith enrichment experiences. Depending on the opportunities selected, many families fulfill this expectation through weekly participation or approximately three to five larger Family Formation events.

The Family Formation expectation is per family, not per child or per parent. Families enrolled in the Journey program fulfill this expectation through their weekly participation with their children and have no additional Family Formation requirements outside of their program calendar.

A separate Family Faith Experiences and Formation handout, including approved opportunities and schedules, will be distributed at the September orientation meetings. Families will also be notified as additional opportunities are added throughout the year.

Families experiencing special circumstances that may affect completion of program requirements are encouraged to speak with their program coordinator or the Associate Director for Evangelization and Discipleship.

Special Circumstances

Is there anything that may prevent your family from completing the program requirements? Please use the space below to share your situation. If you prefer, you may instead request an appointment with the program coordinator and/or the associate director.

Acknowledgement and Acceptance

By signing below, you acknowledge that you have reviewed and understand the Faith Formation Program Requirements, including attendance expectations, sacramental preparation requirements, and the Family Formation expectations associated with your child's program. You understand that special circumstances should be discussed promptly with the program coordinator or Associate Director so that appropriate accommodations and support may be considered.

_____	_____	_____
Print Parent's Name	Parent's Signature	Date
_____	_____	_____
FF Staff Name	FF Staff Signature	Date