

St. Joseph Confirmation Program

Dear Parents, Sponsors & Confirmation Candidates,

Welcome to St. Joseph Confirmation program. This letter is to outline more specifics on the Confirmation preparation for 2026-2027.

Here is a listing of required forms, meetings, and events in addition to the grade 11 Confirmation classes and regular Mass attendance.

1. Parent Meeting/Orientation for Parents

*At least one parent for each Confirmation candidate should attend this informational meeting. We will discuss class information for the upcoming 2026-2027 religious ed. year. This is the time for any questions you may have. We will meet on **Sunday, September 13, 2026**, in the school hall from 9:00am to 10:15am.*

2. Selection of Confirmation Sponsor/Confirmation Sponsor Information Sheet

*Each Candidate must have selected a Sponsor by **Sunday, October 11, 2026**. Note the eligibility requirements listed on the sponsor form. IMPORTANT: Since Confirmation sponsorship involves some active participation during the preparation process, a sponsor should be chosen who is willing and available to attend the Confirmation Candidate/Sponsor workshop and Confirmation Rehearsal, as well as being present on the day of Confirmation.*

3. Confirmation Retreat

*The retreat will be held on **Saturday, November 14, 2026**, from 9:00am to 7:00pm with more information on place to follow. Retreat Permission slips are due before the retreat date – due date for permission slips is **Sunday, November 8, 2026**. Students must attend the entire duration of the retreat. Students should dress comfortably for retreat and leave all homework and electronics at home.*

5. Confirmation Name Reflection

*Within the Christian tradition, names hold great meaning. For example, Jesus gave his disciple Simon the name “Peter”, which literally meant “rock”, as a foreshadowing of Simon becoming the foundation, or rock, of the Church. Historically, people preparing for Confirmation chose a new name to symbolize this new chapter of their life in Christ. Choosing a Confirmation name is a great honor and allows you to choose a name that means something to you as you are now. Each Candidate will be asked to choose a Confirmation name, which will be the name that the bishop confirms you with. Please turn in your Confirmation Name Reflection by **Sunday, January 10, 2027**.*

6. Attend the Confirmation Candidate/Sponsor Workshop

*The Confirmation workshops allow sponsors and candidates to learn more about the sacrament and strengthen their relationship. The Confirmation Workshop is on **Wednesday, February 24, 2027**, in the school hall from 6:00pm – 7:30pm. If your sponsor is unable to attend, a parent or guardian can attend in their place.*

7. Spiritual Activity

*Though this category may seem too vague, it is by far one of the most beneficial. Part of your preparation for the sacrament is walking with Jesus. Attend the rosary (St. Joe’s evening of Sept. 15th and another date TBA), adoration (here or another church), or another activity (does not have to be here at St. Joe’s). Please stay tuned for other opportunities via email. Please turn in your spiritual activity reflection by **Sunday, February 28, 2027**.*

8. Candidate Confirmation Questionnaire for the Bishop

The Archdiocese has changed the process regarding letters to the bishop for those parishes who will have an Auxiliary Bishop celebrating their Confirmation Mass. Since we will have an auxiliary Bishop, every candidate will be asked to submit a Confirmation Questionnaire to the Bishop, in place of a formal letter. This fillable form can be found on the archdiocese website: <https://www.archmil.org/youth/confirmation>. Please fill this out – preferably TYPED, printed out, and must be hand signed by you- also please DO NOT FOLD your questionnaire. All questionnaires will be mailed as a group from the parish. We absolutely need your printed and signed questionnaire by **Sunday, March 14, 2027**.

9. Service

Candidates will need to complete four service projects under the following categories: parish service (2) and community service (2). A Service Log form is provided to track time and activities. Please watch your email for service opportunities including St. Ben's Meal Program (2nd Tuesday in both November and March), Auction help, Cookie House, Craft Day, and Rummage help. You may also find opportunities on your own. If you have already performed service hours over the summer or within this past year (sophomore year), you may use those – make sure that your service sheet is up to date with all information. If you have questions about what counts as a service hour, please let Alex know. The Service Log must be completed and turned in by **Sunday, April 11, 2027**.

10. Attend Mass

Candidates should attend mass regularly. Confirmation is a time where the student agrees to follow his or her Catholic faith. Therefore, it is up to the candidate to balance their activities and school calendar with the commandment "Keep Holy the Sabbath". The Eucharist is the highpoint of the mass and Jesus himself feeds us spiritually for the week. He asks us to attend mass in remembrance of Him. Therefore, it is important to find one hour of time to devote to honoring our Lord. Candidates are encouraged to visit other Catholic churches. The archdiocese has a website where you can view mass times throughout the diocese any day of the week: <https://www.archmil.org/Parishes/Find-A-Mass.htm>.

11. Complete a Confirmation Interview

The Confirmation interview is completed with the Director of Child and Youth Formation and Deacon/Father at a mutually agreed upon date/time. Confirmation interviews will take place in **April 2027**. Interviews will take place before or after a religious education class. Please plan for 30 minutes. Emails will be sent out in March with possible dates/times. Interview topics will focus on creed, sacraments, prayer, and morality.

12. Confirmation Rehearsal

All candidates and sponsors are required to attend the Confirmation rehearsal at St. Joseph Congregation. If your sponsor is unable to attend, you **MUST** bring a parent or guardian to take their place at this event. **Wednesday, April 21, 2027**, from 6:30pm to 8:00pm.

13. Sacrament of Confirmation Liturgy

The Confirmation Mass/Rite will take place **Sunday, April 25, 2027, at 2:00pm here at St. Joseph Congregation**. Candidates and sponsors should arrive beforehand (arrival time TBA). Candidates and sponsors sit in assigned pews.

If at any time you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out. May the Holy Spirit guide and direct all of us throughout this year of Confirmation preparation!

Alex Burks
Director of Religious Formation

Lisa Marynik
Religious Education Admin. Asst.

St. Joseph Important Due Dates Confirmation 2026-2027

Forms	Due Date	Completed
Confirmation Sponsor Information Sheet	Sunday, October 11, 2026	
Retreat Permission slip	Sunday, November 8, 2026	
Confirmation Retreat	Saturday, November 14, 2026	
Confirmation Name Reflection	Sunday, January 10, 2027	
Candidate/Sponsor Workshop	Wednesday, February 24, 2027 (6:00pm to 7:30pm)	
Spiritual Activity Reflection	Sunday, February 28, 2027	
Candidate Questionnaire	Sunday, March 14, 2027	
Service Log	Sunday, April 11, 2027	
Confirmation Interview	April 2027	
Confirmation Rehearsal	Wednesday, April 21, 2027 (6:30pm to 8:00pm)	
Confirmation Mass	Sunday, April 25, 2027 (2:00pm)	