

2-YEAR CONFIRMATION PREPARATION CLASSES **REQUIREMENTS AND TIMELINE**

Confirmation preparation is a 2-year process of developing a deeper knowledge and understanding of our faith. Completion of these two years is a must before receiving Confirmation in the spring of level 8.

The following guidelines are to support you, as parents, the primary educators of the faith for your children. This information and all the forms needed are also available on the parish website. Please call the Faith Formation Office if you have any questions.

REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES

- ~ Regular attendance at Sunday Mass
- ~ Regular attendance at Faith Formation lessons (no more than 3 excused absences and an email or phone call to the office explaining any absence)
- ~ Encouraged participation in at least one parish event per level.
- ~ Research and completion of a saint report (please follow the guidelines on the saint report form).
- ~ Completion and submission of the sponsor certificate (follow the guidelines for a sponsor and write a paragraph explaining why you have chosen this person).

TIMELINE

Level 7

- ~ Start looking into a saint who you wish to take the name of on your Confirmation Day.
- ~ Start thinking now about who your sponsor will be.
- ~ Service hours are not required, but we highly encourage students to participate in at least one parish event.

Level 8

All requirements are to be handed in by **APRIL 1st**.

- ~ Saint Report (choose the saint you will be taking the name of at your Confirmation).
- ~ A sponsor certificate along with a paragraph explaining WHY the sponsor has been chosen.
- ~ Service hours are not required, but we highly encourage students to participate in at least one parish event.

Additional requirements

- ~ **Confirmation Interview:** Every student will have an interview with a priest to reflect on WHY they want to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. This gives each student the opportunity to ask any questions they may have leading up to Confirmation.
- ~ **Retreat:** Date TBD (please see retreat expectations)
- ~ **Attend 2 hours of adoration and receive the sacrament of confession.**

CHOOSING YOUR CONFIRMATION SAINT NAME

You have been called by name. (Isaiah 43:1)

At Confirmation, you will choose a saint's name that will become your patron and a role model for you to follow all through life. As Catholics, we believe in the Communion of Saints, so we are all spiritually united with each other and those who have died and gone to heaven. At your baptism, your parents chose your name, but now *you* have the opportunity to choose a name. The name you choose is one of a saint that you can emulate and ask to intercede for you. The saint you choose should have significance to you and have a holiness you would like to have as you go forward on your lifelong faith journey.

Write a report about your saint (at least three full paragraphs). It must be typed and turned in via hard copy to your Confirmation teacher by the due date. Your essay must include the bullet points found in the handout given to you during the first day lesson.

PUTTING OUR FAITH INTO ACTION

Putting our faith into action is the good work we do to help our brothers and sisters in need.

Corporal Works of Mercy are feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead.

Spiritual Works of Mercy are to admonish (correct) the sinner, instruct (teach) the ignorant, counsel the doubtful, comfort the sorrowful, bear wrongs patiently, forgive all injuries, and pray for the living and the dead.

Community service hours are not a requirement; however, we ask students to put their faith into action and volunteer for at least one parish event during Confirmation preparation. There are plenty of volunteer opportunities throughout the year through the parish.

SPONSOR FORM

According to the *Code of Canon Law*, “As far as possible the person to be confirmed is to have a sponsor. The sponsor’s function is to make sure that the person confirmed behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the duties inherent in this sacrament.”

A sponsor has a great honor and responsibility to be a witness of Christ and help you throughout your lifelong faith journey. When you are choosing a sponsor, you should keep the following guidelines in mind:

- A sponsor must be **actively** practicing the faith and a registered member of a parish.
- A sponsor, if married, must be in a validly recognized marriage in the Catholic Church.
- A sponsor should set an example as a good practicing Catholic.
- A sponsor must be at least 16 years old and a confirmed Catholic.
- Only one sponsor may be chosen. If a sponsor is unable to attend the Confirmation Mass, another person (by-proxy) may act as a substitute.
- A priest **MUST** be present when a sponsor signs the sponsor certificate showing they are active members of the church. A parish seal needs to be obtained from the sponsors parish.

Write a paragraph neatly typed, explaining **why** you have chosen this person as your sponsor. Be sure to include the following information: sponsor’s **name and parish** and **relationship to you**.

RETREAT EXPECTATIONS

A 3-hour retreat ending with Eucharistic adoration will be held in the fall before Confirmation takes place. **Every student is expected to attend.**

This retreat is directed to enrich the candidate's awareness of the Holy Spirit in a personal way. With fun activities and in-depth talks, they can see how God is calling them to build the church.

Each Candidate should be accompanied by a parent or their sponsor.

**PLEASE TAKE THIS TIME VERY SERIOUSLY TO CONSIDER THIS
IMPORTANT STEP THAT YOU ARE TAKING, WHEN YOU ARE FULLY
INITIATED INTO THE FAITH AT YOUR CONFIRMATION AND WHEN YOU
WILL RECEIVE THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TO HELP YOU
THROUGHOUT YOUR LIFE.**