



Youth Ministry & Confirmation Preparation Program

Year 1:

While all teens are invited and encouraged to participate in the Youth Ministry program, those who are ready to begin their preparation for Confirmation have specific participation requirements to ensure that they get the formation they need in order to be prepared and ready to receive the Sacrament.

Requirements:

- Participation at weekly Youth Group meetings (once a month)
- Participation at Year 1 Classes (once a month on set dates)
- Attendance at Guest Speaker at St. Rose of Lima in the fall
- Participation in Sunday Mass with family
 - Participation at Youth Mass, monthly (fourth Sunday of each month)
- Attendance at 2 or more Large Youth Event each year – for example
 - NET Retreat
 - Diocesan Youth Day
 - XLT

Year 2:

Year 2 is the next step for teens who desire to confirm their Catholic faith and wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Requirements:

- Participation at weekly Youth Group meetings (once a month)
- Participation at Year 2 Classes (once a month on set dates)
- Participation in Sunday Mass with family
 - Participation at Youth Mass, monthly (fourth Sunday of each month)
- Attendance an Overnight Camp Confirmation Retreat (September 6-8)
- Attendance at Guest Speaker at St. Rose of Lima in the fall
- Attendance at 2 or more Large Youth Event each year – for example
 - NET Retreat
 - Diocesan Youth Day
 - XLT

Walk Stage

Once confirmed, the teen is encouraged to continue involvement in Youth Ministry as an active participant, and to grow as a Christian leader. They continue to strengthen, and be strengthened by, the youth community. These teens are actively ministered too and in turn are able to grow in a deeper understanding of the life and mission that they are called to as a Catholic disciple of Christ.

It is our sincere hope to impact and change the lives of our teens by helping them to understand that they are all a part of the Body of Christ and that God loves each of them dearly and wants to enter into an eternal relationship with them. It is our desire to provide the love, community, teaching, prayer development and support that they need to explore this relationship so that they may grow deeper in their relationship with Jesus and His church. It is our deepest wish that each of our teens comes to know just how deeply God loves and wants them.



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What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is one of the seven sacraments of the Catholic Church. It is received by every Catholic, but only once, according to Church norms; it seals the recipients with the Holy Spirit, who gives them the strength to live out their Christian identity given to them at Baptism. It recalls the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles at Pentecost when they hid from the authorities, fearing for their lives as followers of Christ. Through community, liturgy, evangelization, catechesis, and service, candidates for Confirmation learn more about their faith. As they continue their journey as daughters and sons of God, they are made strong and courageous to practice what they believe in the world as they receive the Spirit. When the grace of confirmation is rooted in ongoing faith development and community, Catholics remain firm believers in God and committed agents of the Gospel wherever they are.

Sadly, many teens go through a standard two years of Confirmation preparation, receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, and then disappear from the community, disengaged from the Catholic faith community.

Why does this happen?

Research by the Pew Institute suggests that as many as one-third of all baptized Catholics will leave the faith. Half of them do so before the age of 18. The main reason they do so is that "their spiritual needs are not being met and they are simply drifting away. While there may be no single reason why young people feel disconnected from the Church, it is not uncommon for teens to go through Confirmation simply to please their parents, with no real desire to receive the sacrament. It is really not surprising that they do not feel drawn to continue after having received the Sacrament. If they are not properly engaged and invited into a community of faith along with their peers, many teens will feel adrift and disengaged.

What are we doing differently?

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states: "The Preparation for Confirmation should aim at leading the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and a more lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit...in order to be more capable of assuming the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life. To this end catechesis for Confirmation should strive to awaken **a sense of belonging** to the Church of Jesus Christ, the universal Church as well as the parish community." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1309)

Our goal is to reach out to teens and help guide them into a deeper relationship with God while striving to draw them into "the life, mission, and work of the Catholic faith community," as the Bishops have called upon the whole church to do in *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry*. To reach our goal, we are breaking the mold of the traditional two-year Confirmation practice. Participation in the Catholic faith community does not begin and end with Confirmation. We believe that our youth need to be welcomed by and engaged in their faith throughout their high school years, not just in preparation for Confirmation. Learning about the Catholic Church and growing in faith does not stop with the Sacrament of Confirmation nor should it be limited to specific Confirmation preparation programs. To this end, we have chosen to use a comprehensive youth ministry approach that is all-inclusive, encompassing the eight components of Youth Ministry as set forth in *Renewing the Vision*: Advocacy, Catechesis, Community Life, Evangelization, Justice and Service, Leadership Development, Pastoral Care and Prayer & Worship. Our ultimate goal is to welcome and invite our youth into a closer personal relationship with God, fostering a faith and desire to learn and deepen that relationship throughout their lives.



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Practical Application: What does a comprehensive Youth Ministry look like?

Youth are invited to participate in all aspects of youth ministry throughout high school. Weekly youth groups cover a variety of topics that explore the pillars of faith while meeting one or more of the eight components of youth ministry. During these meetings, we have a mix of icebreakers and games, teaching about Scripture and faith, Scripture and reflection, small or large group discussion and activities, music appropriate to the night's theme, and prayer. In addition to weekly youth group meetings, there are opportunities to participate in service and social activities, fundraisers, Youth Mass, and Bible study.

Active participation in Youth Ministry gives teens a sense of belonging and gives them the opportunity to witness other teens living out their faith. Together, teens can learn to overcome difficulties and challenges in being faithful, while also learning and encouraging one another to grow in their faith. The benefits of active participation in Youth Ministry extend beyond the faith as well. Through developing these relationships with their peers, teens gain positive peer role models and a significant support system that is there for them not only at Youth Ministry activities, but also in their day-to-day school life. While Youth Ministry is a faith family, it does not replace the traditional family, but rather supplements and supports it, all to the benefit of teens.

How does Confirmation work?

Confirmation is fully integrated into the Youth Ministry program. Here is how it works:

All graduated 8th graders through graduating seniors are invited to participate in the Youth Ministry Program. Preparation for Confirmation usually begins in 9th grade, depending on the youth's readiness. These requirements provide opportunities for youth to participate in and learn about the church and grow deeper in their faith. This is a time of spiritual formation and development through which teens are encouraged and challenged to delve deeper into their faith and personal relationship with God in order to truly desire to live a Catholic life.



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Program Requirements -General Information

The Confirmation program is a 2 year program purposed for the spiritual and personal enrichment of high school students as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Students will receive this final Sacrament of Initiation upon successful completion of the two-year program and the students personal request to be Confirmed in the Catholic Church.

In order to be eligible to enter into the program, teens must be in high school. Most teens tend to begin their Confirmation preparation at the start of 9th grade.

Confirmation Payment: Year 1 is \$150 the first child and \$80 for each additional child. Year 2 is \$350 (Year 2 payment includes the retreat fee and bus) and 200 for each additional child.

Baptismal/First Communion certificate copies: Please email or drop off to the main or youth office a **COPY** of your child's **Baptism & First Communion Certificate** (include first/last name in subject-line please)–If your child received their sacraments at St. Rose of Lima, please contact David. We can look up your family's information but you may still have to turn in a copy. If your child has NOT received one or both of these prior sacraments, **please note** so in the registration form & **contact David for additional steps**.

Transfer students must turn in a letter from their previous parish/Confirmation coordinator or Director of Catechetical Ministry certifying the completion of one full year of Confirmation preparation. This letter must have a seal from the parish.

Class Sessions are Sunday from 2:15-4:00 pm. Please review calendar for dates.

Class time / Check-in / Arrival & Dismissal: Check-in for teens will start at 2:15 pm and **class will begin right at 2:20PM**. Please drop off your child no later than 2:15PM

Parent's Responsibilities: As parents are the primary catechists of their children, we give great deference to parental involvement in the faith-education of their children.

We send out emails and like to send out reminders to parents as much as possible. It is the parent/guardian responsibility to check emails at least ONCE a week to stay up to date. The "primary email"/"additional email provided at the time of online registration will be the emails I send out reminders to. Parents must also refer to our Confirmation calendar. *This calendar is subject to change* but I will always notify families ahead of time so please refer to it for the year schedule and events.

- We will also be using "Flocknote", an emailing and texting platform to distribute information. Please always double check your spam folder for any of my emails.



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Absence or Missed Assignments

To notify of absences of legitimate reasons for late or missed assignments, a parent/guardian must *send an email explaining the reason of absence/missed assignment*. **More than two unexcused absences may result in a repeat of the preparation year.** (For ex. valid reasons for absence/missed assignments: family emergency or illnesses.)

Please direct emails to youth@strosecv.com

Weekly Mass Attendance

Mass is the source and summit of the Christian life. As future Confirmandi, we expect teens to appreciate and uphold the privilege to honor and worship God with the responsibility and dedication that He deserves. Experiencing the mass is the greatest form of worship we have as Catholics. We do, however, ask the student to join us for Youth Mass on the fourth Sunday of each mass at 4pm. We do not require a Mass logo however we do ask the teens to sign in at the Youth Mass.

Confirmation Mass Date 2025 Confirmation Mass date and time are given by the diocese typically in February, but it could be before or after. Confirmation Mass will be any time after Easter 2025

For High School Seniors: First-time registered Senior Confirmation teens are **REQUIRED to attend BOTH Confirmation 1 and 2 class**. They are expected to complete the requirements listed prior to this page.

Youth Group:

Youth Group provides a fun safe place for teen find a solid Catholic Community, to get answers to their question about faith and to most importantly, to experience Jesus in a profound and personal way. Confirmation students are only required to go once a month but are encouraged to join us every week to be a part of our youth community. Youth Group meet on Wednesdays from 7pm-8:30pm in the hall or in the youth center.

Youth Mass:

Youth Mass provides an environment where the young people can lead and take ownership of the Mass. It encourages them to be active members of their parish and enable them to live out their faith with enthusiasm. Youth Masses are on fourth Sunday of the month at the 4pm Mass.



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XLT:

XLT is a special night for teens to experience Eucharistic Adoration. The night begins with a guest speaker sharing their experiences in faith especially in relationship to the Eucharist. It is followed by Eucharistic Adoration which is accompanied with praise and worship music. As Catholics, we believe the Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith and so these nights are an opportunity for teens to experience the glory of God through the Eucharist. The calendar has date for the XLTs, more information is to come.

NET Retreat:

A NET retreat is a retreat designed to present youth with the truth of who they are as God's children and how true joy and meaning in life are found by accepting Christ's gift of salvation and living as His disciple. Every NET retreat includes an extended time for the youth to pray and be prayed with to make a personal response to God's invitation. NET retreat are lead by young adult lay Missionaries. For more information visit <https://netusa.org/>

Youth Day:

The San Diego Youth Day is a planned day by the Diocese of San Diego Office of Youth Ministry for young people. Teens will have the opportunity to experience speakers, exhibits, music, liturgy, and prayer that invite them deeper into their relationship with Christ. Young people will leave inspired and challenged to live as missionary disciples in their homes, schools, parishes, and communities. More information is to come

Steubenville:

Steubenville is a high-energy 3 day youth conference where thousands of teens are invited to encounter Jesus Christ through dynamic speakers, engaging music, the Sacraments, small group discussions, and fellowship with other teens. For more information visit <https://steubenvilleconferences.com/>

Year 2 Retreat:

Overnight Retreat is on September 6-8, 2024 at Whispering Winds Camp. The retreat will be a faith-filled Catholic Retreat led by the St. Rose of Youth Ministry team, plus the teens will get to do the zipline, archery, and more. More information will come soon.

For any questions or more information email youth@strosecv.com



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Year 1 Confirmation Dates for 2024-2025

September

18- Family XLT(Talk and Holy Hour)
22- Parent Meeting
22- Youth Mass

October

3 - Guest Speaker
16- XLT(Talk and Holy Hour)
27- Class 1
27 - Youth Mass

November

2- Lifeteen Six Flags
24- Class 2
24- Youth Mass

December

1 - Class 3
18-XLT(Talk and Holy Hour)

January

22-XLT(Talk and Holy Hour)
27- Class 4
27 - Youth Mass

February

19-XLT(Talk and Holy Hour)
23- Class 5
23 - Youth Mass

March

8-NET Retreat
19- XLT(Talk and Holy Hour)
23- Class 6
24- Youth Mass

April

16- Family XLT
26 - San Diego Youth Day
27 - Class 7
27- Youth Mass

May

15- Family XLT
25 Parent Meeting and Class 8
25- Youth Mass

Class is from 2:15-4pm

Youth Group

- Known as youth night
- Every Wednesday from 7-8:30pm
- Students are required to go once a month
- Are encouraged to join us every week
- Be a part of our youth community

Notes

- Some miscellaneous events may not be listed
- Events not listed will be emailed out.
- For additional questions and information, please contact:
youth@strosecv.com



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Year 2 Confirmation Dates for 2024-2025

September

6-8 : Overnight Retreat

18- Family XLT(Talk and Holy Hour)

22-Youth Mass

29- Class

October

3 - Guest Speaker

6 -Class

16- XLT (Talk and Holy Hour)

27- Youth Mass

November

2- Lifeteen Six Flags

10 - Class

24- Youth Mass

December

8- Class 4:

18- XLT(Talk and Holy Hour)

January

12 - Class

22- XLT(Talk and Holy Hour)

27- Youth Mass

February

2- Class

19- XLT(Talk and Holy Hour)

23- Youth Mass

March

8-Class

8 - NET Retreat

19- XLT(Talk and Holy Hour)

23- Youth Mass

April

6-Class

16-Family XLT

26 - Youth Day

27- Youth Mass

May

21- Family XLT

25- Youth Mass

Class is from 2:15-4pm

Youth Group

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- Every Wednesday from 7-8:30pm
- Students are required to go once a month
- Are encouraged to join us every week
- Be a part of our youth community

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

01

IS THE CONFIRMATION CALENDAR SUBJECT TO CHANGE? IF SO, WHY?

YES. THE CALENDAR FOR OUR CONFIRMATION CLASSES AND YOUTH EVENTS IS ALWAYS SUBJECT TO CHANGE DUE TO PARISH EVENTS AND UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES. FAMILIES WILL ALWAYS BE NOTIFIED ASAP OF ANY CHANGES.

02

WHAT DOES IT MEAN THAT SOME MISCELLANEOUS YOUTH EVENTS ARE NOT 'LISTED'?

SOME EVENTS ARE PLANNED LATER THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER AND CONFIRMATION YEAR. I WILL EMAIL OUT INVITES FOR THOSE EVENTS AND DO MY BEST TO SPREAD THE WORD.

03

WHY DO SOME CLASSES FALL DURING THE SWEETWATER SCHOOL BREAK PERIODS?

WE CANNOT HAVE CONFIRMATION 1 & 2 ON THE SAME DAY SO WE HAVE TO ALTERNATE SUNDAYS. BECAUSE OF HOLIDAYS AND EVENTS, THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 12-13 CLASSES A YEAR AND WE CANNOT AFFORD TO GIVE TOO MANY SUNDAYS OFF. I ASK FAMILIES TO REVIEW THE CALENDAR AHEAD OF TIME AND TRY TO PLAN ACCORDINGLY. ALSO, NOT ALL CONFIRMATION STUDENTS ARE WITHIN THE SWEETWATER SCHOOL DISTRICT. PLEASE NOTE THAT TEENS ARE PERMITTED 3 ABSENCES A YEAR FOR SICKNESS, TRAVELING, ETC. AFTER 3 ABSENCES, A MAKEUP CLASS CAN BE COMPLETED.

04

WHAT AGES CAN ATTEND YOUTH EVENTS AND BE ENROLLED IN CONFIRMATION CLASSES?

INCOMING-OUTGOING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS CAN ATTEND YOUTH EVENTS. IF YOUR CHILD HAS GRADUATED 8TH GRADE AND WILL BE IN THE 9TH GRADE IN THE LATE SUMMER/FALL THEY ARE ELIGIBLE. HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATED SENIORS CAN ATTEND YOUTH EVENTS BEFORE LEAVING FOR COLLEGE. CONFIRMATION CLASSES ARE FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS. YOU MAY ENROLL A TEEN WHO WILL BE A CURRENT HIGH SCHOOL IN THE FALL WHEN CLASSES START. HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS MUST BE ENROLLED IN BOTH CONFIRMATION 1 AND 2 CLASSES AND WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND BOTH CLASSES TO BE CONFIRMED BEFORE GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL, REGARDLESS OF WHAT HIGH SCHOOL THEY ATTEND. *WE NO LONGER HAVE THE ONE YEAR PROGRAM FOR CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS PER DIOCESAN GUIDELINES.* EMAIL ME IF YOU HAVE A HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR WHO WILL BE A NEW STUDENT BEFORE ENROLLING

05

DOES MY CHILD NEED TO BRING ANYTHING?

MOST EVENTS, UNLESS OTHERWISE ADVISED, JUST REQUIRE YOUR CHILD TO BE IN APPROPRIATE, COMFORTABLE CLOTHING, HAVE AN OPEN MIND, AND A RESPECTFUL ATTITUDE! IF YOU WILL BE HAVING YOUR CHILD ATTEND ANY OF OUR YOUTH EVENTS AND CONFIRMATION CLASSES, THEY MUST COMPLETE A GENERAL RELEASE FORM, WHICH CAN BE COMPLETED WHEN YOU DROP THEM OFF.

FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

Registration by Appointment Only

Confirmation Registration

- Tuesday, August 7th: 11am-5pm
- Wednesday, August 8th: 11am-5pm
- Monday, August 12th: 10am-3pm

Faith Formation Registration

- Tuesday, August 13th: 11am-5pm
- Wednesday, August 14th: 11am-5pm
- Thursday, August 15th: 10am-3pm



Email: faithformation@strosecv.com to schedule your appointment today!

Register now and be a part of our vibrant faith community!

