



Sacrament of Confirmation Preparation Program 2026-2027

PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS:

1. Attend Formation and Sacramental Preparation Sessions and a Confirmation retreat for the sacrament.
2. **Monthly High School Faith Formation Gatherings:** using *Bible Basics for Catholic* to lead our youth to a deeper relationship with God and a greater understanding of our faith. Gatherings are held in the Worship Space.
3. **Sacramental Preparation:** using *Decision Point* curriculum, held in the Worship Space.
4. **At Home Formation:** read assigned pages for sacramental preparation prior to attending sessions.
5. Attend the parish sponsored **Confirmation Retreat, Saturday, Nov. 21 @ St. John Neumann** parish, 9:00 am to 6:30 pm.
6. At least one parent/guardian attend the **Confirmation Parent Session**, on Tuesday, **Sept. 8** at 6:30 pm, designed to help deepen the parent's understanding of the sacrament and prepare them for their role as primary teacher of the faith.
7. **Parent attends Raising Our Catholic Kids (ROCK)**, Tuesdays of classes, 6:30-8:00pm. Preparation for Confirmation is a commitment for parents and youth, requiring time, effort and energy. These sessions provide a non-judgmental place to receive guidance, support and unconditional love, exactly what you want to give to your children.
8. Provide **Baptismal Certificate** from the church of record (the church where your child was baptized) which needs to include record of **First Communion**. The sacrament cannot be celebrated if these are not recorded. We must have the certificate from the church of record **obtained during the current academic year**. Must be received by Tuesday, **Dec. 1**.
9. Youth must select **Confirmation Sponsor** and complete the **Sponsor Attestation** form (see separate sheet for details).
10. Youth complete a **Confirmation Saint Name form** (see separate sheet for details).
11. **Attend Rehearsal of Rite of Confirmation** with sponsor or a parent – Date TBA by the Office of Worship in coordination with the Office of the Bishop
12. **Attend Mystagogia Session** post-Confirmation – May 12

August 2026

Parent Formation Orientation for parents who have not had children in Faith Formation at St. Gabriel during the previous year, **All Grades:** Sunday, Aug. 30, 1:00 pm

Book Distribution, All Grades: Sunday, Aug. 30, 1:30 – 2:15 pm

September 2026

At Home Sacramental Preparation: (complete by **Sept. 8**) Read *Decision Point*, Chapter 1

Sacramental Preparation: Tuesday, **Sept. 8**, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, in the Worship Space

Parent Sacrament Orientation Session: Tuesday, **Sept. 8**, 6:45 – 8:15 pm, Office meeting room.

Youth Mass: Sunday, **Sept. 20**, 11 am

At Home Formation: Read the Introduction (pgs. 7-13) and Chapter One of *Bible Basics for Catholics*. Complete for **Sept. 27**.

Formation Gathering: Sunday, **Sept. 27**, 1 – 3 pm, in the Worship Space. Youth will receive a Thanksgiving donation turkey to return at the **October** class.

October 2026

At Home Sacramental Preparation (complete by **Oct. 13**): Read *Decision Point*, Chapters 2 & 3

Sacramental Preparation: Tuesday, **Oct. 13**, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, in the Worship Space

Youth Mass: Sunday, **Oct. 18**, 11 am

At Home Formation: Read Chapter Two of *Bible Basics for Catholics*. Complete for **Oct. 25**.

Formation Gathering: Sunday, **Oct. 25**, 1 – 3 pm, in the Worship Space. **Return food items for Thanksgiving meals plus \$3 to supplement gift cards.**

November 2026

At Home Sacramental Preparation (complete by **Nov. 10**): Read *Decision Point*, Chapters 4 & 5

Sacramental Preparation: Tuesday, **Nov. 10**, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, in the Worship Space

Youth Mass: Sunday, **Nov. 15**, 11 am

Confirmation Retreat: Saturday, **Nov. 21**, 9 am – 6:30 pm, St. John Neumann, Powhatan

At Home Formation: Read Chapter Three of *Bible Basics for Catholics*. Complete for **Nov. 22**

Formation Gathering: Sunday, **Nov. 22**, 1 - 3 pm, in the Worship Space.

December 2026

At Home Sacramental Preparation (complete by **Dec. 1**): Read *Decision Point*, Chapters 6 & 7

Sacramental Preparation: Tuesday, **Dec. 1**, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, in the Worship Space, **turn in Confirmation Saint Name form and Sponsor form**

At Home Formation: Read Chapter Four of *Bible Basics for Catholics*. Complete for **Dec. 6**

Formation Gathering: Sunday, **Dec. 6**, 1 – 3 pm, in the Worship Space.

Youth Mass: Sunday, **Dec. 20**, 11 am

January 2027

At Home Sacramental Preparation (complete by **Jan. 12**): Read *Decision Point*, Chapters 8 & 9

Sacramental Preparation: Tuesday, **Jan. 12**, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, in the Worship Space, **turn in Letter to Fr. James.**

Youth Mass: Sunday, **Jan. 17**, 11 am

At Home Formation: Read Chapter Five of *Bible Basics for Catholics*. Complete for **Jan. 24**

Formation Gathering: Sunday, Jan. 24, 1-3 pm, in the Worship Space.

February 2027

At Home Sacramental Preparation (complete by **Feb. 9**): Read *Decision Point*, Chapters 10, 11 & 12

Sacramental Preparation: Tuesday, **Feb. 9**, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, in the Worship Space, **turn in Sponsor Interview Questions.**

Youth Mass: Sunday, **Feb. 21**, 11 am

At Home Formation: Read Chapter Six of *Bible Basics for Catholics*. Complete for **Feb. 28**

Formation Gathering: Sunday, **Feb. 28**, 1-3 pm, in the Worship Space.

Consider volunteering for Vacation Bible School, June 21-25, 2027, 8:30 am to 12:15 pm daily. Volunteer signups begin in February. Earn service hours for the 2027-28 academic year.

March 2027

Rehearsal and Celebration of the Sacrament: Wednesday, Mar. 3, Church of the Epiphany. Rehearsal is at 5:45 pm. Confirmand and Sponsor/Proxy must be present.

At Home Formation: Read Chapter Seven of *Bible Basics for Catholics*. Complete for **Mar. 7**

Formation Gathering: Sunday, **Mar. 7**, 1 – 3 pm, in the Worship Space.

Mystagogia (Required part of Confirmation Preparation): Mar. 10, 6:30 – 8:30 pm, in the Worship Space.

Youth Mass: Sunday, **Mar. 21**, 11 am

April 2027

Youth Mass: Sunday, **Apr. 18**, 11 am

At Home Formation: Read Chapter Eight and A Last Word of *Bible Basics for Catholics*. Complete for **Apr. 25**

Formation Gathering: Sunday, **Apr. 25**, 1 – 3 pm, in the Worship Space.

May 2027

Formation or Sacramental Preparation Gathering: No formation gathering this month.

Youth Mass: Sunday, **May 16**, 11 am