

CONFIRMATION LOGISTICS

CONFIRMATION DATE: Saturday, April 25, 2026 at 10 am.

REHEARSAL: Friday, April 17, 2026, 5:30 PM, Church.

This rehearsal is for your child and sponsor together. If your child's sponsor is unable to attend, please attend with your child so you can communicate the flow to the sponsor.

CONFIRMATION FORMS

All forms must be completed and submitted by **Saturday, March 14, 2026**. These forms will be kept on file and serve as evidence that the students have prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. These forms are

1. Sponsor Certificate- completed, signed and sealed by the sponsor's pastor.
2. Confirmation Candidate Information Form
3. One page Saint Report
4. Confirmation Service Record Form
5. All forms must be completed and submitted for us to be able to testify before God that the students have prepared.

SPONSORS

Can. 874 –Canonical Requirements for Confirmation Sponsors:

A sponsor

1. may not be the father or the mother of the one to be confirmed.
2. may be either a man or a woman.
3. does not have to be the same gender as the candidate.
4. must be a fully initiated Roman Catholic, baptized, confirmed and has received First Communion and leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken
5. not be bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared
6. is a person who regularly comes to Sunday Mass and celebrates the sacraments.
7. must be at least 16 years old.
8. if married, he/she must be married according to the regulations of the Catholic faith.
9. must complete the sponsor form with the Pastor's signature.

The sponsor must be an active, practicing Catholic who can be a role model for the candidate. Ideally, students should choose one of their godparents from Baptism. If it is not possible to choose a godparent as their sponsor (e.g. they are deceased, live too far away, or are no longer a practicing Catholic), then they might ask someone else whom they see as an example of a committed, practicing Catholic. This could be a grandparent, aunt or uncle, other relative, family friend, parent of one of their friends, or a teacher.

All sponsors must bring the sponsor certificate with them to their home parish to be signed by their own parish priest. If your sponsor is a parishioner at St. Lawrence, they need to meet with Fr. Nick to have the form signed. To make an appointment with Fr. Nick, please call the church's main number (908-879-5371). Father Nick will not sign any forms without an appointment with the sponsor.

MANDATORY RETREAT: Saturday, March 14, 2026 from 11 AM- 6 PM

Confirmation Retreats are designed to deepen the candidates' spiritual life; it is not an extended catechetical session. Candidates will have the opportunity for personal prayer, reconciliation, and Mass during the retreat. Talks and activities are designed to focus on the spiritual development of the candidate and their role of living as a disciple of Christ and discerning their path. This retreat is an opportunity for building community among the candidates.

MANDATORY CONFESSIONS: Tuesday, April 21, 2026, 5 PM-6:30 PM

All candidates must be in a state of grace to receive the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation. Helpful guides are posted on the church website and will also be available in the church.

SERVICE HOURS

Due dates:

- 7th Grade and HSY1 : **Sunday, April 12, 2026 and April 26, 2026**
- HY2 and 8th Grade: **Saturday, March 14, 2026**

The Confirmation Preparation Program at St. Lawrence Parish is a two-year formation process that begins in the 7th grade or High School Year 1.

Each year, students are required to complete at least **12 hours of service**. The Confirmation Service Record form needs to be submitted by the due date of each year (See the Faith Formation Calendar or the due dates located at the top of the form) Students will need to complete a **total of 24 hours by the due date of the year they will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation**.

Service hours for each year include at least 4 Community Hours, 4 Church Hours, and 4 Family Hours.

SAINT REPORT

As you prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, you are asked to choose a Confirmation saint as your patron/patroness. At your Confirmation, you will be confirmed using this name. You may choose your **Baptismal name, select a name from the Bible, or a canonized saint of the Catholic Church**. Your Baptismal name expresses the connection between Baptism and Confirmation. The saint you choose should reflect a devotion you have to the saint, virtues or gifts to which you aspire, or the patron saint of certain gifts that are dear to you.

All Confirmation candidates need to prepare a report about the Saint associated with that name.

Simply printing out a website page will not be accepted. Please take the time to research and learn about a Saint who may have special meaning to you, or a particular connection by his or her life & virtues.

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER

To respect the integrity of the Mass and to avoid distraction, we have hired a professional photographer to take photos of your child at the exact moment of anointing. Rick @ Images by Rick takes beautiful photos and uploads the photos for purchase within 24 hours. The prices are very reasonable. *Personal photos may only be taken in the church before or after the Mass.

LENGTH OF THE MASS

The Confirmation Mass will last approximately 1 hour. We will be taking a group photo with the Bishop after the Mass which will take approximately 15 minutes. Live-streamed Mass will be available for those who are unable to attend in person.

Bishop Kevin J. Sweeney, DD will be celebrating as minister of the Sacrament.

MANNER OF DRESS AT THE MASS

Confirmation is a sacred occasion; the candidate's dress should reflect this.

- **Boys** may wear a sport coat and tie with dress pants or a suit and tie with dress shoes.
- **Girls** may wear a dress or blouse with dress pants or skirt of appropriate fit and length (any color). Please cover bare shoulders while inside the church. If wearing “spaghetti” straps, we kindly ask the candidate to wear a sweater or shawl over the shoulders. Please no shorts, hats, denim, sneakers or flip flops.

GENERAL SEATING AT THE MASS

The candidates will be seated together with their sponsors (only) in the front pews of the church during the celebration. Parents and additional family members will have general seating throughout the church. Seating is on a first-come, first-serve basis.

*Sister Marie Luu, SCC, MEd-EdL
Director of Religious Education
St. Lawrence the Martyr Church*