

# Confirmation I & II

## Religious Education

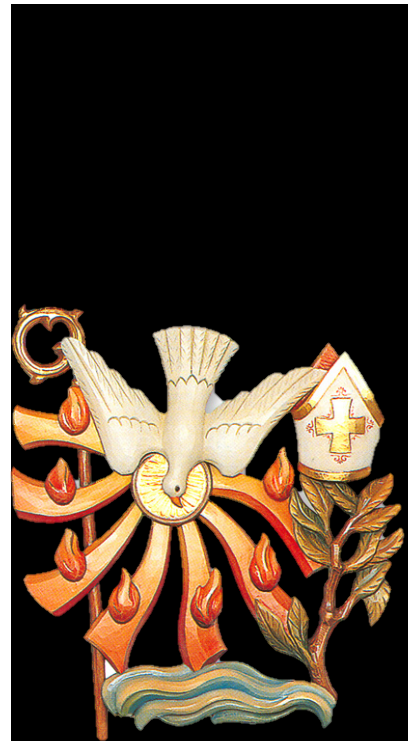
Holy Cross, San Luis & St. Ann's Parishes

### HANDBOOK

### 2023-2024

**Confirmation Day**  
**May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Confirmation Catechists:**  
**Fr. Francis Nguyen,**  
**Mike Yeretsky &**  
**Cindy DuBose**



## WELCOME

Thank you for choosing to participate in the Confirmation Formation Program with Holy Cross Catholic Church and the Missions of San Luis and St. Ann. The Confirmation program involves an approach requiring prayer and involvement on your part. It is our hope that you will read this handbook carefully, discuss its contents as a family and begin preparation for the sacrament of Christian Initiation.

**What is the Sacrament of Confirmation?** Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist are called the sacraments of initiation. Through these sacraments, we become members of the Catholic Church, a community of Spirit-filled people who have been saved by Christ and who witness Christ's love in the world. As one of the sacraments of initiation, Confirmation impresses the candidates with a special character. Through this sacrament, the candidates are enriched by the gift of the Holy Spirit, are bound more perfectly to the Church, and are strengthened in faith. They are enabled to witness more courageously to Christ and to spread and defend the faith.

**The Role of those to be Confirmed:** Those to be confirmed must be suitably instructed and properly disposed. They must be willing to be involved in the preparation program with the intention of remaining faithful to Christ and his Church.

**The Role of Parents:** As parents, you play a primary role in the sacramental preparation program. You help your son or daughter grow in faith as you prepare him or her for fruitful reception of the sacrament. Your attendance at required meetings and the Sunday parish celebrations of the Eucharist are vital. There is, and can be, no substitute for your actual presence at such moments. Your interest, involvement, and concern make a difference in your son's or daughter's perception of what this sacrament and the Christian life are all about.

**BISHOP CAHILL IS SCHEDULED TO CONFIRM OUR CANDIDATES ON  
SUNDAY, May 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 AT 9:30 A.M. MASS**

## SUMMARY OF PROGRAM

The 2-year Confirmation program is based on the principles concerning parish ministry to youth set forth in the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' 1997 document *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry*. Confirmation is traditionally received in the tenth grade. The candidate who willingly and actively participates in this process and is confirmed will understand him/herself as an individual loved and called by God to discipleship as a valued member of both our parish community and the universal Church. *It is expected that the young person who wishes to receive the sacrament of Confirmation accept the above stated understanding of what it means to be a member of the Church.*

Candidates, *together with their families and chosen sponsor*, are asked to read over and discuss the expectations and requirements of the Confirmation preparation program as stated in this handbook before signing and submitting to the program coordinators the *Candidate Participation Agreement*. Please contact the program coordinators or Father Roger if you have any questions or concerns about the Confirmation Formation Program.

**Confirmation Sessions: Begin Aug. 16, 2023      6 – 7:30 PM Holy Cross Activity Center**

<b>Program Coordinators:</b>	Confirmation:	Fr. Francis Nguyen
		Mike Yeretsky    713-416-5818
		Cindy DuBose    361-649-2932
	Parish Catechetical Leader:	Lana Brysch    361-550-4554

<b>Contact Info:</b>	Address:	1214 Zorn Road, Yorktown, Texas 78164
	Phone:	361-564-2893 - Fax: 361-564-9315
	Email:	<a href="mailto:holycross1214@sbcglobal.net">holycross1214@sbcglobal.net</a> ; <a href="mailto:holycrosspcl@sbcglobal.net">holycrosspcl@sbcglobal.net</a>
	Website:	<a href="http://holycrossyorktown.net">holycrossyorktown.net</a>
	Office Hours:	8:30 a.m. – 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday - Friday

# Religious Education Calendar 2023-2024

## Holy Cross Parish and San Luis and St. Ann Missions

\*NOTE: Calendar is subject to change. Please visit [www.holycrossyorktown.net/religious education](http://www.holycrossyorktown.net/religious%20education) for changes.

August '23						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		
September '23						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
October '23						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
November '23						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
December '23						
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January '24						
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28	29	30	31			
February '24						
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March '24						
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31						
April '24						
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28	29	30				
May '24						
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
June '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						
July '24						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Date	Event	Time
Aug. 13 <sup>th</sup>	CCD Registration & Pancake Brunch	10:30 a.m.
Aug. 16 <sup>th</sup> & May 8 <sup>th</sup>	First & Last Days of Class – 6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	6 – 7:30 p.m.
Aug. 20 <sup>th</sup> & Apr. 28 <sup>th</sup>	First & Last Days of Class – PreK-5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10:30 – 11:45 a.m.
Sept. 10 <sup>th</sup>	Assist at Holy Cross Festival	9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Oct. 7 <sup>th</sup>	Fall Festival & Pumpkin Patch	After 5 p.m. Mass
Nov. 1 <sup>st</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup>	Canned Food Drive for YAM	Mass: Wed., Nov. 16 <sup>th</sup>
Sat., Dec. 16 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Pageant	After 5 p.m. Mass
Dec. 3 <sup>rd</sup> – Dec. 24 <sup>th</sup>	Advent	
Feb. 14 <sup>th</sup>	Ash Wednesday – Lent	All Students Attend Mass
Feb. 15 <sup>th</sup> – Apr. 9 <sup>th</sup>	Lent	
Mar. 24 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup>	Holy Week	Check Bulletin for Masses/Services
Mar. 31 <sup>st</sup>	Easter Sunday	Mass at 9:30 a.m.
April 28 <sup>th</sup>	Blessing of Stoles	9:30 a.m. Mass
May 5 <sup>th</sup>	Confirmation	9:30 a.m. Mass
May 18 <sup>th</sup>	First Reconciliation Retreat & Practice	9 a.m. – 1 p.m.
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	First Holy Communion	9:30 a.m. Mass
May 26 <sup>th</sup>	Senior Recognition Mass	9:30 a.m. Mass
June 17 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup>	Vacation Bible School	Tentatively Scheduled

Class Days		Class Holidays		Holy Days of Obligation	
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## **EXPECTATIONS OF THE CONFIRMATION PROGRAM:**

Participation in Faith Formation. Confirmation is normally received in the tenth grade. Holy Cross has a two year program open to High School Youth (Grades 9-12). Sessions are weekly on Wednesdays from 6 – 7:30 p.m. in the Holy Cross Activity Center. (See Calendar of Events)

- Student needs regular reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.
- Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy- Service Projects will be given out at class and due dates established.
- Student is expected to learn ALL prayers listed on prayer sheet during their 9<sup>th</sup> grade year. Prayers can be found in the back of the handbook.
- Additional expectations are listed below:

## **ATTENDANCE AND PARTICIPATION**

As responsible participation in a faith community is central to the sacrament of Confirmation, it is important that all candidates make every effort to attend all sessions each year. If a candidate knows that he/she will miss a session, it is his/her responsibility to inform the program coordinator and to find out what material he/she missed. ***If a candidate misses more than four sessions over the course of the year, parents will be notified and a meeting will be conducted between the catechists, priest, parents and student.*** Candidates are advised to put the session dates on their family's calendar as soon as possible and to try to eliminate any potential conflicts. Candidates and/or their families experiencing any anxiety or concern related to this expectation should contact the Parish Catechetical Leaders, Confirmation Catechists or Father Roger.

### ***PARENTS AND POTENTIAL SPONSORS ARE ALWAYS INVITED AND ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND CLASSES WITH THEIR CHILDREN.***

It is expected that ***all candidates are attending Catholic Mass each week.*** If they are away from the parish, it is expected that they will seek out another **Catholic** church in which to attend Mass. The Eucharist is central to the Catholic life. It is the central means by which we nourish our faith and worship God. Further, it is through hearing the Scriptures read and discussed that we learn more about our faith and about God. The Confirmation sessions are intended to compliment the faith formation that takes place both within the candidates' families and at the Mass.

**We are requiring that each Confirmation candidate bring a church bulletin, signed by Fr. Roger or Confirmation Catechists to class with them every Wednesday. If you attended another Catholic church, have the priest that celebrated the Mass at that parish sign a bulletin for you and bring it with you on the following Wednesday.**

***Attendance, however, is just the beginning!*** Candidates need to make the most of our time together by engaging and participating fully in the sessions. We are all unique individuals, and we each possess our own gifts and talents. We need to work together to establish a community in which everyone feels comfortable, encouraged, and supported enough to share his/her gifts, talents, and faith so that we all may learn from each other and grow together. To this end, in the unlikely event that a candidate's behavior is purposefully disruptive, the candidate will then be instructed to call home and arrange to be picked up immediately. The candidate and his/her parents will need to talk with the program coordinator prior to the candidate's return to the program.

***Confidentiality – Information regarding candidate's medical, legal or special needs is used to better serve the student. The catechists are made aware of any needs and the importance of keeping such information confidential.***

## **PRAYER**

Prayer is a vital part of the Christian life – and therefore a vital part of preparation to receive the sacrament of Confirmation! Throughout the course of the two-year formation process, Confirmation candidates will have numerous opportunities to discuss and explore prayer, with a particular emphasis on discussing and exploring the role prayer plays and can play in their daily lives. Candidates will also experience different forms of prayer, ranging from more traditional prayers to prayers borrowed from other cultures and religious traditions, from the use of modern music as prayer to peaceful and profound guided meditations. Each session begins and ends with a prayer experience. Throughout the course of the year, each candidate will be responsible for leading a prayer experience. (See Prayer page for List of Prayers students need to know.)

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

The Church teaches us that it is the responsibility of the baptized to live the Gospel in the world. Christians actively preach and spread the Gospel when they participate in both civic and parish-based activities in a manner consistent with Jesus' example and teachings.

As we believe that the sacrament of Confirmation empowers a person to live the faith in a very public way, each candidate will participate in Service Projects during the 2-year formation program.

The remaining service projects will be at the discretion of the program coordinators and the candidates. Time will be set-aside during weekly sessions to plan and organize these events. Some of the Service projects may include but are not limited to preparation/participation/clean-up at Holy Cross Feast, clean-up of the cemetery for All Souls Day, assisting with the Annual Christmas Pageant, Christmas decorating of the Church and take down, volunteering to help with Holy Week and Easter as well as Easter Egg Hunt, participation at the San Luis Jamaica and other projects as they present themselves throughout the year.

## **RETREATS - Parent Signature**

It is essential that the candidates participate in a minimum of two retreat experiences each year of the program. As the **parents** and primary teachers of your children in the practice of faith, you are encouraged to make this happen for their spiritual growth. *(Do not allow sports, ag or other outside actions to interfere with the spiritual welfare of your child.)* Confirmation I & II candidates will come together for day retreats presented throughout the Diocese. Registration fees and costs for diocesan and parish retreats will be offset through fundraising events to eliminate the financial burden to the parents.

These retreats are very important, and candidates are urged to make every attempt to attend our parish Confirmation retreats; the Confirmation retreats are an integral part of our Confirmation formation program and have traditionally been very moving and fondly remembered faith experiences for candidates.

Participation in these retreats is greatly encouraged. Due to the holistic nature of the retreats, candidates are encouraged to arrive promptly and be considerate of fellow retreatants. If a candidate cannot attend the approved scheduled retreats within the Confirmation program, then he/she is responsible for notifying the Catechists and alternate projects will be assigned in place of the retreat.

## **CONFIRMATION PROJECTS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

<input type="checkbox"/> CHOOSING A SPONSOR	<b>Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (Confirmation II only)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> CHOOSING A SAINT NAME	<b>Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (Confirmation II only)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> LETTERS TO FATHER	<b>Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (Confirmation I only)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> LETTERS TO BISHOP	<b>Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (Confirmation II only)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> EUCHARISTIC MIRACLE PRESENTATION	<b>March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (Confirmation I only)</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> SAINT PROJECT & STOLES DUE	<b>March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (Confirmation II only)</b>

*Confirmation Candidates are expected to meet the above deadlines. If a student misses a deadline, parents will be contacted and students will write a letter to Father explaining the circumstances as to why the assignment date could not be met.*

**Candidates write letters to clergy.** Confirmation I candidates will write a 1-2 page letter to Father Roger and the Confirmation II candidates are asked to write a 1-2 page letter addressed to *Most Reverend Bishop Brendan Cahill*. (See examples/helps in this handbook.)

Candidates are encouraged to write letters from the heart, but they may wish to use the following questions to get started.

- What does being confirmed mean to you?
- What does being a member of this parish community mean to you?
- What does your faith mean to you? What does it mean to you to be Catholic?
- What role do God and your faith in God play in our everyday life?
- Why do you want to be confirmed?
- How will you participate in our parish community after you receive Confirmation?

## **CHOOSING A CONFIRMATION NAME:**

Choose a Saint that leads you, models the person you want to be like, or maybe a Saint who had the same struggles as you and had a way of working with those struggles. In the Catholic Church, we have a tradition of taking the name of a saint for our own Confirmation name. The saint whose name we choose serves as an inspiration to us in living out our Christian faith. Throughout the Confirmation I year, students will be introduced to several different saints. Take the time to explore and research those saints who make an impact on you. The beginning of Confirmation II, you will be expected to have chosen a saint name.

## **SAINT REPORT: CONFIRMATION II**

Throughout your Confirmation II year, you will research your chosen Saint name. We encourage you to use a minimum of three (3) sources. Your choice will put you in touch with a spiritual friend for life! You may check the local libraries for stories on saints, or you may choose to internet search your saint. (BE SURE TO USE CATHOLIC SITES!) Some examples are:

- [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)
- [www.saints.sqpn.com](http://www.saints.sqpn.com)
- [www.catholic.org/saints](http://www.catholic.org/saints)
- [www.americancatholic.org/features/saints/byname.aspx](http://www.americancatholic.org/features/saints/byname.aspx)
- [www.newadvent.org/cathen](http://www.newadvent.org/cathen)
- [www.cin.org/saints.html](http://www.cin.org/saints.html)

Tips on writing your Saint's Story:

- How and why did your parents choose your name (baptismal name)?
- What activities, places, people interest you? Is there a patron saint associated with any of these activities, places, people?
- Which saints share their feast day on your birthday?
- Which Saints inspire you? Why?
- When and where did the saint you are interested in live? When were they canonized? Which Pope canonized them?
- When and how did your saint die? Were they persecuted and/or martyred for their beliefs?
- What was the saint's occupation?
- What did this saint's mission look like?
- What virtues did this saint practice in their life? Did this saint always practice these virtues?
- Did this saint experience a conversion?
- How would you describe your saint's personality?
- What miracle did this saint perform?
- Are there symbols associated with this saint? What are their meanings?
- In what ways is this saint a model for Christians today?
- How would this saint act/react if they were living in today's world?
- present the Saint's story, background and why you chose this saint
- use the Saint's full name, birth and death dates, what country they were from and any other information about their history

**PROJECT OUTLINE:** Candidates are encouraged to have a visual as well as a verbal or written presentation. The visual presentation will be submitted and used for their Confirmation service. The visual and verbal presentations will be given during class time to the fellow Wednesday class students. All written presentations will be displayed with their visual presentation during class as well as at their Confirmation service. When writing your saint report, it needs to be at least two typed pages that are double spaced and printed at 12 points, and all sources need to be properly cited and credited. Plagiarism within this project will not be accepted. The Confirmation catechists reserve the right to return projects to candidates for further work if the submitted work does not reflect the individual attention, care, and effort and/or reverence required for participation in the program.

**CHOOSING A SPONSOR: Candidates are to choose their own Confirmation sponsor.**

**Who is a sponsor?** A sponsor is first and foremost a witness to the teachings of Jesus in the candidate's life. They should be an active member of their parish community and should know the candidate very well. The sponsor helps the candidate to see the action of the Holy Spirit, not only in their own life, but also in the sponsor's life, in the church of Jesus and in the world. The Church takes the role of a confirmation sponsor very seriously.

**Who may be chosen? Canon 874 - §1**

**To be admitted to the role of a sponsor, a person must:**

1. Be designated by the one to be baptized/confirmed, by the parents or the one who takes their place or, in their absence, by the pastor or minister and is to have the qualifications and intention of performing this role;
2. Have completed the sixteenth year, unless a different age has been established by the diocesan bishop or it seems to the pastor or minister that an exception is to be made for a just cause;
3. Be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received the sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist and leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken (Canon 874 §1, 3°);
4. not bound by any canonical penalty legitimately imposed or declared;
5. not be the father or the mother of the one to be confirmed.

**PARENTAL SUPPORT**

Sharing the Light of Faith: National Catechetical Directory of Catholics in the United States, states, **"Parents are the first and foremost catechists of their children"**

(212). As your child progresses through the program, there are opportunities for you to be his or her primary educator. *The more you do, the more your child's faith, and yours, will be strengthened.*

- ☐ Discuss the material the catechist has presented, answering any questions your child may have.
- ☐ Witness to your own faith.
- ☐ Pray with your children.
- ☐ Be positive and supportive of your child as they complete the program.
- ☐ Attend the parent/sponsor/student meetings.
- ☐ Be present for the celebrations that are held throughout the program.
- ☐ Guide your child's choice of a name and a faith-filled sponsor.
- ☐ Support your son or daughter in planning and performing service activities.
- ☐ Have your family join your child when the class recites the Stations of the Cross (Lent).
- ☐ Volunteer for a role in the confirmation ceremonies.
- ☐ Celebrate the reception of the sacrament by celebrating with family and friends.

## **FAMILY ACTIVITIES**

Faith lived and celebrated in the family makes a lasting impression. Prepare your teenager for full Christian living through the following activities:

### **Message:**

- ☐ 1. Read and discuss an article from a Catholic periodical (*Catholic Lighthouse* or *Diocese of Victoria websites are good sources*) or tune in to and discuss a Catholic television or radio program. (*Bishop Cahill is with Relevant Radio Morning Show-see Diocese of Victoria Website.*)
- ☐ 2. Invite a relative or friend who does not participate in Mass to go to Church with you and to dinner.
- ☐ 3. Save and donate money to a society devoted to spreading the Catholic Faith.

### **Worship:**

- ☐ 4. Attend Sunday Liturgy as a family. Plan to attend Mass on a special occasion, like an anniversary or birthday.
- ☐ 5. As a family, attend a parish celebration such as a penance ceremony, The Divine Mercy Sunday, adoration or a baptism.
- ☐ 6. Help a parish social function and participate in it. (*Lenten Meal, Church Feast, Jamaica, or any event hosted by our churches.*)

### **Community:**

- ☐ 7. Support a parishioner who has suffered a tragedy and needs encouragement, sympathy or material help.
- ☐ 8. Apologize for moments of impatience; put aside grudges which cause strain on relationships.

### **Service:**

- ☐ 9. Volunteer as a family to help an elderly couple or needy family in our community. This could also include visit the elderly, especially those who are in our nursing home.
- ☐ 10. Offer to do someone's duties at home to relieve pressure.
- ☐ 11. Focus on a neighborhood need and take steps to improve the situation. (*For example, beautifying the church grounds or parks throughout the community.*)
- ☐ 12. Include the needy of the world in your family prayers.



## LETTER OF INTENT TO FATHER

(This is a sample outline below. Use this as your guide to write your letter to Father. The regular print is what must be written and the italicized print for you to fill in your thoughts in that paragraph.)

(Due Date: **February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024**)

*Date*

*Your Name*

*Mailing Address*

*City, State, Zip*

Rev. Roger Hawes  
Holy Cross Parish  
1213 Zorn Road  
Yorktown, Texas 78164

Dear Father Hawes,

*Give your name and explain why you would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.*

*Share some of your Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.*

*Explain why you believe you are ready to begin your journey to become a full member of the Catholic Church through the sacrament of Confirmation. Explain how you plan to be an active member of the Catholic Church after Confirmation.*

*Sincerely, (or other appropriate closing of your choice)*

*(Your Signature)*

*Typed Proper Name*

## **Bishop Cahill's Letter Planning Form**

*(Please type and turn in your finished paper to your Confirmation Teacher. The Rectory will mail the letters.)  
(Due Date: **February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024**)*

### PROPER HEADING

Most Rev. Brendan J. Cahill  
1505 E. Mesquite  
Victoria, Texas 77901

Dear Bishop Cahill,

PARAGRAPH ONE: Introduce yourself and tell him a little bit about yourself, your family, your hobbies, interest, etc.:

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PARAGRAPH TWO: Tell what you have done to prepare for Confirmation. What does Confirmation mean to you? Why do you want to be Confirmed?

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PARAGRAPH THREE: What does being a member of this parish community mean to you? How will you participate in our parish community after you receive Confirmation?

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PARAGRAPH FOUR: What does your faith mean to you? What does it mean to be Catholic? What role do God and your faith in God play in our everyday lives?

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PARAGRAPH FIVE: Formally request the Sacrament.

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Sincerely,

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(Your Proper Name)  
Holy Cross Catholic Church, Yorktown Confirmation Candidate

Your letter requesting the sacrament may be as long as you like, but a minimum of five paragraphs. Use this outline as a guide to help you write your letter. This letter needs to be typed. If you do not have access to a computer, please contact the Church Office.

The Bishop does read these letters, so please be respectful and honest with him as you take this important step in your faith. A letter is required for each candidate and the letter will be mailed in the week that they are due.

**DO NOT MAIL THIS LETTER ON YOUR OWN TO BISHOP.  
It needs to be turned in on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024.**

## **CONFIRMATION PRAYERS:**

### **SIGN OF THE CROSS**

#### **PRAYER TO MY GUARDIAN ANGEL**

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love entrusts me here. Ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. AMEN.

#### **OUR FATHER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. AMEN.

#### **HAIL MARY**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. AMEN.

#### **GLORY BE**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN.

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilot, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. AMEN.

#### **HAIL HOLY QUEEN**

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*Priest gives words of advice and penance.*

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*Priest gives absolution.*

*Person:* "AMEN."

*Priest:* "Go in Peace."

*Person:* "Thank you, Father."

## 2023-2024 CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

Date	Event Description
Wed., Aug. 16	First Day of Classes/Orientation & Parent Meeting
Wed., Sept. 6	Pre-Festival clean-up & set-up
Wed., Sept. 13	Post-Festival clean-up
Wed., Sept. 20, 27	Regular Class
Wed., Oct. 4,11,18,25	Regular Class
Nov. 1-15	Can Food Drive for Y.A.M.
Wed., Nov. 1,8,29	Regular Class
Wed., Nov. 15	THANKSGIVING MASS for RE Students
Wed., Nov. 22	No Classes – THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
Sun., Dec. 3	First Sunday of Advent
Wed., Dec. 6,13	Regular Class
<b>Wed., Dec. 6</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>FORM DUE – CHOOSING A SPONSOR (CONF. II)</b>
<b>Wed., Dec. 6</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>FORM DUE – CHOOSING A SAINT NAME (CONF. I)</b>
<b>Fri., Dec. 8</b>	<b>☒ Holy Day of Obligation: Immaculate Conception Of Mary – Mass HC TBA</b>
Tue., Dec. 12	Guadalupe: Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe Mass and Reception - Mass, SL Monday, Dec. 12, 5:30PM San Luis
Sat., Dec. 16	Christmas Pageant following Holy Cross 5:00 PM Mass
Dec 20-Jan 3	NO CLASS: Christmas Holiday
<b>Mon, Jan. 1</b>	<b>☒ Holy Day of Obligation: Mary Mother of God</b>
Wed. Jan. 10	Classes Resume
Wed., Jan. 17,24,31	Regular Class
Wed., Feb. 7,21,28	Regular Class
<b>Wed., Feb. 7</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>FORM DUE – Letter to Father Roger (Confirmation I)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>FORM DUE – Letter to Bishop Cahill (Confirmation II)</b>
Wed., Feb. 14	No Classes – Attend Ash Wednesday Service
Fri., March 1	Lenten Fish Fry – Stations of the Cross led by Confirmation Students 6:30 p.m.
Wed., Mar. 6,13	Regular Class
<b>Wed., Mar. 6</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>FORM DUE – Eucharistic Miracle Presentation (Confirmation I)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>FORM DUE – Saint Projects &amp; Stoles due (Confirmation II)</b>
Wed., Mar. 20	No Classes – Spring Break
Wed., Mar. 27	No Classes – Students attend Holy Week services
Sun., Mar. 31	Easter Sunday
Wed., Apr. 3,10,17,24	Regular Class
Sun., Apr. 7	Divine Mercy Sunday
Sun., Apr. 21	San Luis Jamaica
<b>Sun., Apr. 28</b>	<b>Blessing of Stoles</b>
Wed., May 1	Regular Class
<b>Sun., May 5</b> 🦋	<b>Confirmation at 9:30 AM Mass – please be prompt and dressed appropriately.</b>
Wed., May 8	Last Class
Sun., May 12	The Ascension of the Lord/Our Lady of Fatima (Ascension is Celebrated on Sunday)

## *Confirmation Sponsor Form*

I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
(Candidate's full name)

have asked \_\_\_\_\_  
(Sponsor's full name)

of \_\_\_\_\_  
(Sponsor's address)

to serve as my sponsor for the sacrament of Confirmation, and he/she has accepted my invitation. I have a profound respect for my sponsor as a role model for what it means to live the Christian life. My sponsor is willing to support me in my own commitment to live a Christian life of discipleship. I certify that my sponsor is a confirmed Catholic who is 16 years of age or older; my sponsor is a registered member in good standing of the Roman Catholic Parish of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of church)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address of church)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Candidate's signature Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sponsor's signature Date

*Please return this completed form no later than December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to:*

***The Office of Faith Formation  
Holy Cross/San Luis/Saint Ann Parish  
1214 Zorn Road  
Yorktown, Texas 78164  
361-564-9495/ 564-2893  
Fax: 361-564-9315***

# Candidate Participation Agreement

I, \_\_\_\_\_, willingly present myself as a candidate to receive the sacrament of Confirmation at Holy Cross Church and the Missions of San Luis and St. Ann. I understand that my active participation in the parish's 2-year Confirmation faith formation program is an essential part of my preparation for this sacrament.

I have carefully read the Confirmation Candidate and Family Handbook, distributed during the first session of the year, and I have discussed the requirements and expectations of the program with my team leaders and my parents/guardians. In particular, I understand that:

1. Because my participation in all sessions each year is integral both to my own faith formation as well as to the formation of the community, I am expected to attend each session. I may not miss more than **four** sessions a year.
2. Because my willingness to serve as a witness to Jesus' message within my community is really what Confirmation is all about, I am expected to participate in service projects during each of the two years of the formation process.
3. Because formation and reflection are key components of the Confirmation preparation program, I am encouraged to participate in retreat experiences each year.
4. Because knowledge and understanding are priceless gifts, I am expected to create and submit a Confirmation Saint visual/written or oral presentation during Confirmation II according to the guidelines stated in the Handbook.

I also understand that if I do not meet any of the above expectations over the course of a year, I will be considered withdrawn from the program for the year. I may re-enroll either the following year or at such a time when I am ready and able to participate fully in faith- and community-building.

I agree to participate to the best of my abilities in the Holy Cross/San Luis Parish Confirmation Preparation Program. I agree to adhere to the requirements and meet the expectations of the program as explained in the Candidate and Family Handbook. Throughout the course of the two-year program, I will bring any questions or concerns I may have to my program coordinator as soon as possible.

Signature of Candidate \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Please return this signed Candidate Agreement with your Registration Papers or as soon as possible.***

**Holy Cross Roman Catholic Church and the Missions of San Luis and St. Ann**  
1214 Zorn Road, Yorktown, TX 78164 – Telephone: 361-564-2893 - Fax: 361-564-9315  
www.holycrossyorktown.net - [holycross1214@sbcglobal.net](mailto:holycross1214@sbcglobal.net)

## **CONFIRMATION PRAYERS:**

### **SIGN OF THE CROSS**

#### **PRAYER TO MY GUARDIAN ANGEL**

Angel of God, my guardian dear to whom God's love entrusts me here. Ever this day be at my side, to light and guard, to rule and guide. AMEN.

#### **OUR FATHER**

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. AMEN.

#### **HAIL MARY**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed are thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. AMEN.

#### **GLORY BE**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. AMEN.

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilot, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. AMEN.

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