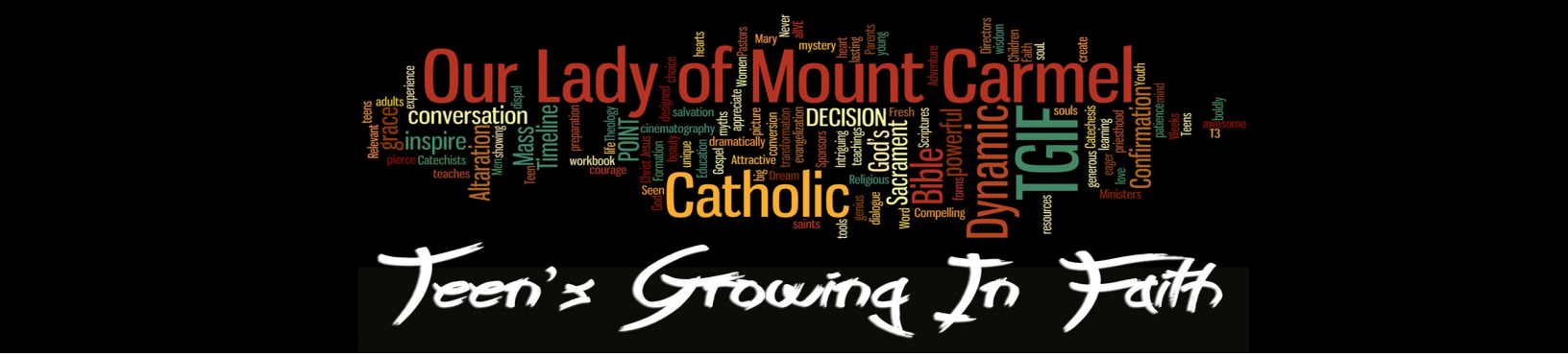


CONFIRMATION

(Second year Candidates 2025-2026)

OLMC Confirmation Classes are part of our TGIF Faith Formation classes held Sunday evenings in the Parish Hall from 6:45PM-8:30PM. Confirmation is made available for first year formation starting in 9th 10th or 11th grade and completed after 2 years of faith formation. Catholic High School Students complete a first year in TGIF or their school, and those not in Catholic School are required to attend Year 1 with the parish before entering Year 2.
Year 2 Students are required to attend a Catholic Retreat (at your parish, if offered, or any Catholic Church/Venue, such as Teen ACTS Retreat or Steubenville Conference), choose a Confirmation Saint Name, write a Saint Essay, choose a Confirmation Sponsor, complete 15 Service Hours and spend minimum of 1 Hour in Adoration.
Year 2 Parents/Guardians and Sponsors of Confirmation must attend (1) "Class on the Sacraments" w/Deacon Robert.

*Sunday, November 2 at 5:30pm: Presentation Blessing Mass of Teens preparing for Confirmation this Spring 2026

All classes are mandatory. If an absence is necessary, you must inform the Confirmation Coordinators. Make-up work will be given for classes that are missed and should be turned in for credit at Class, directly to your Catechist (Table Leader) or TGIF Leader, Ben Polasek.

Second Year Requirements

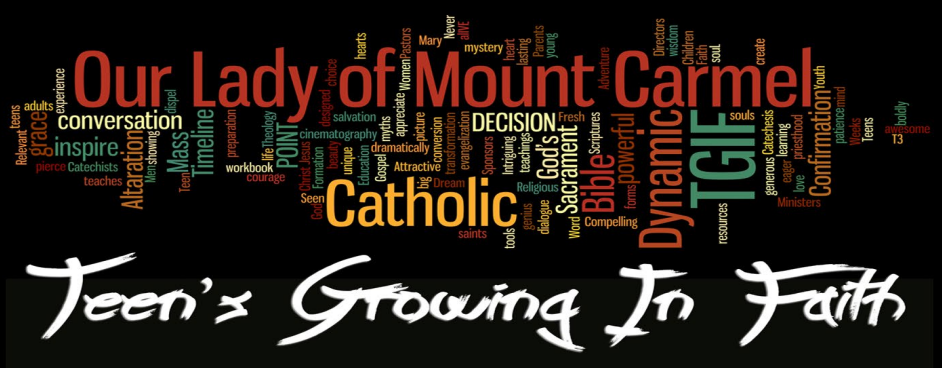
□ Parents/Guardians & Sponsors: Attend (1) "Class on the Sacraments" w/Deacon Robert by Dec 14
□ Attend all Faith Formation Classes **(only 6 Absences allowed with minimum of 3 made up)**
□ Attend Sunday Mass (starting Saturday after 4:30pm – Sunday) and Holy Days of Obligation
□ Complete (15) Service Hours (many opportunities provided by our parish/community)
□ Attend a minimum of (1) Hour of Adoration (our parish is Blessed with a Perpetual Adoration Chapel)
□ Attend a Catholic Retreat
□ Complete and submit all necessary paperwork and forms on time to DRE at RE Office:

- o Parent Pledge Form (due Sept 21)
- o Candidate Commitment Form (due Sept 21)
- o Attendance Policy (due Sept 21)
- o Copy of Baptismal Certificate to RE Office (due Oct 5)
- o Saint Name Form (due Oct 19)
- o Sponsor Form (due Oct 19)
- o Sponsor Proof of Sacraments to RE Office (due Oct 26)
- o Saint Essay (due Nov 16)
- o Service and Adoration Hours Statement (due Jan 18, 2026)
- o Retreat Registration & Consent Permission Forms (prior to event)

Confirmation Formation

- Grow in a relationship with Jesus Christ
- Understand the teachings of the Catholic Church – the Creed, Scripture, Sacraments, Moral Life and Prayer
- Understand that faith development is a lifelong process. **Confirmation is NOT graduation of faith formation.**
- Understand the connection between what we believe and how we live our lives
- Assesses one's readiness to be fully initiated into the life of the Church
- Experience community amongst your peers in Confirmation preparation
- Understand and participate in the Christian commitment to service

Confirmation Coordinators: TGIF Leader and Catechist, Ben Polasek and DRE, Jennifer Wicks

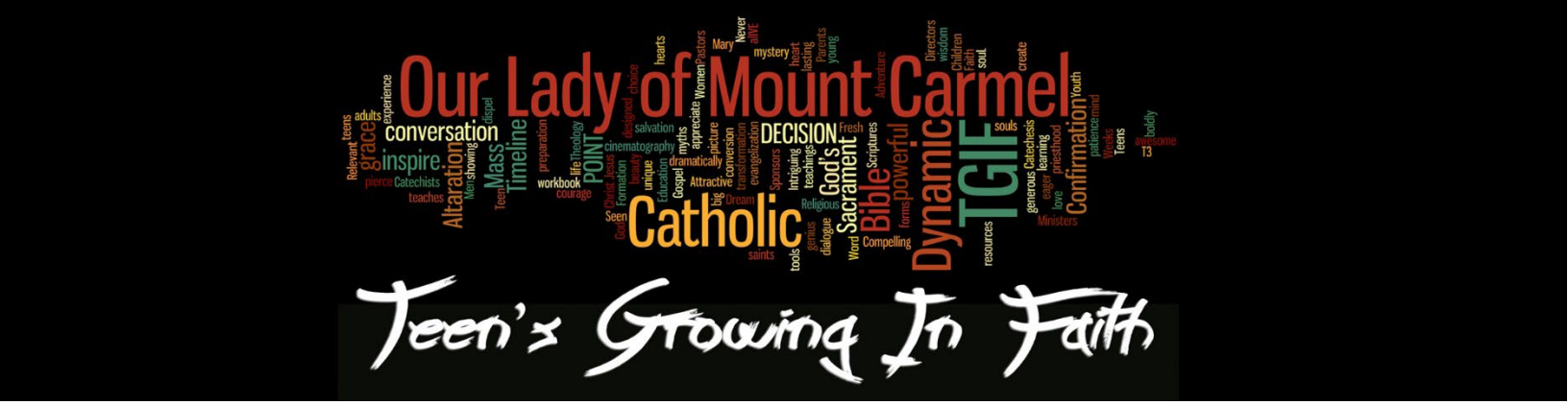


Personal Checklist of Requirements
(Second Year Candidates 2025-2026)

Due by September 21	_____ Parent Pledge _____ Confirmation Candidate Commitment _____ Attendance Policy
Due by October 5	_____ Baptismal Certificate copy to RE Office
Due by October 19	_____ Sponsor Agreement Form _____ Saint Name Form
Due by October 26	_____ Sponsor's Proof of Sacraments to RE Office
Attend November 2	_____Presentation Blessing Mass of this year's Confirmation Students at 5:30pm
Due by November 16	_____Saint Essay (read & follow instructions)
Due by December 14	_____ Parents/Guardians & Sponsors attend (1) "Class on the Sacraments" with Deacon Robert Rosales. Classes are held in the Church, once a month on Sunday 9:30-10:30am. (One has met this requirement, if attended Deacon Robert's class within last 3 years. Please inform RE Office.) **Classes offered 9/14, 10/12, 11/9, 12/14**.
Due by January 18, 2026	_____ Service and Adoration Hours Statement
TBD	_____OLMC Confirmation Retreat Registration Form _____OLMC Confirmation Consent Permission Form _____OLMC Confirmation Day Retreat
TBD	_____ **OLMC Reconciliation** for Candidates & Sponsors
TBD	**Confirmation Mass** (date chosen by The Bishop)

WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND FAMILIES KEEP COPIES OF ALL PAPERWORK TURNED IN!!

"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—his actions, his gifts, and his biddings—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. The latter bears special responsibility for the preparation of Confirmation." **CCC #1309**



PARENT PLEDGE

(Second year Candidates, 2025-2026)

Parent Pledge due with Candidate Commitment Form & Attendance Policy - Please Print Legibly!!

DUE: September 21, 2025

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Our Religious Education department records indicate that your son/daughter is in their **Second Year of Confirmation Formation**, therefore seeking to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation Spring 2026 after completing their required Second year of Confirmation Prep and Faith Formation.

PARENT PLEDGE

I,_____, the parent/guardian of_____ hereby renew the commitment I made on the day of my child's Baptism.

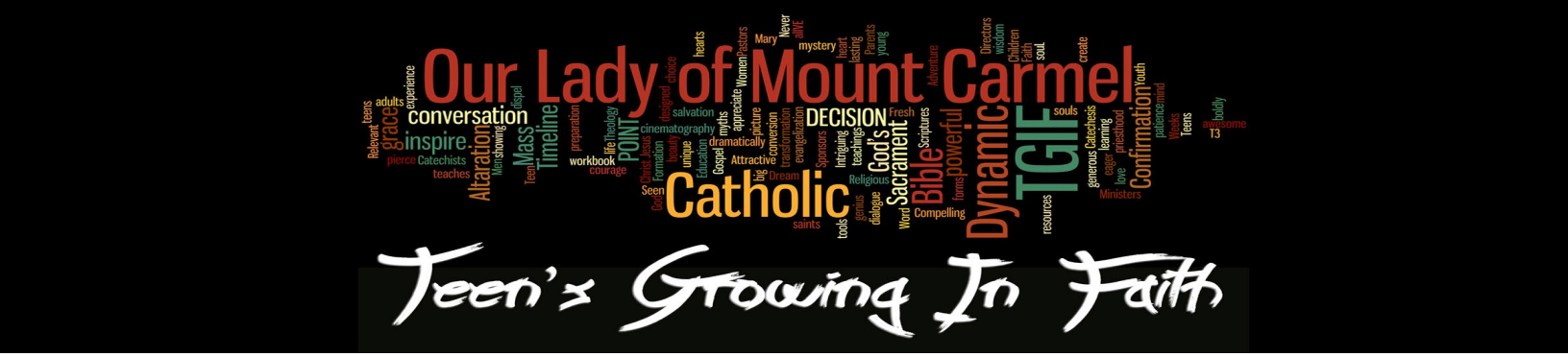
_____I accept the responsibility of training my child in the practice of the faith.
_____I accept the duty of bringing my child up to keep God's commandments, i.e.; **attend Mass regularly**.
_____I reject Satan, all his works, and all his empty promises.
_____I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father.
_____I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

I hereby also promise to fulfill, to the best of my ability, the expectations required of the parents of the Confirmation Candidate of the OLMC Confirmation program. By signing this document, I am truthfully saying that I have both read and understand what is expected of myself and my child. I choose to:

_____Faithfully strive to live out my sacrament covenant with God. (I will seek to be an example of Christ in their daily life.)
_____Diligently help my child to complete **ALL** the requirements of the OLMC Confirmation program in a timely and acceptable manner.
_____Meet all Parent requirements (incl. attending (1) "Class on the Sacraments" w/Deacon Robert by 12/14/25)
_____Spend time with my child helping them develop an active life of faith.

X_____ _____

(Signature of parent/guardian) Date



CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE COMMITMENT

DUE: September 21, 2025

"For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."

-Jeremiah 29:11

As a baptized Catholic, I am preparing for reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation, by which I will be more perfectly bound to the Catholic Church and enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the Faith as a witness of Christ.

As a Candidate for Confirmation, I promise the following:

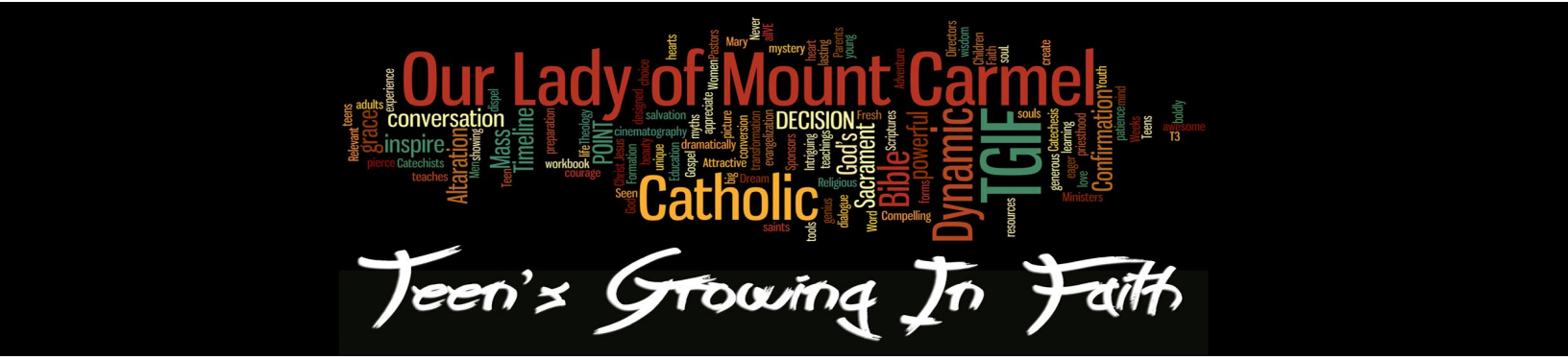
- I will approach my confirmation journey with an open mind and an open heart.
- I will attend and will fully participate in all TGIF classes.
- I will be respectful of the leaders and facilitators of the program and show appreciation for their time and effort.
- I will show respect to those in my class who are on the journey with me.
- I will attend Mass every Sunday & all Holy Days of Obligation.
- I will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before my Confirmation.
- I will accept more responsibility in my family, parish, and community by putting my talents and gifts at the service of others.
- I will commit to daily prayer, praying especially for growth in faith, hope and love.

As I make these promises, I ask God to give me the grace to be open to his plans for my life- plans he reveals to me in prayer, in my talents and aspirations, and in the encouragement of those who knows and loves me. I place myself in the loving embrace of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in asking for help in fulfilling this commitment.

_____	_____	_____
Name of Candidate (print)	**Signature of Candidate**	**Date**

Witnessed by: _____ _____

Signature(s) of Candidate's Parents(s)/Legal Guardian(s)



MASS and CLASS Attendance Policy for Confirmation Formation

DUE: September 21, 2025

As we prepare for Confirmation, two of the most important requirements are attendance at **Mass** and at Faith Formation **Class** sessions **(TGIF)**.

MASS - is the Source and Summit of our Catholic Faith. Life with Jesus in the Catholic Church is the best possible way to live. Jesus gave us The Church and The Holy Sacraments, so we are strengthened in communion with Him until we are united with Him in Heaven. We don't want to miss this. Sacrament Students are to attend Mass every Sunday (Saturday after 4:30pm through Sunday) and all Holy Days of Obligation.

CLASS - At OLMC, our Faith Formation sessions are both a combination of class with large and small group discussion so that our youth can learn and experience Christ in a variety of different settings. Attendance at all our Faith Formation sessions is vital to their preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation and for **continuing in lifelong faith formation as we are all called to do**. As we prepare for Confirmation, it is our duty as Candidates to be present and engaged at all TGIF Faith Formation sessions so to fully be ready to make the decision to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and enter into the life of the Church. There may be sessions during the year that our Candidates will meet when our other grades are off due to the nature of Confirmation preparation.

If a Confirmation Candidate misses a class, they must make up the class on their own time and turn it in at class directly to their Catechist (Table Leader) or TGIF Leader, Ben Polasek.

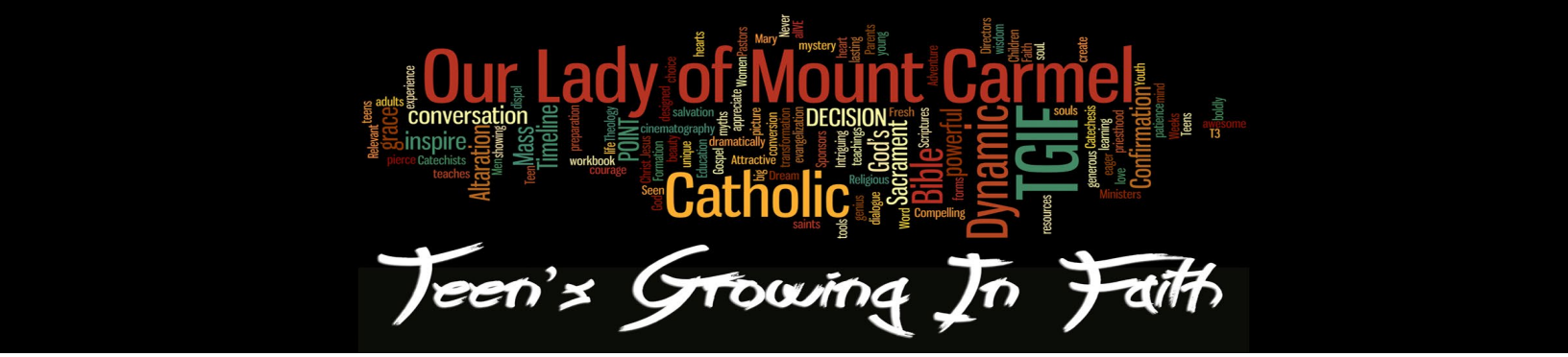
Only 6 Absences allowed <u>with</u> minimum of 3 made up.

Students that miss more than the allowed 6 Classes will be <u>INELIGIBLE</u> for Confirmation for the year of formation they are currently in. A meeting with Fr. Piotr must be set up by Candidate to discuss continuation and commitment to Confirmation formation.

_____	_____	_____
Name of Candidate (print)	**Signature of Candidate**	**Date**

Witnessed by: _____ _____

Signature(s) of Candidate's Parents(s)/Legal Guardian(s)



SELECTING A CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

(Second year Candidates, 2025-2026)

Each Candidate is required to have a Sponsor for their Confirmation. A Sponsor is an adult who will help the Candidate grow in and live out his or her faith, both in preparation for Confirmation AND throughout his or her life. Below are some guidelines to help you pick a Sponsor as well as questions to help discern if this person would be a good Sponsor for you.

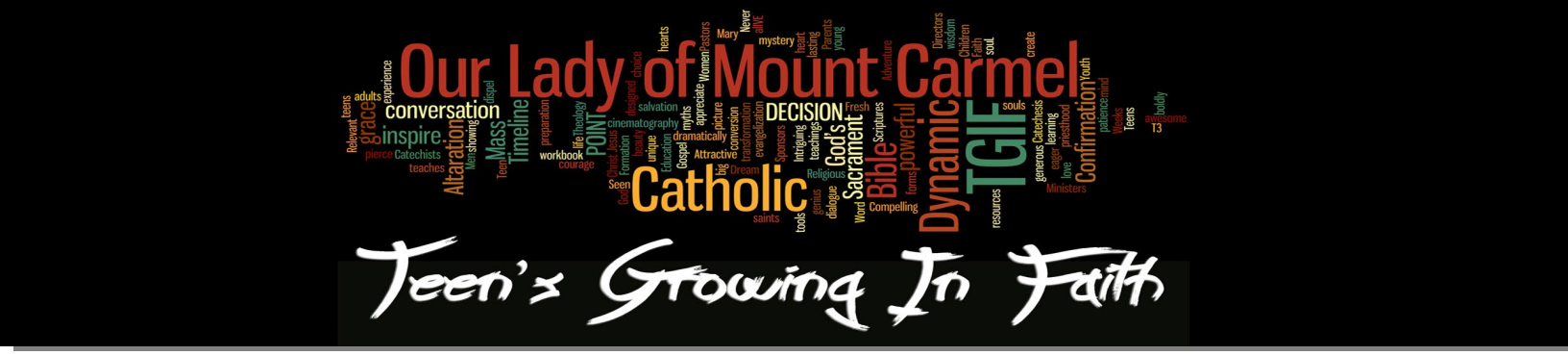
Please take some time to think and pray about your Sponsor as they will help guide you on this journey.

Practical Guidelines for Selecting a Sponsor:

The Sponsor should strive to witness Christ by word and deed, to spread and defend the Catholic faith, and be involved in parish life.

The Sponsor must be a faithful Catholic in good standing. This includes, but is not limited to, attending Mass every Sunday, receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly, cultivating a devout prayer life, and living a model life of service.
-The Sponsor should be someone who will help the Candidate grow into full Christian maturity. They should have the opportunity to cultivate a relationship with natural and supernatural dimensions.
-Only one person (not two) may be selected as a Confirmation Sponsor.
-Should be of sound mind so as to be able to spiritually direct the Candidate.
-A child's **Parent may <u>not</u>** be the Confirmation Sponsor. As a Parent, he/she already has the role of sponsoring. The Sponsor should support and help the Parent in this role.

Some questions to address when seeking a Sponsor:
Is the Sponsor baptized and confirmed and over 16 yrs. old?
If the Sponsor is married, was he/she married in the Catholic Church?
Does the Sponsor attend Mass on Sunday?
Does the Sponsor follow the teachings of the Catholic Church?
Will this person help you grow in your faith and love God and neighbor more?
Get to know your Sponsor… Where did they grow up, what did they study, what type of jobs have they worked?
Get to know them as a person and have them share their life experiences with you.
Talk to the Sponsor about how he/she has developed his/her relationship with God.
What have been peak experiences? Moments of conversion? How have they witnessed God's presence?
Talk to the Sponsor about his/her favorite ways and places to pray.
Talk to the Sponsor about how he/she witnesses Christ and proclaims the faith in word and deed.
Talk to the Sponsor about how he/she daily lives out his/her participation in the Church.



SPONSOR AGREEMENT FORM

(Second year Candidates, 2025-2026)

DUE: TOP of this Form by Oct. 19, 2025 AND Proof of Sacraments by Oct. 26, 2025

I agree to act as a Confirmation Sponsor for: _____
(Candidate's Name)

SPONSOR INFORMATION
(Please print legibly)

SPONSOR NAME:_____
MAILING ADDRESS:_____
CITY/STATE/ZIP:_____
TELEPHONE:_____
EMAIL ADDRESS:_____

I AM A REGISTERED PARISHIONER AT:
PARISH NAME: _____
PARISH ADDRESS: _____
PARISH PHONE: _____

_____
Sponsor's Signature Date

_____
Candidate's Signature Date

---------- **KEEP BOTTOM SECTION FOR YOUR REFERENCE** ----------

I affirm that I am over 16 years of age and possess a mature Catholic faith. I have been baptized, confirmed, and I celebrate the Eucharist regularly. I am a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church. If married, my marriage is recognized by the Church. I am a registered parishioner of the parish listed below. I will request my Sacrament documentation to be provided to DRE at OLMC.

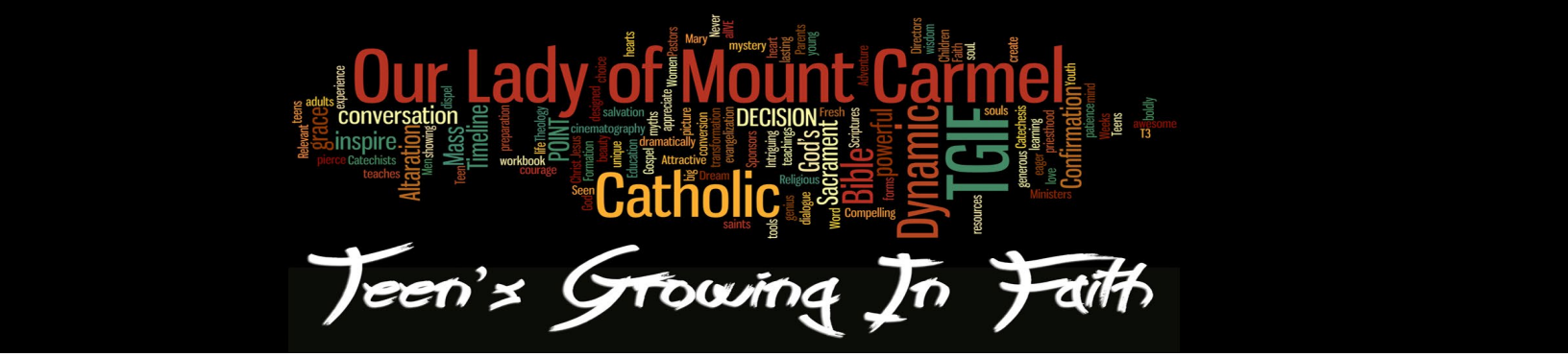
I am willing to be a mentor and guide to the Confirmation Candidate during the preparation leading to the sacrament and throughout his/her life as needed. I will keep my Candidate in prayer throughout the confirmation process and throughout my life. I will be in contact with my Candidate throughout the year.

I understand that:

- **I will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before the Confirmation Mass.**
- **My presence is requested for the Confirmation Mass.**
- **I am to attend (1) "Class on the Sacraments" with OLMC Deacon Robert Rosales by 12/14/25.** (Classes are held once a month on Sundays from 9:30-10:30am in the Church. **Next offered class is Sept. 14.** Please sign in to receive credit for your attendance. Please inform DRE, if you attended Deacon Robert's class in the last 3 years, this meets requirement. Sponsors may attend class at their own parish and provide DRE with statement of completion.)
- **I will provide copies of my proof of Sacraments (Ex. Confirmation Certificate, Baptism Certificate, Certificate from the Church of Baptism with Sacraments listed) to the DRE no later than October 26, 2025.**

Please submit TOP of this Form by Oct. 19, 2025 AND Proof of Sacraments by Oct. 26, 2025 to DRE at OLMC.

OLMC (Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Catholic Church)
ATTN: RE Office, 1008 Austin St, Portland, TX 78374-2012 or EMAIL: dre@olmcportland.com



SELECTING A SAINT FOR CONFIRMATION NAME and ESSAY

(Second year Candidates, 2025-2026)

SAINT NAME FORM DUE: OCT. 19, 2025
SAINT ESSAY DUE: NOV. 16, 2025

Each Confirmation Candidate chooses a Saint as a patron and is confirmed under that Patron Saint's name.
*A **Patron Saint** is a Saint in heaven, who is chosen as the dedicated protector and intercessor of a person, a society, a church, an occupation, or a place. The saint's protection is typically based on some real or presumed relationship with the areas of life involved. We choose a Patron Saint with whom we feel a connection, want to imitate, and from whom we request intercession and protection throughout life.*
The tradition of taking on a new name reflects a new role in life. This is evident throughout the Scriptures, e.g. "Abram" was changed to "Abraham" which means "Father of Many Nations," and Simon was changed to "Peter" which means "Rock" because Jesus founded His Church upon him as the first pope.

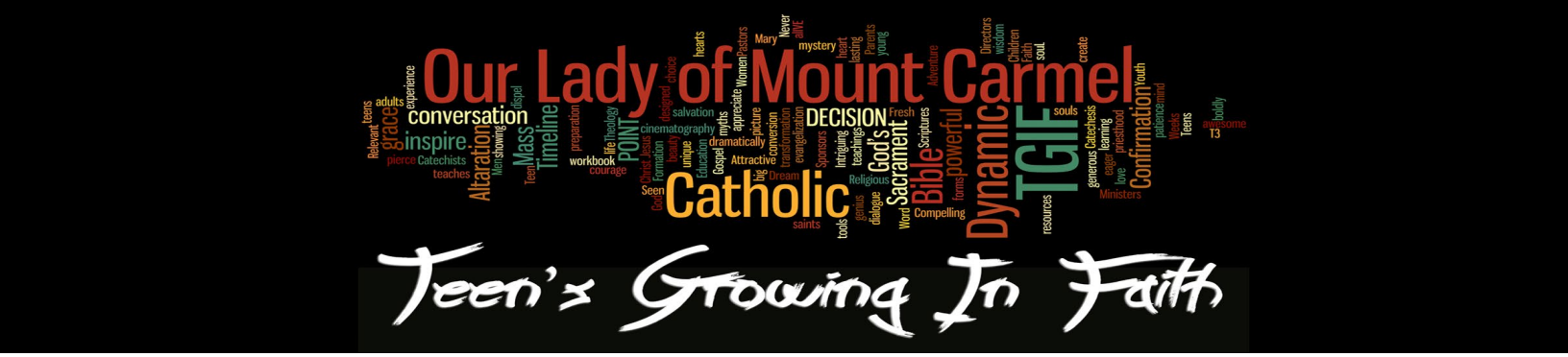
GUIDELINES TO FOLLOW IN SELECTING A SAINT:
- Saint has been officially canonized by the Roman Catholic Church.
- Titles of Mary such as "Our Lady of …" should not be used for Confirmation. The Candidate in this case can choose "Mary" or "Maria" as their Confirmation name.
- Read and learn about several Saints and their lives before making your choice. You can choose a Saint of either gender. The more Saints you are familiar with the easier it becomes for you to request their intercession (even from the ones that are not your special Confirmation patron); the Saints are always eager and happy to help us.
- You should develop a personal devotion to this Saint and build a relationship with him/her through constant prayer. The Saint you select should be someone you look up to as a hero, admire and want to be like.

REQUIREMENTS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR SAINT ESSAY:
- Must be typed with at least (3) paragraphs. Each paragraph must be at least 4-5 sentences each.

PARAGRAPH 1: A brief biography of the Saint written in your own words.
(this paragraph includes facts about the Saint, what he/she is a patron of, when they lived, and when they were canonized)
PARAGRAPH 2: An explanation of the reasons why you have selected this Saint.
(this paragraph includes what interested you about this saint, how does this saint inspire you, how do you relate to this saint, what does this saint have that you want in your life)
PARAGRAPH 3: Ideas of how you will develop your devotion and relationship with this Saint.
(this paragraph includes what about this saint do you want to incorporate in your own life, how will you develop your relationship with this saint (ex: prayer, meditation, books), what characteristics that this saint has that you want to emulate in your life (ex: kindness, bravery, love)

**** PLAGIARISM OR USE OF AI IS UNACCEPTABLE! You will be asked to rewrite Essay to receive Credit. ****

Essay will be read by Fr. Piotr Koziel, TGIF Confirmation Coordinators and DRE.



SAINT NAME FORM

(Second year Candidates, 2025-2026)

DUE: October 19, 2025

Candidate's Name _____

Confirmation Saint Name _____

- At your Confirmation, you will be confirmed with a Saint Name of your choosing.
- When you are presented to the Bishop, he will call you by the Saint Name that you have chosen and mark you with the Sign of the Cross.
- The Name is a symbol of your full initiation into The Church and Her mission.
- In choosing a Saint for your Name and Essay, spend time in prayer and in research to select a Saint that you would like to model your own life after.
- It is recommended that a Candidate choose the name of a Patron Saint.
- **The Saint must be officially canonized by the Roman Catholic Church.**
- **You will write an Essay about your chosen Saint.**

Refer to document "Selecting a Saint for Confirmation Name and Essay" to meet all requirements.

Your Saint Essay will be read by Fr. Piotr Koziel, TGIF Confirmation Coordinators and DRE.

This **Saint Name Form** is DUE **October 19, 2025.**

The **Saint Essay** is DUE **November 16, 2025.**

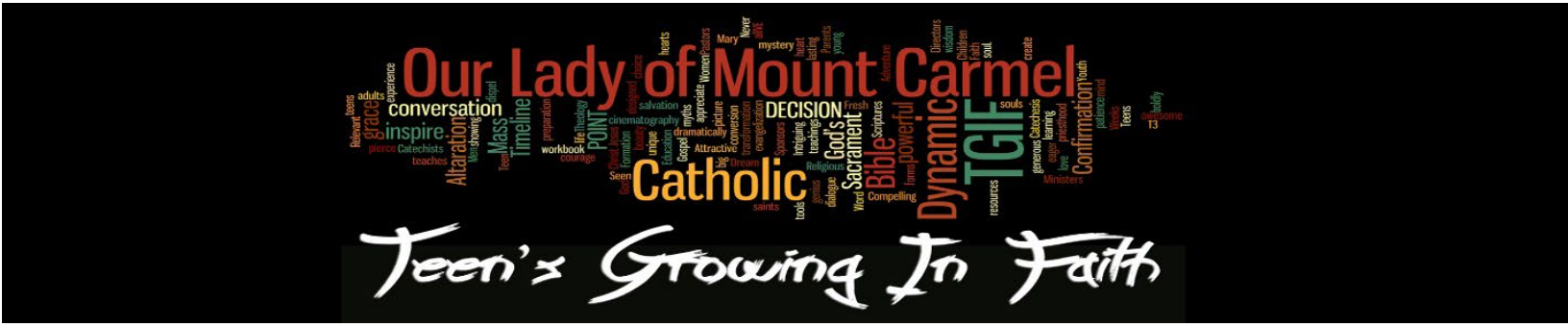
Please submit this Saint Name Form and your Saint Essay in (1) of the following ways:

- directly to your Catechist (Table Leader) at Class
- directly to TGIF Coordinator, Ben Polasek at Class
- directly to DRE in RE Office in person, drop off in **lockbox** outside RE Building or by email: dre@olmcportland.com

---------- **KEEP BOTTOM SECTION FOR YOUR REFERENCE** ----------

Candidate's Name _____

Confirmation Saint Name _____



Service & Adoration Confirmation Hours 2025-2026

DUE: January 18, 2026

** Minimum 15 Hours of Service Required <u>each</u> year for 1st and 2nd Year Confirmation Students*
** Minimum 1 Hour of Adoration Required <u>each</u> year for 1st and 2nd Year Confirmation Students*

*** Parents, Guardians, Families are invited to join your Teen.**

Info and Ideas

ADORATION *(Adore Jesus in the Eucharist in our parish's Perpetual Adoration Chapel or other Holy Hour event) email <u>dre@olmcportland.com</u> for parish door code and info*

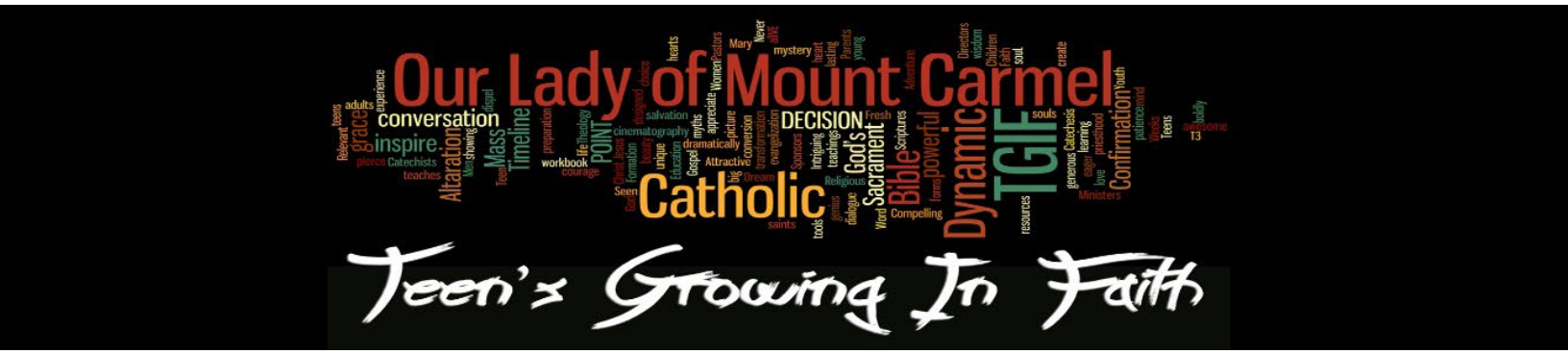
"Acts of Faith" *(Family, Friendship, Prayer, Devotion, Meditation, Spiritual Time!, Read The Bible, read daily Catholic scriptures and reflections, watch Christian movies, pray the Holy Rosary, join our Annual Public Square Rosary Rally in October, pray for those who have no one to pray for them, pray for the healing of the sick, deceased, affected or at-risk, attend Christian events, read a recommended Catholic book (ex. Authors…Matthew Kelly, Fr. Mike Schmitz, Scott Hahn, Mark Hart, Allen Hunt), watch EWTN for specials, see below for more…)*

"Acts of Love" *(homemade thank you notes, thoughtful letters/cards/crafts/artwork sent to parents; loved ones; medical/police/fire/first responder/military personnel; clergy/religious life (Bishops/Priests/Deacons/Nuns); those in assisted-living homes (you could use Catholic Holy Days/Celebrations/Saints as the design/ theme), contact DRE for penpal info; help your family with their duties, work, homework and projects, decorate to celebrate the Liturgical Calendar)*

"Acts of Hope" *(create a Journal, song, poem or story to write down your actions, thoughts, feelings, prayers - where/how have you adapted, helped, prayed, kept your faith and trust in the Lord?)*

"Works of Charity" *(clean/beautify/help & serve at your home, your Church, your community… maintain yard, handy work, chores, Volunteer at OLMC in the Religious Ed Office, Parish Events and Activities, Works of Charity and offer your help at the Hospital, Food Bank, Mother Teresa Shelter, Catholic Charities…)*

Daily Mass from Bishop Barron's chapel: https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/
Check out all Fr. Mike Schmitz offers us for Catholic faith, fun, knowledge & questions answered:
Search YouTube for "Fr. Mike Schmitz"
Rosary LIVE: https://www.facebook.com/AscensionPress/live_videos/
Join The Pope for Mass, Prayers, Adoration, Rosary, Blessings: https://www.vaticannews.va/en.html
Stations of the Cross: Search YouTube for "Pray the Stations of the Cross with Fr. Mark Toups"
Movies, Studies, Videos and tons more for all Ages: formed.org *(setup your free account under our parish acct.)*



Confirmation 2025 – 2026
Service and Adoration Hours Statement

DUE: January 18, 2026

Name: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

_____

Date of Service (completed on or after 6/01/25)	Begin Time	End Time	Total Time	Supervisor Signature (parent/guardian may sign)	Event/Place

∗ Minimum 15 Hrs of Service Required <u>each</u> year for 1st and 2nd Year Confirmation Students

∗ Minimum 1 Hr of Adoration Required each year for 1st and 2nd Year Confirmation Students

Student Signature: _____