

Confirmation Preparation 2025-2026
St. Angela Merici Catholic Church

“Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love”

We welcome parents and candidates to the sacrament of Confirmation!

During the next ten months, your teen’s faith journey will be nurtured toward understanding and living their faith. It will be a time of searching, challenging, learning and resolving their faith. Your active support and encouragement will enhance the process. As your teen’s relationship with Christ grows, they will look to you for example.

Weekly Mass attendance is very important! Faith and worship are closely linked. Faith brings the community together to worship; and in worship faith is renewed. The Church celebrates Christ’s life, death, and resurrection in its liturgy. It proclaims its faith in His presence in the Church, in His Word, in the sacramental celebrations; it gives praise and thanks, asks for the things it needs, and strengthens itself to carry out its commission to be witnesses and to do service.

It is VITAL that our youth see faith development as LIFE-LONG, and that one must strive continuously to grow in faith, throughout adulthood.

What the Church says about Confirmation

(adapted from the Catechism of the Catholic Church)

- † Confirmation is the strengthening and fullness of the Holy Spirit received already in Baptism.
- † Confirmation, together with Baptism and Eucharist, are known as the sacraments of Christian Initiation and therefore are a unity.
- † Confirmation calls us to greater participation in the mission of Jesus and the Church. The grace of this sacrament challenges us to be “like” Christ in all we do and say.
- † Through Confirmation our relationship with God is deepened, and we are incorporated more completely into the Body of Christ. Confirmation obliges us, as true witnesses of Christ, to spread and defend the faith by word and deed.
- † Confirmation, like Baptism, imprints a spiritual mark on the soul. Thus, Confirmation is only received once.
- † In the celebration of the sacrament, the bishop extends his hands over all those to be confirmed and invokes the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
- † Sacred Chrism is used for anointing.

- † The conferring of the sacrament of Confirmation is done through the laying on of hands, anointing with Chrism on the forehead, and through the words, “Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit”.
- † The sign of peace, which concludes the sacrament, reveals and expresses ecclesial communion with the bishop and all the faithful.

Choosing a Confirmation Name

The Confirmation name is the name of a person recognized by the Catholic Church as a “Saint”. Whether the saint lived as recently as 50 years ago, or two thousand years ago, the values and truths that the saint proclaimed are still relevant and very much needed today. Saints were very real and very human, and they can help us, through their example, to become closer to God and to call for us to follow Jesus.

Saints are defined as people who strive to love God with their whole heart and soul and to love their neighbors. When your teen chooses a Confirmation name, we ask that research be done to understand this saint, his/her qualities, values, and prayer life.

Parent and candidate should discuss the Confirmation name and its significance and to think about how the Saint’s chosen name can help your teen understand that this reflects their new role as a more mature spiritual member of the Catholic Church.

The deadline for choosing a Confirmation Saint is Sunday, February 1st, 2026.

Choosing a Sponsor

- † A sponsor must be chosen.
- † A sponsor may not be the candidate’s parent
- † The sponsor must be at least sixteen (16) years of age. However, as it is crucial that a sponsor be sufficiently mature for this role, it is recommended that parents and the candidate collaborate on choosing an adult sponsor with whom the candidate can speak about his/her faith.
- † The sponsor of a candidate for Confirmation must be a Catholic in good standing with the Catholic Church who has already received the sacraments of initiation. Being in “good standing” refers to those who regularly practice their faith and believe what the Church believes, having accepted the responsibilities of their baptismal promises.
- † Sponsors should be attending Mass on a regular basis and receiving Holy Communion

Confirmation sponsors need to be chosen by Sunday, September 7th, 2025.

Duties of a Sponsor

- † Pray daily for the candidate, their family, and the team preparing them for Confirmation
- † Check in on how the candidate is doing, both during the preparation time as well as for years to come
- † **Attend three classes with the candidate (more specific dates will be given at the Parent Meeting)**
- † We realize that, because of distances, a sponsor may not be able to attend one, or all, of the classes. In that case, one of the parents must attend with the candidate.

Confirmation Retreat: Friday, November 7th- Sunday, November 9th, 2025

- † Catechesis is to include a required Confirmation retreat.
- † The cost of the retreat is \$225.
- † For serious reasons, the youth minister can make individual exceptions and provide other means to satisfy this requirement.

Parent(s)/Teen Retreat: Saturday, April 11th, 2026

- † This is a required day retreat at St. Angela Merici for teens and their parents.
- † For serious reasons, the youth minister can make individual exceptions and provide other means to satisfy this requirement.

Important Dates

- † **September 14, 2025 Sponsor form due (online form)**
- † **September 15 or 16, 2025 Confirmation Parent Meeting, 6:30pm in the church**
- † **February 1, 2026 Confirmation saint name form due (online form)**
- † **November 7-9, 2025 Confirmation retreat**
- † **Saturday, April 11, 2026 Parent/Teen Retreat**