

SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024 CALENDAR

Confirmation Year 1

Wednesdays, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

SEPTEMBER	13*, 20, 27
OCTOBER	4, 11, 18* (Circle of Grace), 25
NOVEMBER	8, 15, 29
DECEMBER	6, 13
JANUARY	17, 24, 31
FEBRUARY	7*, 28
MARCH	6, 13, 20, 27
APRIL	10, 17, 24
MAY	1, 8*, 15

IMPORTANT DATES:

September 13: Parent information meeting

October 18: Circle of Grace

February 7: Sponsor form due

May 8: Service hours due

May 8: Parent formation due

There are no classes on the following days:

November 1: All Saints (Holy Day of Obligation)

November 22: Thanksgiving Break

December 20: Christmas Break

December 27: Christmas Break

January 3: Christmas Break

January 10: Christmas Break

February 14: Ash Wednesday

February 21: President's Week (FSUSD)

April 3: Spring Break (FSUSD)

PREPARATION TRACKER

Confirmation Year 1

Student Name:

Forms and resources at <https://olmcfairfield.org/confirmation>

	Sunday Mass Participation (due weekly in class)
	Individual Service Hours Tracker (due May 8, 2024)
	Family Service Hours Tracker (due May 8, 2024)
	Parent Formation - must submit 4 prompts (due May 8, 2024)
	Sponsor Form (due February 7, 2024)

Weekly Mass reflection:

Our Liturgy is the source and summit of our faith. Per Canon 1247, the faithful are obligated to participate in Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. As such, candidates in the preparation process for the sacrament of Confirmation are to attend Mass on a weekly basis, along with any Holy Days of Obligation.

Holy Days of Obligation for 2023-2024 that occur during the school year and are **not** fulfilled by a Sunday Mass:

Wednesday, November 1: Solemnity of All Saints

Friday, December 8: Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Monday, December 25: Solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ (Christmas)

In general, OLMC offers a 9am, 12pm and 7pm Mass on Holy Days (Christmas will vary). Please always check our bulletin for exact times/changes.

Students must submit a weekly My Faith Journey form AND a signed Mass card on a weekly basis for teachers to check. The My Faith Journey must be fully filled out each week to receive credit. The Mass card may be signed by Shelley, Carmelo, any usher or other catechist after Mass. They may NOT ask any priest or deacon to sign the card.

Students are still required to participate in Mass on vacation. They may bring back a bulletin from the church they attended in lieu of the signed Mass card. They must still submit a My Faith Journey at class.

Any student that misses more than 3 weeks of Mass may need to have a parent/teacher meeting to determine if they are ready to receive the Sacrament.

Service Hours:

During the Immediate Preparation process for Confirmation, students are to participate in two full-day service projects. This consists of 12 hours of individual service, along with 12 hours of family service. Students may do a full-day project, or split it over the course of the year. Students who go over the 12 hours may count the excess for Confirmation Year 2.

The family service project is flexible and can be less than 12 hours. The goal is to show that the family (which can be parents, siblings, extended family, or even friends) took the time to **work with** the student to provide some type of service to the community.

Ideas for service (both individual and family): volunteer at the local food bank, take food or groceries to those who are homebound, babysit for free, provide free tutoring, etc. If you are unsure if your idea will work, then just ask!

****All Confirmation students are required to usher at ONE 6pm Sunday Mass at OLMC.**

This is the “youth” Mass. This counts as 1.5 service hours as they are expected to be present by 5:40pm to check in with Carmelo and go through a quick training. Students can also do this weekly to fulfill their entire service obligation. Students MUST sign up in advance (simply email or talk to Shelley about the week that you would like to serve) for their first time ushering.

****All Confirmation students are welcome to assist Virgil, our Plant Manager, with livestreaming, taking photos, and updating our social media during Mass. This is available for the 5pm Saturday Mass and the 8am, 10am, 12pm and 6pm Sunday Masses. Students do not need to register in advance; however, they must sign in upstairs in the church with Virgil. He will then submit the sign in sheets to the Confirmation team. Additionally, students can bring in their service hour trackers and have them signed by him each time.**

Youth Ministry:

Students must participate in four youth ministry events per year. These events are run by Casey Collins, the Youth Ministry Coordinator. Events will be publicized as they arise.

Parent Formation:

Parents are required to attend formation activities throughout the year. To ease scheduling conflicts, we are providing these opportunities online. Parents must do **4** formation activities throughout the year. Each activity will consist of answering a prompt and submitting it to Shelley via Google form. These prompts will be posted on a monthly basis at <https://olmcfairfield.org/confirmation>.

Sponsor Form:

Students are asked to pick a sponsor by the end of Confirmation Year 1. A sponsor form must be submitted with basic information. In Confirmation Year 2, a parish letter and other information will be required, including the sponsor's Confirmation certificate with parish seal and Church marriage certificate (if married). Please see the Sponsor Guide for details.

SPONSOR GUIDE

Confirmation Year 1

Recognizing this important role, the Church requires that a sponsor be at least sixteen years of age, be fully initiated in the Church (has received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist), and be a practicing member of the Church (attend weekly Mass and be a registered parishioner of their parish).

If married, the sponsor's marriage must be blessed by the Catholic Church (this includes Convalidation).

Sponsors must not be the father or mother of the candidate.

These requirements (Canon 874) are aimed at making sure that a sponsor is more mature, informed, and experienced in the ways of our faith and culture than the candidate.

The ideal sponsor:

- already has a relationship of trust with the candidate
- is willing to meet regularly with the candidate as he or she prepares to celebrate Confirmation
- is prepared to accompany the candidate on his or her faith journey after Confirmation
- is willing to share his or her faith with the candidate
- is an older friend or relative in whom the candidate can confide
- is an open, honest, caring, committed, and encouraging person who will help the candidate grow in his or her understanding of the faith

In addition to a sponsor interview write-up by the candidate in Year 2, the sponsor must submit a letter of verification from his/her parish in the same school year. This letter must state that the sponsor is a Catholic in good standing and must be signed by the pastor.

SPONSOR FORM

Confirmation Year 1

Name: _____

Please complete this form by February 7, 2024.

A letter of verification signed by the sponsor's pastor and stamped with the parish seal will be due in Year 2.

Sponsor Name: _____

Sponsor Parish Name, City, State:

Sponsor Requirement Checklist:

- sponsor is not the father or mother of student sponsor is 16 years old and older
- sponsor has received the Sacrament of Baptism
- sponsor has received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion
- sponsor has received the Sacrament of Confirmation
- if sponsor is married, married in the Roman Catholic Church

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