Sacrament of Confirmation

ADOLESCENT PREPARATION | OUR LADY OF GRACE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sacrament of Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation is a Sacrament of initiation that resembles Pentecost. Rather than a sign of adulthood, it is a strengthening of the Holy Spirit that spurs us to be missionary witnesses of Jesus Christ.

Invitation

At Confirmation, our faith and membership in the Body of Christ is strengthened. In Baptism, we become new members of the Body of Christ, but our journey does not end there. The decision to be baptized is followed by continued growth, learning, and witness. Our desire to continue to grow and develop as Christians finds expression in Confirmation when we renew our baptismal promises and receive in a new way the gift of the Holy Spirit, which

Come, Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And You shall renew the face of the earth.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

strengthens our bond with the Church and its members. We invite you to connect to a Church community, receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and be inspired to Gospel action by accepting the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Openness to Grace

In the Sacrament of Confirmation, the Holy Spirit pours love into our hearts so that we become instruments of grace. We encourage all participants to be open to this Spirit and grace. We do not expect that every person who begins the Confirmation preparation process will be perfectly holy or completely dedicated to a life of faith. However, our preparation ministry can lead those who have a desire to grow in faith toward an authentic life of discipleship.

Confirmation at Our Lady of Grace

Our Lady of Grace invites 9th, 10th, or 11th grade students to begin the Confirmation preparation ministry. All of our Sacraments begin with a process of preparation so that participants are able to receive the graces of the Sacrament. This process is designed for young people and their families to experience conversion and formation. Our preparation is a two-year model. Year One focuses on Evangelization and includes a Discernment Day and Learning Commitment for the candidate and family. Year Two focuses on Discipleship and includes the Spirit & Fire Retreat, a Parish Commitment, and a Confirmation Mentoring program. The preparation gives a unique opportunity for families to grow in faith together alongside the teen candidate. If you are in 12th grade and interested in the sacrament of Confirmation please contact Jenny at confirmation@ologn.org.

Year One - Confirmation Preparation Requirements

Eligibility: Open to any 9th, 10th, or 11th grade student and family

Deadline for Registration: October 1st, 2025

Deadline for Learning Commitment Selection (completed with registration): October 1st, 2025

Deadline to RSVP for Discernment Day: September 12th, 2025

Discernment Days 2025-2026: September 21, 2025 OR December 7th, 2025

Deadline for Copy of Baptismal Certificate: December 1st, 2025

Registration Link: <u>linktr.ee/OLGconfirmation</u>

1. Regularly attend Sunday Mass.

Participating in the Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith, and we require that Confirmation candidates and family join in the weekly celebration of the Eucharist. Beginning 2025-2026, all Year 1 Sacramental preparation candidates and their families must attend at least 80% of Sunday Masses during the school year in order to continue with Year 2 the following year. Families will check-in at a digital kiosk in the Gathering Space when attending Sunday Mass at Our Lady of Grace and will have the option to submit Mass attendance check-ins when participating at other Catholic parishes. This will begin the weekend of September 6-7, 2025.

Mass Times: (Saturday) 5:30pm | (Sunday) 7:30am | 9:00am | 11:30am | 1:30pm (Spanish) | 5:30pm

2. Participate in a Discernment Day with parents.

Candidates and at least one parent/guardian will participate in a mini-retreat day to ask big questions about the role of faith in their lives and why they are seeking the Sacrament of Confirmation. Discernment Days will include prayer, activities, and discussion. Candidates need only attend one Discernment Day but can choose one of two possible dates.

Discernment Days 2025-2026: September 21, 2025 OR December 7th, 2025

Discernment Days begin at 3:00pm in the Donovan Center and conclude in time for 5:30pm Sunday Mass.

3. Meet with Youth Ministry Leaders for Two Check-Ins

Confirmation Candidates will meet individually with a youth ministry leader for two 15-minute check-in in-person meetings, once near the start of the year and once toward the end. The purpose of these check-ins is to ensure students are on the right track in their Confirmation preparation process.

4. Participate in One Learning Commitment

Year One focuses on evangelization, which, for many of our students, requires some learning about the Catholic faith. Even those students who have taken religion or theology courses can find immense value in growing in the application of their knowledge. All Year One Confirmation candidates are asked to choose **one** of the following Learning Commitments, which include some parent involvement:

(A) Attend Sunday Night Life Teen Youth Ministry Sessions

Life Teen is the Our Lady of Grace ministry developed specifically for high school students. Students must attend 70% of Life Teen sessions and parents should attend parent opportunities (usually 3-5 each year). Life Teen gives students the opportunity to meet in small groups, discuss major topics of faith, and build a strong faith community of peers, adult mentors, and parish leaders.

OR

(B) Attend Select Monday Night OCIA Sessions with a Parent

OCIA is the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (Previously called RCIA). Adults joining the Catholic Church will participate in these weekly Monday evening sessions to learn about the faith and ask questions to foster their own belief. Confirmation candidates will be asked to attend at least 9 of the 12 pre-selected Monday evening sessions (from 7:00-9:00pm in the Community Room) with a parent or guardian. By participating in OCIA sessions as a family, parents and students will grow in holiness together. This year's pre-selected sessions for Confirmation are posted on linktr.ee/OLGconfirmation.

OR

(C) Attend a Catholic High School

While attendance at a Catholic high school does fulfill the Year One Learning Commitment, we still encourage all Catholic school students to attend Life Teen. In our Life Teen small groups, our young people are bridging the gap between public and Catholic schools through honest discussion and the sharing of life experiences, furthering our mission to build one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.

5. Turn in Forms

Year One candidates will turn in the following forms:

Confirmation Intent Form Due October 1st, 2025

Completed as part of the Confirmation registration process

Year One Learning Commitment Selection Due October 1st, 2025

Completed as part of the Confirmation registration process

Discernment Day RSVP Due September 12th, 2025

Online form at <u>linktr.ee/OLGconfirmation</u>

Copy of Baptismal Certificate Due December 1st, 2025

If baptized at Our Lady of Grace, no further action is needed

If baptized elsewhere, contact church of baptism and direct a copy to be sent to:

Email: confirmation@ologn.org OR

Mail: Marie Nagle, c/o Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, 9900 E. 191st St, Noblesville, IN 46060

Year Two - Confirmation Preparation Requirements

Eligibility: Open to any 10th, 11th, or 12th grade student and family who has completed Year One.

Deadline for Registration: October 1st, 2025

Deadline for Parish Commitment Selection: October 1st, 2025

Deadline for Spirit & Fire Confirmation Retreat Registration: October 1st, 2025

Spirit & Fire Retreat: October 3-5, 2025

Deadline for Baptismal Certificate: December 1st, 2025
Deadline for Saint & Sponsor Form: March 15th, 2026

Confirmation Rehearsal: May 3rd, 2026 Sacrament of Confirmation: May 17th, 2026 Registration Link: linktr.ee/OLGconfirmation

1. Submit an application for Year Two.

Confirmation candidates who have successfully completed their first year of preparation (Year One) may apply for Year Two. The application is designed to ensure that students demonstrate a desire to be Confirmed and to live their Catholic faith.

Applications are emailed following registration for Religious Education. ologn.org/ReligiousEd

2. Regularly attend Sunday Mass.

Participating in the Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith, and we ask that Confirmation candidates and family join in the weekly celebration of the Eucharist.

Mass Times: (Saturday) 5:30pm | (Sunday) 7:30am | 9:00am | 11:30am | 1:30pm (Spanish) | 5:30pm

3. Participate in the Spirit & Fire Retreat.

The Spirit & Fire Confirmation Retreat is a highlight event for Year Two students. This multi-day experience takes place at Our Lady of Grace and includes unique prayer opportunities, Sacraments, small group discussion, presentations, games and competitions, communal meals, and more. This is often one of the favorite elements of preparation for students.

The retreat focuses on the Sacrament of Confirmation itself, and candidates will come away with a greater knowledge of the Sacrament and its effects.

This retreat is mandatory for all Confirmation candidates and parents are asked to participate on Sunday of the retreat. Students who have conflicts with other extracurricular activities will be asked to work with coaches or advisors to give priority to the Confirmation retreat.

Spirit & Fire 2025: October 3-5, 2025

The retreat begins at 6:30pm on Friday and concludes at 3:00pm on Sunday.

Parents participate from 8:30am through 3:00pm on Sunday.

4. Meet with Youth Ministry Leaders for Two Check-Ins

Confirmation Candidates will meet individually with a youth ministry leader for two 15-minute check-in in-person meetings, once near the start of the year and once toward the end. The purpose of these check-ins is to ensure students are on the right track in their Confirmation preparation process.

5. Participate in One Parish Commitment

Year Two focuses on discipleship. At Confirmation, we are sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and strengthened for ongoing service in the Church and in the world. We are called to use these gifts to bear witness to the Christian faith in words accompanied by deeds. During Confirmation preparation, candidates will practice this commitment so as to be ready to serve after Confirmation. A Parish Commitment is a way for a student to demonstrate that he/she is ready to serve our faith community. It is our hope that the young people receiving Confirmation will be valuable members of their future Catholic communities, and so they will learn to be involved in parish life in order to prepare for the Sacrament. All Year Two Confirmation candidates are asked to choose one of the following Parish Commitments:

(A) Attend Sunday Night Life Teen Youth Ministry Sessions

Life Teen is the Our Lady of Grace ministry developed specifically for high school students. Students must attend 70% of Life Teen sessions. Life Teen gives students the opportunity to meet in small groups, discuss major topics of faith, and build a strong faith community of peers, adult mentors, and parish leaders.

OR

(B) Become a Regular Liturgical Minister

Candidates may choose to be trained as a lector, usher, server, or hospitality minister at Mass. Participating in a Mass choir, including our Crooked Halo youth choir at 5:30pm Sunday Mass, is an option. Also, participating in the Knights of the Holy Temple (for high school boys) or Daughters of Grace (for high school girls) are two liturgically-based faith formation groups that can be a great fit for students. Candidates will work with ministry leaders to determine the requirements of their commitment.

OR

(C) Join a Parish Ministry.

There are a plethora of opportunities for candidates to get involved at our parish, and most of our parish ministries are open to teens growing as leaders and contributing members. Becoming a catechist for younger children at ERE, bringing meals to the homebound with Monthly Graced Meals, or joining a committee would all be ways to fulfill this option.

6. Participate in Confirmation Mentor Sessions

Each Confirmation candidate will be assigned to a small group and a Confirmation mentor who is an active adult in the parish. These groups will have five sessions to discuss the Sacrament of Confirmation and a life of faithful discipleship. Candidates and mentors will arrange meetings in public locations between January and May (including one session following the Sacrament). The purpose of these meetings is to ask students to think critically about faith and gain an adult faith role model.

7. Turn in Forms

Confirmation Intent Form Due October 1st, 2025

Completed as part of the Confirmation registration process

Year Two Parish Commitment Selection Due October 1st, 2025

Completed as part of the Confirmation registration process

Spirit & Fire Confirmation Retreat Registration Due October 1st, 2025

Online form at <u>linktr.ee/OLGconfirmation</u>

Copy of Baptismal Certificate Due December 1st, 2025

If baptized at Our Lady of Grace, no further action is needed.

If baptized elsewhere, contact church of baptism and direct a copy to be sent to:

Email: confirmation@ologn.org OR

Mail: Marie Nagle, c/o Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, 9900 E. 191st St, Noblesville, IN 46060

Saint & Sponsor Form Due March 15th, 2026

Online form at <u>linktr.ee/OLGconfirmation</u>

Sponsors from other parishes will need to have their home church submit a letter of good standing to:

Email: confirmation@ologn.org OR

Mail: Marie Nagle, c/o Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, 9900 E. 191st St, Noblesville, IN 46060

8. Participate in Confirmation Rehearsal and Liturgy

Confirmation 2026: May 17th, 2026

The Confirmation Rehearsal will take place on Sunday, May 3rd, 2026 at 4:30pm.

Confirmation candidates and their sponsors are expected to participate in the Confirmation Liturgy, which takes place at Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church during 5:30pm Sunday Mass.