

Confirmation Program

“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 confirmands.” (CCC 1309)

Formation:

The Confirmation program at our parishes is a two-year program beginning with Year I (most are 9th grade, not all), and ending with the Sacrament of Confirmation at the end of the year II (10th or 11th grade). Through different components of formation, we help our students grow in living out their faith and by becoming more deeply united with Christ and the mission of His Church. These components are based on education, service and engaging them in the liturgy of the mass through homily notes and reflections on Sunday Scripture.

Course Content Focus for Year I Confirmation - typically 9th grade:

- Chosen series
- Theology of the Body
- “I Choose God” stories from young Catholics
- Setting the foundation- study guide
- Discern sponsor
- Confirmation Retreat - Year 1 or Year 2, or both years
- Faith enrichment, homily notes, etc.
- Additional projects

Course content Focus for Year II Confirmation students -typically 10th grade:

- YDisciple
 - Holy Spirit
 - Church teachings in today’s culture
- Theology of the Body
- “I Choose God” stories from young Catholics
- Develop a prayer life – begin a lifelong relationship with Jesus Christ
- Growth in spiritual maturity
- Confirmation Retreat - Year 1 or Year 2, or both years
- Faith enrichment, homily notes, etc.
- Additional project

Requirements:

1. Mass Attendance

Candidates are expected to go to Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. The grace received through the Eucharist is vital in preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation. Parents are responsible for making sure their teens attend weekly.

2. Class Attendance.

Canon Law requires parishes to be sure that each candidate is adequately instructed in the faith. We do this in two ways: First, through completion of this folder and second, through classroom instruction. **To make sure each candidate is adequately prepared you are required to attend all sessions. You are allowed 1 non-emergency absence (sickness).** Excessive absences will be handled on case-by-case basis by meetings with the priests.

3. Homily notes – due monthly

- students are required to write about **one homily a month (September through December)**
- 4 for year 1 and 4 for year 2
- “In celebration of the liturgy, Sacred Scripture is extremely important. From it comes the lessons that are read and explained in the homily.” (CCC1100) It is in the Sacred Scriptures that the Church constantly finds nourishment and strength. Through the homily notes, the student learns to listen intently and to reflect on the message of the homily.
- Consists of summarization/review of the main point(s) of the priest’s homily
- You are responsible for tracking your own progress!

4. Faith Enrichment Projects

- Students are required to attend three (3) Faith Enrichment Events for each school year.
- A reflection sheet must be turned in for each event.
- See the *Faith Enrichment Events* for more information on why, and the events our parishes offer.

5. Additional projects

- Year 1:
 - Parent project
 - Saint assignment
 - Sponsors: interview and complete certificates
 - Confirmation Retreat (**Year 1 or Year 2, or both years**)
- Year 2:
 - Confirmation Sponsor Night
 - Confirmation Sponsor Project
 - Confirmation Retreat (**Year 1 or Year 2, or both years**)
 - Letter requesting Confirmation & Confirmation Interview

6. Confirmation Knowledge Testing

- **See Confirmation Testing guidelines for more details**
 - study guide in folder