

**Visitation of Our Lady Church  
2025-2026 Confirmation Informational Packet**



<b><u>Place of Confirmation:</u></b>	<b>Visitation of Our Lady Church 3500 Ames BLVD., Marrero, LA</b>
<b><u>Date of Confirmation:</u></b>	<b>Thursday, February 26, 2026</b>
<b><u>Time of Confirmation:</u></b>	<b>7:00 pm</b>
<b><u>Celebrant:</u></b>	<b>Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond</b>
<b><u>Registration Fee:</u></b>	<b>\$70.00 (\$30.00 for currently registered VOL CCD students)</b>

**Registration opens September 22, 2025**

**Deadline to register and pay fee is Friday, October 10, 2025**

# VISITATION OF OUR LADY Confraternity of Christian Doctrine

## Confirmation Information

Students attending Eleventh Grade in either CCD or Catholic high schools **must attend** Confirmation preparation classes and complete all of the requirements set forth by the Archdiocese of New Orleans in the Policy of Confirmation effective August 15, 2019. Confirmation is celebrated in your home parish.

- **Completely fill out the 2025/26 Confirmation Registration Form**
- **Return form and the registration fee of \$70.00 (or \$30.00 for currently registered VOL CCD students) – the fee covers books, supplies, snacks, and the retreat for Confirmation.**
- **Provide in person the original Birth Certificate and a sealed Baptismal Certificate unless the student has received the sacraments of Baptism or First Holy Communion at Visitation of Our Lady Parish.**

Registration forms and fees can be dropped off at the VOL Pastoral Center during office hours M-F 8 am-4 pm, beginning **Monday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>**. You can also contact our Religious Education Coordinator directly to drop off forms after hours. **Registration forms/fees are due no later than October 10, 2025. There will be no exceptions made.**

All information regarding Confirmation Preparation is posted on the website of our Church at [www.vol.org](http://www.vol.org) under the Faith Formation heading. The documents in the information packet can be downloaded. **Be sure to make note of the due dates for all of the forms.**

Please note: **You must live within the VOL Parish boundaries or be a registered VOL parishioner to celebrate Confirmation at Visitation of Our Lady Church.** Anyone residing in, or registered in, another parish must contact that parish for information to register for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Contact the Office of Religious Education at **(504) 341-8477** with any further questions or concerns regarding Confirmation.

En Cristo,

Jessica V. Arbour  
Religious Education Coordinator

**PRINT NEATLY**

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Cert.: \_\_\_\_\_ Baptismal Cert.: \_\_\_\_\_ Received by: \_\_\_\_\_

## **REQUIREMENTS FOR CONFIRMATION:**

**Formal Faith Formation:** In addition to one's ongoing catechetical instruction via Catholic School or in a parochial CCD program, candidates must also commit to full participation in our preparation program.

**Commitment Meeting:** **Saturday, October 11, 2025 10:30am-12:00pm** (Parents and Candidates)

**Sacramental Prep Classes:** **12 hours** of Confirmation instruction. All classes will be held in the VOL cafeteria on the following dates:

<b>October 18, 2025</b>	<b>9 am – 12 pm</b>
<b>November 01, 2025</b>	<b>9 am – 12 pm</b>
<b>November 08, 2025</b>	<b>9 am – 12 pm</b>
<b>November 15, 2025</b>	<b>9 am – 12 pm</b>

**Prep Make Up Class:** Will be held on a Saturday in December 2025. Make up dates are on a **case by case basis**. Please speak to **Jessica Arbour** directly if you cannot make one of the dates above.

**Candidate Commitment Meeting:** All candidates must pledge to attend Mass faithfully and follow the Precepts of the Catholic Church. **Candidates, please bring the form with you to the Commitment meeting on October 11, 2025.**

**Sponsor Form:** All candidates must bring their sponsor form completed and signed by their sponsor **no later than November 08, 2025.**

**Candidate Interview:** At the conclusion of the prep classes, you will be assigned an interviewer. **You must contact your interviewer no later than November 28, 2025 to arrange a date and time for your interview.** You must bring your saint sheet with you, no exceptions. All interviews must be completed **by Friday, January 30, 2026.**

**Saint Information Sheet:** Read the “What’s in a Name” document. Choose and research the name of the saint you will take at Confirmation. **Submit the completed sheet to your interviewer on the day of your interview.**

**Confirmation Retreat:** **Saturday, January 17, 2026** – All candidates must report to Padre Hall II gym at 9:00 am. This retreat will end at approximately 6:00 pm at the conclusion of the 5:00 pm Vigil Mass at VOL.

**Service Hours Forms:** All candidates must complete **4 hours of service** to a church, school or charitable organization. All service hours must be done during **August 1, 2025- February 2, 2026; all hours must be completed for the purpose of your Confirmation alone** (they cannot count toward requirements for school or organizations in which you belong) at least one opportunity will be provided for you to take part in; **a service form and written reflection must be submitted by Saturday, February 7, 2026.**

**Confirmation Rehearsal:** **Monday, February 23, 2026, at 7:00 pm in VOL Church; Confirmation student and Sponsor must attend.** (If the sponsor is unable to attend, a parent or proxy must stand in their place).

**Due: October 11, 2025**



## CANDIDATE COMMITMENT

***“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 *Chosen* sessions and activities.
- 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 and on 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 know and love me. I place myself in the loving embrace of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in asking for help in fulfilling this commitment.**

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**Name of Candidate (Print)**

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**Signature of Candidate**

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**Date**

**Witnessed by:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(signature)

Candidate's Parent/Legal Guardian (print)

Candidate's Parent/Legal Guardian

## ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW ORLEANS

### Godparent/Sponsor Testimonial for Confirmation

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person to be Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Date of Confirmation: \_\_\_\_\_

### Criteria to Serve as Godparent/Sponsor for Confirmation

1. The Godparent/Sponsor must be a Catholic in good standing with the Church who has been Confirmed and regularly practices his/her Catholic faith;
2. The Godparent/Sponsor must be at least sixteen years of age;
3. If married, the Godparent/Sponsor must be in a marriage recognized as valid by the Catholic Church. Person may not be cohabiting (living together without marriage) or only married civilly (married only in the eyes of the state and has not been blessed/convalidated by the Catholic Church);
4. If not previously attended, the Godparent/Sponsor will attend appropriate preparation for fulfilling this role (Baptismal or Confirmation seminar, RCIA session, etc.)

### Statement of Godparent/Sponsor

"I meet the above-stated criteria to serve as a Godparent/Sponsor, and I will do all in my power to assist the parents of this child to raise their child in the Catholic faith, or - if an adult - to assist him/her in living faithfully as a Catholic Christian."

By signing below, the proposed Godparent/Sponsor solemnly swears that he or she has read the above criteria, and that the statement above is a true and correct indication of his/her intentions.

Godparent/Sponsor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Godparent/Sponsor's Name Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Pastor or Delegate

(In Parish where the sacrament is to be celebrated)

**Due by Saturday November 8, 2025**

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## “WHAT’S IN A NAME”

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Candidates, please read thoroughly before choosing your Confirmation Saint name. May the Lord Guide you to the Saint that will be your inspiration on your journey through your confirmation.

Your name gives you an identity: it tells others who you are. When you were baptized, your parents chose your name. If you do not know your parent’s reasons for choosing your name, ask them about it. Now, you are about to be confirmed. It is time for you to choose the name you will take as a sign of your spiritual identity and reflection of your faith.

The tradition of taking on a new name to show a new role can be traced back to the Old Testament. When Abram was called to lead his people to believe in the one God, his name was changed from Abram, meaning “father of many”, to Abraham, meaning “father of many nations.” Again, in the New Testament, we find Simon’s name changed to Peter, meaning “rock” because he was to become the rock upon which Jesus built His Church.

The choosing of a name symbolizes power or dominion, as in Genesis where God gave man the power to name and have dominion over each of the animals on the earth. In conjunction with this power is responsibility... the responsibility of taking care of whatever is named. God entrusts each of us with this responsibility as well as the power.

Your Confirmation name should reflect your new role as a mature Christian – a symbol of what your Confirmation means to you. It should not be taken lightly and should not be chosen for frivolous reasons (*“it looks nice with my first name”* or *“it sounds pretty”*). A candidate may even occasionally choose his or her own baptismal name, or the name of a saint honored as a patron of their family.

After deciding on your name, try to recognize the particular qualities or virtues that make this saint unique or special. How can you imitate or acquire these qualities or virtues and make them part of your life? How can you become a better Christian? The only limit that is placed on your choice of names is that it must be a saint’s name.

# SAINT INFORMATION SHEET

Full Name of Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Saint to be taken at Confirmation: \_\_\_\_\_

Refer to **What's in a Name** document to guide you in making your choice. Research Catholic internet sites or the library for information on the Catholic Saint of your choice.

**Complete this form and bring it with you to your interview.**

**These sheets must be filled in neatly by hand –printouts from websites will not be accepted.**

## Information on your saint:

**Patron Saint of:** \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth (if known):** \_\_\_\_\_

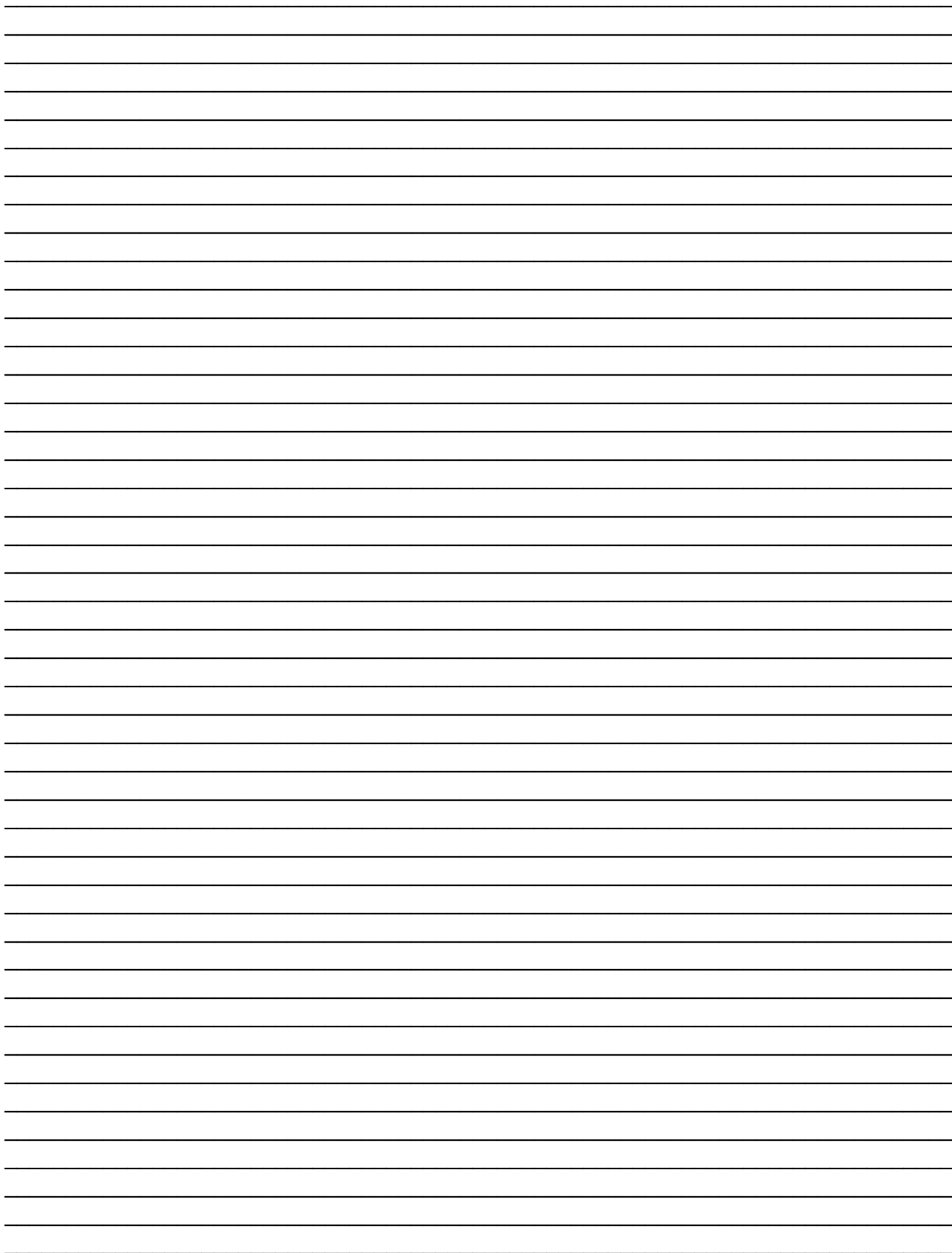
**Date of Death (if known):** \_\_\_\_\_

Feast Day: \_\_\_\_\_

**In your own words, write an essay (at least 300 words) on the significant information regarding the life of your saint. Please include the miracles attributed to him/her and the influence of this saint upon others and yourself. Please include your reasons for choosing this saint for your Confirmation name. This may be handwritten or typed and attached to this form.**

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## Visitation of Our Lady Church

### Service Hours

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Service provided for: \_\_\_\_\_ VOL Parish \_\_\_\_\_ Community Organization \_\_\_\_\_ School

**To be filled out and signed by person for whom the volunteer service was provided:**

Date(s) of project: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of hours earned: \_\_\_\_\_

Description of service project: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Additional comments: (Optional) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature of Supervisor*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Title/Position*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Printed Name/ Phone number*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Organization*

A total of 4 hours of service to a church, school or charitable organization must be done from August 1, 2025 – February 2, 2026; 4 hours must be completed for the purpose of your Confirmation alone; at least one opportunity will be provided for you to take part in at the parish. A written reflection of your service and this form must be submitted by Saturday, February 7, 2026. Please contact the Office of Religious Education at (504) 341-8477 or [jarbour@vol.org](mailto:jarbour@vol.org) with any further questions about service project opportunities.

## Reflection Guidelines

**Your reflection report should be at least one typed page and include the following information:**

- **What project(s) did you choose and why?**
- **How did the service you chose fulfill the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy? Describe which of the Works of Mercy and how they were integrated into your project.**
- **How did your acts of service make you more like Christ; or how did others see Christ in you through your acts of service?**
- **How do you think you made a difference and how can you continue to make a difference from what you learned?**
- **What did you learn about yourself in doing your project?**

# Reflection Report

Your reflection can be handwritten or typed. It must be at least 2-3 paragraphs long. ( 8-12 sentences)

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# **Confirmation Interview**

All Confirmation candidates are required to have an interview with one of the clergy or religious education staff. Students are required to contact their interviewer by **Friday, November 28, 2025** via e-mail.

A parent must be CC'd on the e-mail for your interviewer to respond.

All interviews must be completed by Friday, January 30, 2026.

The interview is a requirement, but not a test. It is a way for us to better understand where candidates are in their faith journey.

## **Some things to think about before your interview:**

- 1.) Why did you pick your Confirmation saint? How would you like to be like this saint?
- 2.) Once you are Confirmed how are you going to spread and defend your faith, especially among peers at school or in your youth group?
- 3.) If a non-Catholic friend asked you why you are seeking Confirmation what would you tell him/her?
- 4.) Why are some things you like about being Catholic?
- 5.) What was your favorite part of Confirmation preparation so far? What was your least favorite? Why?
- 6.) How has your sponsor supported you as a person and as a Catholic?
- 7.) At this point in your life what do you think God is calling you to? (certain profession, vocation, way of life, talent etc.)

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Need Service Hours? Check out these amazing volunteer sites:



<https://www.mcs-nola.org/support/volunteer/>

## **Volunteer Requirements:**

- All volunteers must complete a [Volunteer Application](#)
- All volunteers must be at least 15 years old. *(Bowling volunteers can be younger; please [contact us](#) for more information)*
- Volunteers ages 21 and older are subject to a background check.
- Magnolia cannot provide court-ordered community service hours.



<https://no-hunger.org/volunteer/>

Second Harvest Food Bank leads the fight against hunger in South Louisiana by providing food access, advocacy, education, and disaster response. Second Harvest provides food and support to 700+ community partners and programs across 23 parishes. Our staff and volunteers distribute the equivalent of more than 32 million meals to 210,000+ people a year.

## **Food Box Packing at Food for Seniors**

<https://www.ccano.org/volunteer>



Volunteers will assist with packing food into boxes for distribution at later dates. These food commodity boxes are distributed to income eligible senior citizens throughout the state of Louisiana.

<https://arcgno.org/volunteerism/>

All volunteers must be at least 11 years or older. Volunteers under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult. For more information on volunteering at ArcGNO, please call our Volunteer Coordinator at 504-324-1645.



## **CCANO Food Pantry**

<https://www.ccano.org/press/volunteers-needed-for-ccano-food-pantry/>

Catholic Charities' Food Pantry is in need of Volunteers at 2505 Maine Ave in Metairie! Volunteers are needed Monday-Thursday, 9AM – 12PM and 12PM – 2PM. Volunteers will be helping pack food bags for the food pantry, unload food deliveries, keep the pantry clean, and occasionally assist clients in carrying items to their vehicles.

### **If you're interested in Volunteering:**

contact [Shannon Murphy](#) at 504-491-0163.



[ozanaminn.org/volunteer.html](https://ozanaminn.org/volunteer.html)

Volunteers assist the administration in bringing the needs and concerns of the homeless community into the lifeline of New Orleans society. To learn of current volunteer activities and to schedule times for group or individual volunteer support, please email [volunteer@ozanaminn.org](mailto:volunteer@ozanaminn.org) or call (504) 523-1184

# VISITATION OF OUR LADY CHURCH

## CONFIRMATION RETREAT



**Place:** Visitation of Our Lady School  
Padre Hall II Gym

**Date:** Saturday, January 17, 2026

**Time:** 9:00 am- 6:00 pm, after the end of 5:00 pm Vigil Mass. Please arrive 15 minutes prior so that we may begin promptly at 9am. Candidates will together for the Mass. Parents and Sponsors are encouraged to join us for Mass.

Come prepared to have fun while strengthening your commitment to your faith. This retreat is a **requirement** for all Confirmation candidates and a vital part of your sacramental preparation. **Notify the Religious Education Coordinator Jessica Arbour immediately if there are any conflicts with this date.**

Candidates, please wear casual and comfortable attire that is appropriate for the day. Jeans or pants can be worn however no shorts or leggings will be permitted. Shirts or blouses **must** have sleeves as we will be attending the 5:00 pm Mass. We will also provide an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before the Mass – please do an examination of conscience prior to your arrival at the retreat. Guides will be available upon request.

Cell phones must be turned off during retreat time and Mass. If you need to contact your candidate for any reason this day, please contact Jessica Arbour directly at [jarbour@vol.org](mailto:jarbour@vol.org).

Morning and afternoon snacks, lunch, and drinks will be provided for all candidates. Please notify us of any food allergies or special dietary restrictions/requirements.

**Visitation of Our Lady Church**  
Office of Religious Education  
3500 Ames Boulevard  
Marrero, LA 70072  
Phone: (504) 341-8477 Fax: (504) 347-2223  
[jarbour@vol.org](mailto:jarbour@vol.org)

# Visitation of Our Lady Church

## CANDIDATE AND SPONSOR EXPECTATIONS/ DRESS CODE FOR DAY OF CONFIRMATION

Candidates, please make sure your sponsor has a copy of the dress code.

Sponsors will present their Confirmation Candidate to the Archbishop to be anointed for the sacrament of Confirmation. Sponsor and candidate will process in and sit together for the celebration of the Mass. It is an honor to be a sponsor, as they have chosen you to join them on this wonderful journey of confirming their faith. Candidates and sponsors are expected to be dressed in their “**Sunday best**” for this special occasion. Tennis shoes should not be worn and the attire of all candidates should be modest, reflecting the purity of Jesus and Mary.

**All candidates will wear red robes provided by Visitation of Our Lady Parish over their clothing for the celebration and return the robe at the reception in the cafeteria following the Mass.** Candidates should not wear stoles as the stole remains a symbol of ordained ministry, not a sign of the universal priesthood of the baptized.

### **Gentlemen, please wear the following:**

Dark dress pants with a belt

Dress shoes with dark socks

Collared, button-down dress shirt – any solid color, long or short sleeve, tucked in

Necktie or bowtie of any color (no inappropriate designs or sayings)

Jacket or Suits (optional)

**NO TUXEDOS, T-SHIRTS, JEANS, SNEAKERS, SANDALS, OR FLIP FLOPS**

### **Ladies, please wear the following:**

Modest dress, or modest skirt and blouse for Confirmation candidates - TOPS/DRESSES MUST COVER SHOULDERS AND YOUR SKIRT MUST BE TO YOUR KNEE OR LONGER WHEN STANDING/SEATED - NO strapless, spaghetti or tank style, or halter top

Nice pants suit can also be worn by **SPONSORS ONLY**

Dress shoes with modest heels (no flip flops)

**NO purses (leave it with family/friend) or flowers**

**NO low or plunging neck lines, bare backs (below bra-line) or bare midriffs, or overly tight clothing, NO leggings or formal dresses**

**NO T-SHIRTS, JEANS, SNEAKERS, SANDALS OR FLIP FLOPS**

White Chapel veils are encouraged and welcomed ( Please speak to Jessica Arbour if you are interested in wearing one.)

Please Cover visible tattoos and remove multiple piercings and/or visible body piercings.

**Thank you for your time and effort. We look forward to your journey as a newly confirmed Catholic begins on February 26, 2026**

Call the Office of Religious Education at (504) 341-8477, or email [jarbour@vol.org](mailto:jarbour@vol.org) if you have any questions.