

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

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This is a required Sacramental Preparation program for all students – regardless of enrollment in a public school, private school, Catholic school, or homeschool.

- Students must have completed *Family of Faith: Levels I-V* (or equivalent, up through Grade 5 Faith Formation, or up through Grade 5 Catholic School) in order to enroll in the Confirmation Preparation program.
- Catholic Baptism and First Holy Communion are also pre-requisites to the Sacrament of Confirmation. If your student has not celebrated these sacraments, please inquire with the Office of Faith Formation for the most appropriate course.
- Students will be prepared to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in the spring of their second year of preparation.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Both program years will consist of 3 Pillars of Preparation:

1. To Know – Formation

Candidates grow in understanding of the Catholic Faith through:

- Participation in parish Confirmation preparation classes
- Participation in parish formational opportunities
- Study of the core teachings of the Church (Creed, Sacraments, Moral Life, Prayer)
- Engagement with Scripture and catechetical materials
- Intentional conversations about faith within the family

Goal: Candidates will be able to articulate what the Church teaches and how those teachings shape their lives.

2. To Love – Worship & Prayer

Candidates will develop a lived relationship with Christ through:

- Regular participation and attendance at Sunday Mass
- Regular reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Personal and family prayer (daily prayer encouraged)
- Participation in parish liturgies, Adoration, or other prayer opportunities

Goal: Candidates will demonstrate an active and growing prayer life and a desire to encounter Christ in the Sacraments.

3. To Serve – Charitable Works

Candidates live out their faith through acts of service, such as:

- Parish-based service opportunities
- Outreach to those in need in the community
- Participation in ministry, mission experiences, or charitable initiatives
- Acts of service within the family

Goal: Candidates will recognize that faith is lived through love of neighbor and will demonstrate a heart for service.

Primary Requirement: Witness & Presentation

At the conclusion of the two-year preparation period, each candidate will complete a **Confirmation Presentation**. This presentation is the only “formal” requirement for receiving the Sacrament.

The presentation will include:

- What they Did – How did they live out the 3 Pillars of Preparation?
- What they Learned – How did they grow in faith and their relationship with God?
- Why they Desire Confirmation – A personal expression of readiness and intention.

Presentations will be delivered in a small group setting with parental involvement.

Other Considerations

The Role of Families – Families (as primary educators of the faith) will intentionally model formation in the home, encourage shared participation in Mass, prayer, and service, and promote ongoing faith conversations.

The Role of the Parish – The parish will serve as a partner and guide, offering structured formation and resources, service pathways, mentorship, and pastoral support.

Readiness for Confirmation – Readiness will be DEMONSTRATED through lived experience, a personal desire for the Sacrament, and the ability to articulate that desire.

Guiding Principle - Confirmation is not a graduation from Faith Formation, but a step into a life of active discipleship. This model reflects both the teaching of the Church and current research, which consistently shows that faith practiced within the family is the strongest predictor of lifelong Catholic identity.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION (CONTINUED)

Important Dates & Yearly Topics for 2026-2027:

- The program dates will be finalized by mid-Summer. Please check back for meeting and retreat dates at that time.

- **YEAR I (Foundations of Faith)**
 - **Session Meeting Times TBD**
 - September __ Parent & Student Meeting
 - October __ Session 1 - The Person of Jesus Christ **Commitment Form Due*
 - November __ Session 2 - Revelation in Scripture & Tradition
 - December __ Session 3 - The Trinity **Baptismal Certificates Due*
 - January __ Session 4 - The Church & Apostolic Succession
 - February __ Session 5 - Sacraments of Initiation
 - March __ Session 6 - Sacraments of Healing
 - April __ Session 7 - The Four Last Things
 - May __ Session 8 - Old Testament & Salvation History

- **YEAR II (Discipleship & Life in the Spirit)**
 - **Session Meeting Times TBD**
 - September __ Session 9 - The Holy Spirit & Gifts
 - October __ Session 10 - Prayer & Spiritual Life **Sponsor Forms Due*
 - November __ Session 11 - Catholic Social Teaching
 - December __ Session 12 - Theology of the Body **Patron Saint Form Due*
 - January __ Session 13 - Vocation & Discernment
 - February __ Session 14 - The Saints & Mary
 - March __ Session 15 - Moral Theology & Conscience
 - April __ Session 16 - Participation & Mission (Confirmation & Beyond)
 - May __ Practice for Confirmation Mass (Time TBD)
 - May __ Confirmation Mass (Date TBD)