



Confirmation Preparation Requirements Contract for 1st & 2nd Year Candidates

“A candidate for Confirmation who has attained the age of reason must profess the faith, be in the state of grace, have the intention of receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, and be prepared to assume the role of disciple and witness to Christ, both within the ecclesial (Church) community and in temporal affairs” (CCC #1319, on the Responsibilities of the Candidate for Confirmation).

Mandatory Attendance

- **Class:** No more than 2 unexcused absences are allowed.
- **Mass:** Weekly Mass, Holy Days of Obligation, Ash Wednesday, 2 of the 6 Stations of the Cross, Easter Triduum Participation, and Easter Vigil or Easter Sunday Mass. No more than 2 unexcused absences are allowed.
- **Ceremonies:** 1st Year Students - Rite of Acceptance on Sunday, March 14th, 2021 at the 10:15 Mass. 2nd Year Students - Rite of Candidacy on Sunday, March 14th at the 12:00 Mass and Confirmation on Thursday, May 20th, 2021 at 7:30 PM.
- **Spiritual Retreat:** NET Retreat will be on Saturday, April 17th and Sunday, April 18th, 2021. Students will experience a community building and personal spiritual growth.
- **Confirmation Interview & Practice (2nd Year Students):** Interview and Final test will take place on Tuesday, May 4th, 2021 at 7:00 PM in the School Hall. Confirmation Practice will take place on Tuesday, May 18th, 2021 at 7:00 PM in Church.

Mandatory Self Reflections, Test and Other Papers

- **Monthly Faith Based Essay:** Last Class of Each Month. Write a 5-10 sentence reflection essay once a month on your interpretation of a gospel/ homily that you heard in mass, a scripture that you read in the Bible, or something that interests you about our Catholic faith. How can it help you and can you incorporate what you have learned in your own life situations? Did your perspective of these certain faith lessons change with this new understanding?
- **Annual Service Project Reflection Essay:** Due May 4th, 2021. Write a one page reflection essay choosing one of the service projects that you did that had the most impact on your life. How did it open your eyes to look at life a little differently? Did your perspective on this social issue change? What new skills did you learn? Describe how it helped you to be a better Catholic and practice your faith.
- **Random Preparation Tests:** To help prepare you for Confirmation & Confirmation Interview.
- **Confirmation Saint Name Form & Essay (2nd Year Students):** Due January 5th, 2021. Choose a saint name that you will use during the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Confirmation Saint Name Form has more detailed information on this topic. Write a one page (7-10 sentences) reflection essay on why you chose that name and what significance it has to you. Please fill in the Confirmation Saint Name Form and hand it in with your essay.
- **Letter to the Bishop (2nd Year Students):** Information on how to write your letter to the Bishop will be handed out on Tuesday, February 4th, 2019. All letters will be due by March 16th, 2021.
- **Thank You Letter to your Sponsor (2nd Year Students):** Due May 18th, 2021.

Mandatory Faith in Action Service Hours & Projects

- **2 Years of Service:** Thirty (30) community service hours and Twenty (20) Parish hours are required to be served from 7th grade up until Confirmation. All hours must be completed before Confirmation takes place.

Use everything that you have learned throughout your faith journey and open your hearts to serve those in need. Live out your discipleship by practicing the spiritual & corporal works of mercy and the beatitudes. Share at least 1 hour with your Parents/Sponsors.

I, _____, am a Confirmation Candidate and promise to fulfill all of the above requirements with full understanding that if I do not, I will not be eligible to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. I am also personally and fully committed to grow in my Catholic faith through this formation process and thereafter.

PARENTS

When you baptized your child, you accepted the responsibility of training them in the practice of the faith. It was your duty to bring them up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and their neighbor. You are the primary educator and the key in the spiritual formation of your child. You are their example of what living the Catholic faith means on a daily basis. Your child has received two Sacraments of Initiation, the Sacrament of Baptism and the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. They are now preparing to receive their last Sacrament of Initiation, the Sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation completes and deepens the grace of Baptism and enriches your child with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. By signing below, you are stating that you are fully committed to helping your child prepare for Confirmation.

I, _____, the parents/parent/guardian of _____, willingly entrust my child to St James for the purpose of him/her receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. I promise to be a good life-long model of faith by showing my child how to be a mature practicing Catholic through my own actions and to support them throughout their faith journey and help them grow in living the Catholic faith now and thereafter. I promise to give my child positive encouragement, and I understand that it is my responsibility, as well as theirs, to complete all mandatory requirements listed above. If they do not, I understand that they will not be eligible to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Candidate's Signature

Parent's Signature