

The Sacrament of Confirmation

The sacrament of Confirmation is a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon the candidates to strengthen their baptismal vocation and to awaken the gifts necessary for active participation in the life of the Church. In the scriptures, the Holy Spirit bestowed upon the apostles the gift of courage: to tell the Good News, to share the faith, to boldly proclaim the “mighty deeds of God who has called us out of darkness into his marvelous light” (1 Peter 2:9). It is imperative that every disciple seek out the gifts of the Spirit offered gratuitously through the sacrament of Confirmation.

Requirements to be Confirmed at Saint Christopher Parish in 2020:

1. **Baptized Catholic** - a record from the Church of Baptism (other than Saint Christopher Parish) is required by January 26, 2020.
2. **Active and Practicing Catholic:** The candidate actively participates in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation and in the life of the Church.
3. **Ages** - 6th grade through high school (Adult preparation is available through Faith Formation)
4. **Attendance at Confirmation sessions:** The candidate is expected to attend every Confirmation session. Notify the candidate's teacher if the candidate is expected to miss. Make up sessions will be held.
5. **Choose a sponsor** - and ask the sponsor to fill out the form online. A sponsor is a fully initiated Catholic, who has received the Sacraments of Initiation and if married, is married according to the sanctions of the Church, and who regularly participates in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation.
6. **Confirmation name** - The candidate is strongly encouraged to select a saint or blessed person to study and emulate as a patron for Confirmation. The candidate is expected to write an essay about his/her chosen saint.
7. **Participate in a Confirmation Retreat** - Date and Time TBD
8. **Complete 20 Service Hours** - Examples of service projects will be made available. Note: Functioning as an altar server for Mass may apply to no more than 5 of the 20 hours.
9. **Letter to the Archbishop** - The Archbishop wants to hear from each candidate, why Confirmation is important, and why the candidate chose a particular sponsor and a particular patron saint. The candidates will practice writing letters during a session.
10. **Interview with a member of the pastoral staff** - a priest, deacon, or pastoral minister will help the candidate determine his/her willingness and readiness to be confirmed in the Holy Spirit.
11. **Demonstrate knowledge of the Catholic faith** - the candidate's knowledge of the material covered in the sessions will be measured with a written exam.
12. **Attend the rehearsal for The Rite of Confirmation with sponsor** - Date and Time TBD
13. **Participate in the Rite of Confirmation** - Date and Time TBD