



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION



PARENT GUIDEBOOK

2019-2020

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

Pastor: Rev. Thomas S. Cook

Director: Juan Pablo Garcia

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Cost of the Program

Option 1 “Payments”	Cost	To be paid on:
Registration	\$ 60.00	Day of Registration
Year 1 participant’s retreat	\$90.00	by 11/30/2019
Year 2 participant’s retreat	\$120.00	by 10/01/2019
Santa Barbara Youth Day year 1 & 2	\$50.00	by 11/01/2019

Option 2 “One Payment”	Cost	To be paid on:
Year 1 candidates	\$200.00	Day of registration
Year 2 candidates	\$230.00	Day of registration

Late payment fees/penalties	Cost	If paid:
Year 1 retreat	\$25.00+	After 11/30/2019
Year 2 retreat	\$35.00+	After 10/01/2019
Santa Barbara Youth Day	\$10.00+	After 11/01/2019

- All candidates should have payment(s) made no later than the dates shown on this table.
 - **If you register because a XV (quinceañera) you must pay the full registration fee.**

REQUIREMENTS TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

1. Complete first- and second-year Confirmation classes with regular attendance and **NO MORE than 3 absences per year.**
2. Complete service hours assigned: **20 hours the First Year and 35 hours the Second Year.**
3. Complete the necessary Canonical form for Confirmation II that will be provided for you.
4. Sponsors must attend 2 Spirit nights (TBA).
5. **Help with all fundraisers. All students must sell or buy the tickets.**
6. A final interview is required to assess the Candidate's spiritual growth. Year II Candidates must demonstrate enough understanding and readiness to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. This will be an oral and written form.
7. All students must attend Mass every Sunday and on special Holy Days of Obligation.



PARENT INVOLVEMENT

1. Parents must accompany their child in this faith formation path, parents must also attend 5 faith formation classes.
2. Parents (**both**, if applicable) must attend a retreat during their child's 2 years in the program. Dates and available retreats that can be counted towards this requirement are located on the calendar. Please make sure you carefully review.
3. If parents or sponsors cannot fulfill the 5 classes, retreat, confirmation meetings required **MUST** speak to the Director of Religious Education **prior to the beginning of the catechetical year.**
4. Parents of teens who are in **Confirmation II** are required to attend one final meeting before receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. This meeting will take place prior to their confirmation. (you will receive notice with date/time/place)
5. We encourage and invite parents to attend mass with their child and bring life of prayer to their families.
6. Parents are welcome to participate/sit in their child's class if desired to do so.
7. **Parents and participants must download "Life Teen Purpose" app to stay up-to-date with special announcements for their group/class.**

MISSION STATEMENT

The goal of the Confirmation Preparation Process is to prepare high school aged teens to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and deepen the faith of the Parish Community.

During the First Year of Confirmation, the goal is to awaken and motivate our participants to experience an encounter with Christ who is alive and risen through their faith formation, getting to know the Church and intensely living the trying times of the Liturgy of the Church.

The Second Year of Confirmation is to experience community life which we are called to live by our Lord Jesus. They will share classes and enrichments that will ready them for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

This is rooted in the vision our Parish Community has for our youth, whom we encourage to share their extraordinary gifts with us.

What the Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches:

WHAT ROLE DOES CONFIRMATION PLAY IN THE DIVINE DESIGN OF SALVATION?

Confirmation Confers enrichment and profoundness to sacramental grace:

The Apostles received Holy Spirit on Pentecost and they announced, « the wonderful things God has done» (Acts 2:11) They communicate to the newly baptized, through laying on of hands, the gift of the Holy Spirit. Through the centuries, the church has survived and lived by the Spirit and continues to communicate it to its children. (Catechism of the Catholic Church #1285-1288-1315) (#1302 & 1303)

WHO CAN RECEIVE THIS SACRAMENT? *Sacrament of Confirmation should be received once, by every baptized Christian. One must be in the state of grace. (Catechism of Catholic Church #1306-1311-1319)*

FUNDRAISING

1. Participants of Confirmation program will be participating in fundraising activities to raise funds to help with the program's expenses. This includes sales and other fundraising activities.

POST-CONFIRMATION PEER MINISTRY PROGRAM

1. Newly confirmed students may come back to serve as teen group leaders after a summer training.
2. Teens may participate as teen community leaders, facilitators or guides during regular classes.
3. Teens also participate as teen community leaders during the day and overnight weekend retreats, as needed.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE HOURS

1. The letter of James reminds us that the Christian faith should be an active faith:

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

James 1:22-24

“SERVICE IS LOVE IN ACTION”



2. Opportunities for Service Hours:

- ❖ Greeters, Choir members, altar servers.
- ❖ Volunteer as T.A. for Catechist in the Religious Education Program. (During Catechism classes Tuesdays or Thursdays)
- ❖ Other church activities.

3. Parents are expected to show support and participate in the service hours projects.

4. Service Hours required: **75** hours total for the 2-year program. **Must be completed by February 1, 2020**

30 hours during Confirmation I

45 hours during Confirmation II

5. Participants must download the app ***Mobilserve*** and register to keep track of their service hours.

YOUTH PARISH ACTIVITIES

1. We invite and encourage participants to take part of Parish Community life by:

- A. Youth Ministry
- B. Greeter Ministry
- C. Activities and events at the Parish

JOURNEY
OF
Faith

ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

1. Confirmation classes:

- **Sundays for Confirmation year 1, *Session 1* class starts 8.15 am to 9.30 am, then attends 9.30 am English at the parish. *Confirmation 1, Session 2* starts 10.45 am-12.00p, then attends 12 pm Spanish mass at the parish.**

Sundays for Confirmation year 2 class starts 8.30 am-9.30 am.

- **After class, must attend mass at 9.30 am at the Parish.**

2. Attendance and punctuality are expected from all participants.
3. Valid reasons for absences are family emergency, illness, academic. Participants must call office of Confirmation at 805-925-2007 and let the Director know of reason for absence. A no show to class is marked as an unexcused absence.
4. Participants need to be in class at least 10 minutes before the start of class. Participants may not leave class, in case of an emergency, parents needs to notify the office immediately prior to picking up participant.
5. If your participant is absent for an extended period of time, parents must notify the Director of Confirmation.
- 6. Participants who are absent 3 classes or more will need to repeat the current year.**
7. If parents decide to cancel class enrollment, the R.E. Director must be notified by **August 01, 2019** to obtain a partial refund. After this date there is not refund.



PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

1. Enrollment for the Confirmation process is open to all High School freshmen-sophomore students and/or teens between the ages of 14 and 17.
2. Candidates are expected to attend and participate in Sunday Mass and Holy Days of obligation as part of their formation process.
3. Candidates are encouraged to regularly receive the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**.
4. A **RETREAT** is scheduled for year 1 and 2 students, per year, and is part of the Confirmation process.
 - 4.1. Year 1- overnight retreat, 2 days.
 - 4.2. Year 2- overnight retreat, 2 days.
 - 4.3 **The payment of the Retreat is not reimbursable or transferable if you do not participate in the Retreat with us and go to another parish you must pay directly to the parish with which you will attend.**
5. Candidates and their families are encouraged to participate in Parish activities and programs to further experience the Catholic community.
6. We ask that students leave their cell phones at home or turn them off when in class and mass. Disciplinary actions will be taken in a case by case basis. Parents will be notified.
7. We expect all students to fully participate in class activities. They are expected to pay attention, listen respectfully, and participate in discussions, to understand how to look at life through God's point of view, make changes, and be a light and reflection of God's love for others.

REQUIREMENTS FOR SPONSORS

In the early church, most of the new members were converted adults. Each candidate had a sponsor, their spiritual partner, who was a witness of faith before their parish community. In Confirmation process, the Sponsor played a very important role in the candidate's faith formation. It was a calling to be:

- a. A model of how a person of faith lives in today's world.
- b. A friend who knows the candidate and can be a testament to the candidate's maturity in his or her faith.
- c. A guide, a confidant, willing to listen.
- d. An apprentice that is interested in his or her own enrichment during his or her walk of faith with the candidate.
- e. A partnership that continues way after Confirmation, continuing to walk in the candidate's faith journey, inviting him or her to a complete participation in the parish.

What is expected of a Sponsor:

To sponsor someone for Confirmation is a process that lasts 2 years.

The requirements to be a Sponsor:

1. Only **ONE** Sponsor will be permitted per candidate.
2. Sponsors must be 18 years or older.
3. Sponsors must have received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion and is regularly receiving communion. **NOTE:** Sponsors must **NOT** have an impediment to receive communion, especially during the Confirmation Ceremony.
4. Sponsors must attend **2 Spirit nights in year 2.**

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES



Guidelines to follow in the event of an emergency (earthquake, fire, etc.):

Do not call the office. Assuming the phones are in service, the phone line will be needed for emergency assistance.

- In case the parking lot can be used, emergency personnel will give instructions to sign out and take the students.
- Candidates can only be released to their parents, guardians or any other individual listed on the Emergency form. Unless individual has presented a written notice, signed by parents, which they give permission for candidate to be picked up by this given individual.
- The adult who picks up the student must present a photo ID.
- Normally with extreme emergencies, classes will be cancelled.
- Teachers will attempt to notify students of the cancellation.
- If for some reason we cannot reach you, please use your judgment so that you may not be endangered.

Family Prayer



Dear God, our Father, you have called all Christian families to be a sign of your love to the world. With the light of the Holy Spirit help us to be generous and grateful with the gifts of life and faith that you have showered on our family. And thru this gift, may we grow and nurture our relationship with Jesus, your Son.

May we be authentic witnesses of joy and Christian joy for those we meet. In the name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen

CONFIRMATION

Class Schedule

Sundays (Year I)

8:15 am to 9:30 am OR
10:45 am to 12:00 pm

2019

September 8, 15, 22, 29

October 6, 13, 27

November 3, 10, 17

December 1

2020

January 19, 26

February 2, 9

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

April 5, 19, 26, 19

May 3

*If any change occurs during the year the Office of Religious Education will notify you on time.

Overnight Retreat

February 15 and 16, 2020
(Sat. 9:00 AM - Sun. 3:00 PM)

Parent's Enrichment Classes

5:40-6:30 PM in the Parish Hall

English

- ◆ September 24 (Tuesday)
- ◆ October 17 (Thursday)
- ◆ November 12 (Tuesday)
- ◆ January 14 (Tuesday)
- ◆ February 13 (Thursday)
- ◆ March 12 (Tuesday)

Clases de Formación en la Fe

5:40 – 6:30 PM en el Salón Parroquial

Español

- ◆ Septiembre 26 (jueves)
- ◆ Octubre 15 (martes)
- ◆ Noviembre 14 (jueves)
- ◆ Enero 16 (jueves)
- ◆ Febrero 17 (martes)
- ◆ Marzo 10 (jueves)

MANDATORY

Parents and candidates
August Monday 26, 2019
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

S.B. Youth Day

(All Day)

January 25, 2020

Fundraiser

- Christmas raffle
- TV Raffle

October 20, 2019
All Candidates must help
Parish Festival

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CONFIRMATION

Year II

Class Schedule Sundays (Year II) 8:15 am to 9:30 am

2019

September 8, 15, 22, 29

October 6, 13, 27

November 3, 10, 17

December 1

2020

January 19, 26

February 2, 9

March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

April 5, 19, 26, 19

May 3

*If any change occurs during the year the Office of Religious Education will notify you on time.

Overnight Retreat

November 23 and 24, 2019
(Sat. 8:00 AM - Sun. 4:00 PM)

Parent's Enrichment Classes

5:40-6:30 PM in the Parish Hall

English

- ◆ September 24 (Tuesday)
- ◆ October 17 (Thursday)
- ◆ November 12 (Tuesday)
- ◆ January 14 (Tuesday)
- ◆ February 13 (Thursday)
- ◆ March 12 (Tuesday)

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- ◆ Enero 16 (jueves)
- ◆ Febrero 17 (martes)
- ◆ Marzo 10 (jueves)

MANDATORY

Parents and Candidates
August Wednesday 28, 2019
6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Youth Day

(All Day)

January 25, 2020

Fundraiser

- Christmas raffle
- TV raffle

Sponsors Meetings:

- First information meeting: December 02, 2019 6:00 PM Parish Hall
- 1st Spirit night with candidates: January 27, 2020 6:00 PM Parish Hall
- 2nd Spirit night with candidates: February 10, 2019 6:00 PM Parish Hall

Code: STMACH

MobileServe is available as a mobile app in the App store and Google Play and can be used on most smart phones and tablets. If you'd rather not use the mobile app, you can create and manage your MobileServe account from any internet-connected device at: app.mobileserve.com. Simply skip the download instructions below and start with Create Your Account.

Download the App

1. Go to the App Store or Google Play.
2. Search "MobileServe."
3. Tap the **Get** or **Install** button next to MobileServe App.

Create Your Account!

1. Open the app or go to app.mobileserve.com & select **Sign Up**.
2. Enter your name, birthday, and create a password. You can skip the Employer / School box.
3. Select **Next**.
4. Add a photo to your profile. **(You have to add your photo)**
5. Select **Next**.
6. Enter the 6-digit code corresponding to **your organization (STMACH)**.
7. When it pops up, select **Join**

Log Your Hours

After joining your organization(s), be sure to categorize your service log within the correct organization, or multiple organizations at once, by checking the box next to the org. name and selecting the correct service category

