

St. Mary's Confirmation Program

The Confirmation Program at St. Mary's Catholic Church seeks to prepare teenagers for a life-long relationship with Jesus Christ and the Church He founded. In order for a student to begin Confirmation Preparation, they must meet the requirements set forth by the Diocese of Austin.

“In recognizing that faith formation is a lifelong process, a minimum of two years of formal religious education in a parish or Catholic school program is required to immediately precede preparation for Confirmation.”

In order to receive the Sacrament in the Spring semester of 9th grade, the student must have regularly attended formation in all of 8th grade (or attended St. Mary's Catholic School) and 9th grade through the Confirmation date.



CONFIRMATION REQUIREMENTS CHECK LIST

- Be a registered parishioner of St Mary of the Assumption, Taylor.
- Regular participation in Sunday Mass & Holy Days of Obligation.
- Participation in Fidelis/Fraternus for the year prior to Confirmation, and weekly Confirmation prep classes the year of Confirmation. (Students with less than 80% participation will be asked to wait another year.)
- Complete 24 hours of service.
- Participation in a Confirmation Retreat.
- Participation in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. (*All Candidates and Sponsors are asked to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation within 1 month of receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.*)
- Complete a Confirmation Interview with one of the Confirmation leaders and show a desire and readiness for the Sacrament.

REQUIRED PAPERWORK FOR CANDIDATE:

- Copy of Baptism Certificate. (A copy may be obtained from the Church of Baptism.)
- Online Registration and Payment
- Diocese of Austin Sponsor Covenant Form
- Service Hour Report and Typed Essay
- Saint Essay

QUESTIONS?

Questions, Comments, Concerns? Contact Kate Barta: kate.barta@stmarystaylor.org or 512-352-2133



ROLE OF THE SPONSOR

The Church defines a Sponsor: “The sponsor’s function is to take care that the person confirmed behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the duties inherent in this sacrament.”

A sponsor is:

1. A role model; a person who ***embraces and lives their Catholic faith fully***.
2. A mentor, someone to help guide and encourage the Candidate. Walking side by side as the Candidate seeks to respond to God’s call.
3. A trusted adult, who is willing to stand with the Candidate not only during a ceremony, but throughout life’s journey.

Code of Canon Law # 893 states:

“... that a person who would undertake the office of sponsor must fulfill the conditions mentioned in Can. 874 and that it is desirable that the sponsor chosen be the one who undertook this role at baptism.”

Canon 874 states: *“To be admitted to undertake the office of sponsor, a person must:*

1. Be appointed by the candidate for baptism, or by the parents or whoever stands in their place, or failing these, by the parish priest or minister. To be appointed the person must be suitable for this role and have the intention of fulfilling it;
2. Not be less than 16 years of age;
3. Be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has received the blessed Eucharist, and who lives a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken; **** (Must attend Sunday liturgy every week, valid marriage if married.) ****
4. Not labor under a canonical penalty, whether imposed or declared; (Must be in a state of Grace.)
5. Not be either the father or mother of the person to be confirmed.”

Each Candidate may only have ONE sponsor for Confirmation.

SPONSORS ARE ASKED TO:

- PRAY FOR and WITH the candidate!
- Actively participate in the process, helping and discussing the Sponsor Manual activities, while sharing their faith with their Candidate.
- Attend the Confirmation Rehearsal Day before Confirmation, and Attend the Confirmation Ceremony
- Be an active member within their local Catholic community.
- Attending Sunday Mass every week.
- Complete the Diocese of Austin Sponsor Covenant form.

Sponsors must be in good standing with the Church.

Sponsors must have received: Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation and Confirmation.

They must be a registered, active member of their parish.



**DIOCESE OF AUSTIN
CONFIRMATION SPONSOR COVENANT**

As a Confirmation sponsor, your role is to encourage the faith of your candidate and be an “example” to your Confirmation candidate and to reflect with the candidate on the meaning of a life of Catholic discipleship.

The Code of Canon Law (Church Law) specifies the requirements for serving as a sponsor at Confirmation (Canon 893) are the same as those for godparents at Baptism (Canon 874): You may not be the parent of the person being confirmed; you must be at least 16 years old; you must be fully initiated (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist); if married, be in valid Catholic marriage; and live a life of active faith in the Catholic Church.

I understand the requirements of being a Confirmation sponsor and I state that I was

Baptized: at _____ Church

in _____ (City and State)

Confirmed: at _____ Catholic

Church in _____
(City and State)

If Sponsor is Married

Married in the Catholic Church:

at _____

in _____ (City and State)

My candidate's name is: _____

Name of parish and city where Confirmation is to take place:
Saint Mary's Catholic Church, Taylor, Texas

I am active in the Catholic Church, regularly attend Mass on Sunday and strive to live my faith.

I participate at _____ (Parish) in _____ (City, State)

Please print your

Name _____

Signature _____ Date _____



CONFIRMATION SERVICE HOUR REPORT

Name _____

1. The Service must be done in a “Christ-Like” manner, with a prayerful and loving spirit.
2. **Service Hour Report and Essay** must be completed and turned into Kate Barta. (*via email preferably*)
3. 24 Total Service Hours are required, 5 or more in each of the following: Family service (immediate and/or extended family), Church service (a Catholic parish), and Community service.
4. The candidate must not be paid for performing the service.
5. Service performed more than two years prior to the Confirmation Ceremony **will not** be counted.
6. Students must write a one page essay typed about his/her experience in doing service this year and how he/she feels the service has formed them in his/her Catholic faith.
7. Parents must read the essay and sign this form at the bottom of the page before turning in the form.

<p>Spiritual Experience Hours (Five or More Required) DCYC, Godstock, Pro-Life Rally, Adoration</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 80%;">Description of Work</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 20%;">Hours</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Description of Work</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Hours</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Description of Work</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Hours</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Description of Work</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Hours</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Description of Work</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Hours</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Description of Work</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Hours</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Description of Work</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Hours</td></tr> </table>	Description of Work	Hours	Description of Work	Hours	Description of Work	Hours	Description of Work	Hours	Description of Work	Hours	Description of Work	Hours	Description of Work	Hours	<p>Church Service Hours (Five or More Required) Liturgical Ministry, Volunteering at Events or VBS</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 80%;">Description of Work</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; width: 20%;">Hours</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Description of Work</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Hours</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Description of Work</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Hours</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Description of Work</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Hours</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Description of Work</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Hours</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Description of Work</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Hours</td></tr> <tr><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Description of Work</td><td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Hours</td></tr> </table>	Description of Work	Hours	Description of Work	Hours	Description of Work	Hours	Description of Work	Hours	Description of Work	Hours	Description of Work	Hours	Description of Work	Hours
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CONFIRMATION SAINT ESSAY

Saints are our brothers and sisters in Christ. They intercede for us before God. We cannot refer to the saints without acknowledging the Communion of Saints and our connection in Christ to each other. Youth will be asked to pick a Saint name for Confirmation and write an essay explaining their choice.

ESSAY SHOULD INCLUDE:

1) Name of the Saint chosen. 2) A brief synopsis of the life of the Saint. 3) Why they chose that Saint.

This should reflect an understanding of the Saint in their own words. The student may also be asked why they chose this Saint in their confirmation interview. Essay's must be typed, a minimum 2 paragraphs and a maximum of 1 page.

Here are some websites to help in your research:

<http://lifeteen.com/blog/biggest-best-list-confirmation-saints-guys-girls>
www.catholic-forum.com/saints
www.americancatholic.org
<http://www.silk.net/RelEd/saints.htm>
<http://www2.webmagic.com/saints.com>