



Dear Families/Confirmation Candidates:

To begin, we want to wish you best of luck this year as well as with the high school selection process! High school will prove to be a wonderful experience for all of you. Whether as a student or a parent, high school provides many opportunities for learning and making new friends, but there also many challenges as well. Sometimes these are challenges such as time management or getting help with a class. Other times, the challenges are more personal such as fellow students inviting you to do something that contradicts your faith and moral understanding. Confirmation preparation is a time for us to gather as a community of believers to strengthen faith. As high school is becoming a wonderful reality, this preparation provides guidance and offers insight as to how the reception of this sacrament can greatly enhance one's ability to make the right decisions.

Confirmation builds our spiritual character, which then enhances who we are as a believer and a disciple. In order that all can properly prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation, parents and candidates must review the video presentation as sent to you on January 11, 2021. This presentation includes information on the requirements, fees, retreat, and meeting sessions. The retreat date is scheduled for Oct. 16, 2021 from 9am-11:30am. The retreat will be for both the candidate and sponsor to spend time in reflection and prayer. The date for the celebration of the Sacrament is Oct. 23, 2021 at 11am.

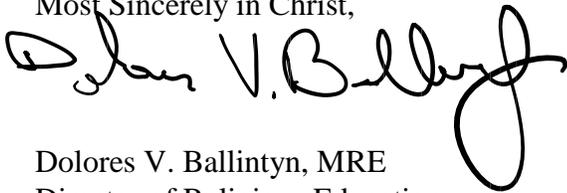
To begin the preparation process, please complete the electronic registration form via this link: [Registration Form](#). When receiving the Sacrament, your sponsor will stand by your side as a spiritual role model. Thus, your sponsor must be an active registered parishioner of a Catholic Church. They must secure a Sponsor testimonial letter from their home parish. If they are a registered member of SJB, we will secure that information from the Parish office. A sponsor must be a member in good standing, who has received all three Sacraments of Initiation and is at least 16 years of age. More information on the role of the Sponsor can be found via the following website: <https://www.catholic.com/qa/responsibilities-of-a-confirmation-sponsor>

As with all sacraments, Confirmation should be received with the proper intent. Should your child decide not to pursue the preparation for Confirmation at this time, please indicate this on the Jotform registration. We pray that your son/daughter will choose to participate in this wonderful experience of God's mercy in our lives, but certainly understand if your child wishes to delay until he/she is ready.

The cost for the preparation for the sacrament is \$100. This includes the books, the materials, retreat costs, and all other fees incurred by the office for insuring a tremendous experience for your child. Please submit your payment by March 1. The other documentation that is mandatory is completion of the Registration Form, a copy of your child's baptism certificate, and the Form A as located via the Jotform registration. If your son/daughter was baptized at St. John the Beloved, we only need the information as requested on the form. If your child is in the school, we have received a copy of the baptismal certificate from Miss Kenney.

We look forward to preparing your child for this wonderful sacrament. Your support is critical to the proper formation of your child. We pray that you will ensure that your child is here for each session as well as for the retreat. If you have any questions or concerns at any point in the process, please contact the Religious Education office at 302-994-7757 or via email at [reled@sjbde.org](mailto:reled@sjbde.org).

Most Sincerely in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dolores V. Ballintyn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Dolores V. Ballintyn, MRE  
Director of Religious Education