

ADULT CONFIRMATION | ST. RITA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, who went down and prayed for them, that they might receive the holy Spirit, for it had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them and they received the holy Spirit.



– Acts 8:14-17

Welcome! We are happy to accompany you in your desire to completing your Sacraments of Initiation in the Catholic Church, and your interest in pursuing that with St. Rita Catholic Community. As you discern whether our process at St. Rita is right for you, please read the following thoroughly, it has been carefully prepared for you and contains everything you need to know about celebrating Confirmation at St. Rita.

FAQs - Is this for me?

Adult Confirmation at St. Rita is designed for practicing Catholics in good standing with the Church who for some reason or another didn't receive Confirmation when they were younger. This process is meant for Catholics who are already living out their Catholic faith.

If you haven't been practicing Catholicism as an adult, or perhaps you've been away from the faith for a few years, there is another journey that may be a better fit and more beneficial for you, and I'm happy to talk to you more about that process that begins in the Fall. The Adult Confirmation program, however, won't meet your needs if you are not already a committed, practicing Catholic.

When is Confirmation?

The Sacrament of Confirmation for Adults will be celebrated on **Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2021 during the 5:00pm Mass**. Due to current COVID protocols, Mass time is subject to change.

When is Confirmation Practice?

Confirmation Practice will be held on on Friday, **May 21**, at **6:15pm** in the Church at St. Rita. Attendance is mandatory.

Are there any classes I must take?

Yes, the journey to Confirmation involves two formation sessions. Dates and times for the sessions are listed on the website. You may attend either in-person or online, and attendance is required for both Sessions I & II.

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Do I need a copy of my Baptism certificate?

Yes, this is critical. Please email, mail or deliver a copy of your Baptism certificate to us as soon as possible. If you do not have a copy of your Baptism certificate, simply contact the church of your Baptism to request one. Sometimes a parish will only process requests made by other parishes. If this happens in your case, contact me, and I will make the request for you.

Who can be my Sponsor?

Your Sponsor must be a Catholic in good standing, and he or she must not be an immediate relative. If your Sponsor is not a member of St. Rita, they must get a letter from their parish stating that they are Catholics in good standing. ***Sponsor & Saint Name Information*** can be found on page 4.

Should I go to Confession before Confirmation?

Yes. In order to properly receive Confirmation, one should be in a state of grace, so it's necessary to make a good confession prior to Pentecost Sunday. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated at St. Rita every Thursday at 6:30pm and on Saturdays at 9:00am. Has it been a while? Please see the Adult Confirmation webpage for a How-to Guide for Confession and Examination of Conscience resources.

What if I have marriage issues?

If you are divorced, remarried, have an annulment pending, or have been married outside the Church, please contact us right away.

Take the Next Step: Register for Adult Confirmation!

Please complete the online ***Adult Confirmation Request Form*** before our first formation session. You may also print and complete a hard copy of the form to deliver to our office or to bring with you to the first session. Please review and use the ***Adult Confirmation Checklist*** (page 3) as you make your preparations to attend our first session!

Do you have more questions than answers?

We are happy to help you in your journey of faith, so please contact me if you have any further questions!



SAMMY ARGUMANIZ

*Director of Faith Formation
St. Rita Catholic Community
12521 Inwood Rd, Dallas, TX 75244*

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strita.net | stritaparish.net

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Adult Confirmation Checklist

- Complete an Adult Confirmation Request Form.*** Please complete this form and return it to the Director of Faith Formation.
- A recent baptismal certificate.*** Please contact the parish of your baptism and request a new baptismal certificate.
- Address any marriage issues you might have.*** If you have been divorced, remarried, or married outside of the Church, please let us know right away.
- Come to our formation sessions.*** Join us for our two engaging 90-minute sessions on Confirmation, Discipleship, and the Holy Spirit.
- Choose a sponsor.*** Please choose a sponsor for Confirmation. If possible, ask your baptismal godparent(s) to act as your sponsor(s). If that is not possible, please ask someone who is a Catholic in good standing with the Church to be your sponsor.
- Make your confession.*** Please make a good confession prior to the celebration of Confirmation.

From the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

§1309-1311

Preparation for Confirmation should aim at leading the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and a more lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit - his actions, his gifts, and his biddings - in order to be more capable of assuming the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life. To this end catechesis for Confirmation should strive to awaken a sense of belonging to the Church of Jesus Christ, the universal Church as well as the parish community. The latter bears special responsibility for the preparation of confirmands.

To receive Confirmation one must be in a state of grace. One should receive the sacrament of Penance in order to be cleansed for the gift of the Holy Spirit. More intense prayer should prepare one to receive the strength and graces of the Holy Spirit with docility and readiness to act.

Candidates for Confirmation, as for Baptism, fittingly seek the spiritual help of a sponsor. To emphasize the unity of the two sacraments, it is appropriate that this be one of the baptismal godparents.

Sponsor & Saint Name Information

What is a Confirmation Sponsor?

Confirmation sponsors journey with those preparing for full initiation into the Church. A sponsor is a faithful friend and mentor that helps guide the candidate and shares their experiences of Christian life. Godparents are encouraged to serve as sponsors because of their intimate connection with the Sacrament of Baptism (which Confirmation strengthens and seals). The sponsor continues journeying in faith with the candidate well beyond Confirmation day.

Sponsor Requirements:

- ❖ Must be at least 16-years-old
- ❖ Must be fully initiated into the Church (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation)
- ❖ Must be a practicing Catholic in good standing (if married, in accordance with the Church)
- ❖ Parents and spouses **cannot** be sponsors
- ❖ **If the sponsor is not a member of St. Rita Catholic Community, please have his/her parish send a letter (typically from the pastor's office) certifying that he/she is a fully initiated current practicing member of the community. Confirmation candidate's name should also be included on the letter from the parish.**
 - **Letters may be mailed to:**
Sammy Argumaniz
Office of Faith Formation
St. Rita Catholic Community
12521 Inwood Road
Dallas, TX 75244

Role of the Sponsor:

- ❖ Journey with the Confirmation candidate during preparation for and after Confirmation
- ❖ Be available to the candidate with time, prayer, questions, and support.
- ❖ Present the Confirmation candidate to the Bishop/Pastor and the community of faith

Confirmation/Saint Name:

The Church offers countless examples of people who encounter God and are given a new name (Abram becomes Abraham, Simon becomes Peter, etc.) The Sacrament of Confirmation offers us a new opportunity to take on a name of faith. As such, all those preparing to receive the sacrament may take a saint's name as they continue living for Christ.

Saints are models for us, and candidates should choose a saint that will inspire them. Confirmation names must be of canonized saints (not "blessed"), and it is perfectly acceptable for a candidate to use his/her own name or baptismal name for Confirmation.

Please take time to investigate the lives of different saints and identify ways you can emulate your saint in daily life.