

Confirmation Candidate Expectations

1. **Register** –First, you need to be registered for Confirmation/Disciple Ministry sessions. During this online process, there is a simple box to click to enroll in the Confirmation program. There is also a \$25 sacramental fee.

2. **Prayer** – It is important that you are spiritually ready when you to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. We suggest that you set aside at least 5 minutes to pray every day. You can read Scripture, Daily Devotionals, Recite Learned Prayers, Share With Jesus, journal what you're feeling or just sit in Silence before our Heavenly Father. It is difficult to have a relationship with Jesus if you do not spend time with Him. Let prayer strengthen your connection with God!

3. **Attend Scheduled Events** –The Confirmation Schedule will be published online when we receive the date/time of our Confirmation Mass. Please note that the interviews and practice may be determined at a later date. The program is comprised of the following elements:

- A. **Initial Parent/Guardian and Candidate Meeting** - following 10am Mass. Parents will sign up for providing lunch with other parents for our Confirmation Sessions and Retreat.
- B. **4 Confirmation Sessions** - will include attending the 10am Mass at St.Mary's as a large group. Sessions will take place on Sundays in the Parish Center. Lunch will be provided after mass for the candidates 11:00 -11:30 and our sessions will last from 11:30-1pm.
- C. **Disciple Ministry Journal** - A journal that you will keep and write your reflections in daily. What did you do today to make a difference? See Disciple Ministry Journal Sheet for further details.
- D. **Candidate/Sponsor Session** – This session will take place on a Sunday, with a format that is similar to your regular sessions. If your sponsor is able to be present for 10am Mass it would be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the Eucharist together. We will have lunch and begin our session at 11:30am. This session will consist of time for you to reflect with your sponsor, a witness from a previous Confirmation sponsor, and more details for your sponsors to know about our Confirmation program. This session will most likely finish around 12:15 or 12:30 instead of the normal 1pm finish time.
- E. **The Blessed Trinity Cluster Confirmation Retreat- Date TBD**
- F. **Confirmation Practice** at St. Mary's with sponsor (if sponsor is unable to attend, a parent must attend in their place)- **TBD**
- G. **Confirmation Interview** – St. Mary Parish Hall from a 10 - 15 minute interview. Candidates will choose times when the date is closer. - **TBD**
- H. **Confirmation Liturgy at St. Mary Church - TBD**

4. **Missed Events** – Candidates who miss a session will be asked to complete a written make up assignment. If two sessions are missed, the candidate must meet with Marcia and possible Father Gabriel to review readiness to receive the sacrament. **Candidates must attend a Confirmation retreat.** Dates and times of area retreats will be made available if the candidate has a conflict with the BTC retreat date.

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5. **Choose your Confirmation Saint name** – You are encouraged to use your baptismal name (your first or middle name) if it is a saint's name, but **you are free to choose a new saint's name**. Try to find a saint that you relate/look up to. The website www.catholic.org/saints/ provides a variety of saints to choose from. Once you have selected a saint complete the Patron Saint Report form found on the cluster website. Please use your own words to complete this. **Your Patron Saint Report is due in October.**

6. **Choose your sponsor** – Every candidate must have a sponsor. A sponsor must be at least 16 years old, a fully initiated and practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church. A parent may NOT be a confirmation sponsor since they already have a special relationship with the candidate. Refer to the "Sponsor Requirements" form on the cluster website for more details. Once chosen, send your sponsor the Confirmation Sponsor Form. Then have the completed form turned in by **October.**

7. **Christian Service Report** – Service to the Church and the community is an integral part of living our faith. Serving others as the hands and feet of Christ is our way of answering our baptismal call to love and follow Christ through our actions. The "Christian Service" form details this component of the Confirmation program and must be completed and returned on the **due day of Confirmation Retreat.**

8. **Confirmation Interview**– All candidates must sign up for a 10 - 15 minute interview on dates that will be finalized as the date gets closer to Confirmation, February/March.

9. **Final Form** – Complete and sign the Confirmation Candidate Final Form and return by **October Class**. This form provides information that is used in printing the Confirmation certificate and program. It also provides a statement of faith that the candidate signs that demonstrates their personal intent to be confirmed in the Catholic Church.

10. **Picture** – we make posters for each of the Parishes so people can see who is preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. We do this so the candidates can be prayed for by our community! Please bring your school picture to Marcia (during a confirmation session, Wednesday Religious Ed, or drop them off at the parish office) as soon as you receive them from school. I plan on having the Confirmation Boards out before Thanksgiving! **Pictures need to be in no later than October 30th!**