

**CONFIRMATION AT A GLANCE – see more detailed sheets at the end of this  
handout**

**Sponsors' contact info due no later than January 6, 2020**

**Orientation for students and sponsors: January 12, 2020 6:30-7:30PM in the  
CHURCH HALL FOR ALL STUDENTS AND SPONSORS**

**Remaining classes will be held from 9-10:45AM CLASS ON THE FOLLOWING  
DATES:**

**Sunday February 23<sup>rd</sup> (no class March 1<sup>st</sup>)**

**Sunday March 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday March 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday March 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Sunday April 5<sup>th</sup> (Palm Sunday)**

**Makeup classes will be a packet that will need to be completed by both the  
student and the sponsor or parent.**

**Requirements: \*\*\*\*\*REGISTRATION SHEET AND ATTENDANCE POLICY**

**\*\*\*\*\* Sponsor name & contact info ALL DUE 1/6/20**

**Class attendance/makeup work – MANDATORY (see policy)**

**Baptismal DUE 4/1/20**

**Prep fee of \$130 2/23/20 (at the first class)**

**Confirmation interview – done at retreat**

**One parish retreat from the choices WE WILL LET YOU  
KNOW IF IT IS OUR FINAL OPTION!!! DO NOT WAIT!!!**

**Letter to Bishop Malooly – done at retreat**

**Sponsor eligibility form (if not SMM) DUE 9/15/20**

**Choice of Confirmation name if not Baptismal DUE  
10/1/20**

**Two services to the parish DUE 10/1/20**

**One parish family social DUE 10/1/20**

**Rehearsal for sacrament THURSDAY OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup>**

## **WHAT TO EXPECT THIS YEAR:**

Our Confirmation candidates are asked to respond to the Office of Religious Education with the **name, address and e-mail of their sponsors**. This information is critical to implementing follow-up steps in the year's events and we ask your help in responding in a timely manner. Please review sponsor requirements before asking someone to be your sponsor!

The **first formal gathering of the Confirmandi** with their teachers occurs on Sunday evening, January 12, 2020, at 6:30 p.m. for both **SPONSORS** and **STUDENTS** in the **CHURCH HALL**. At this time, sponsors are introduced to their role, and offered tools to aid them in fully supporting the youth. Students will meet the Catechists who will be acting as their teachers for the remaining classes in the fall, and with their sponsors will have their first class experience that evening. The evening ends with a prayer service for both groups together. The evening runs approximately one hour.

**NOTE:** Parents are asked to step in and attend initial sponsor class and rehearsal if the sponsors themselves are unable to attend.

Remaining classes will run on Sundays from 9-10:45AM on February 23, March 8, 15, 22, 29, and April 5<sup>th</sup>. The retreat choices will all be over the summer. **This instruction is specific to the sacrament of Confirmation and only enhances any formal religious instruction received by the student in school.** There are other requirements listed on a separate sheet, including the choice of various Confirmation retreats. Students are asked to during the retreat to write a letter of intent directed to Bishop Malooly. The letter should simply introduce them, give a little personal information about school, sports, other interests, etc., then say why they want to be Confirmed and what effect they expect the sacrament to have on them – **about 3 paragraphs. That's paragraphs, not sentences!**

Each Confirmation student meets during the retreat for a personal interview with either the Youth Minister or the Director of Religious Education. This meeting gives our candidates an opportunity to solidify their understanding of the sacrament and to ask any questions about the sacrament or celebration. At the retreat they will also have an opportunity to receive Reconciliation. The dates for the retreats are all in the packet. **PLEASE SIGN UP FOR A RETREAT RIGHT AWAY IF YOU KNOW YOU HAVE DATE CONSTRAINTS OVER THE SUMMER. SPACE IS LIMITED EACH TIME.**

All students are expected to attend the **Confirmation REHEARSAL –OCTOBER 15<sup>TH</sup> 2020** at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Hall for initial lineup, then practice in the Church.

The celebration of CONFIRMATION is scheduled for **Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.** in the Church. Students and Sponsors are asked to arrive at the **Church Hall by 10:00 a.m.** – our Bishop likes to see them prior to the sacrament! A Reception in the Church Hall will follow Confirmation Mass.

# Confirmation Eligibility Requirements

**Students must get "Requirement Completion Form" signed at each event by the adult supervisor – NOT YOU**

Each student must complete the following to be eligible for Confirmation:

1. Attend ALL classes
2. Attend **ONE** Parish Life Events (that means student **and family**)
3. Complete **TWO** services to the Parish (that means at or for SMM see green box)
4. Attend **ONE** Confirmation Retreat
5. Complete a letter to the Bishop

**It is recommended that you begin this list when it is received. Waiting until the start of freshman year will provide less opportunities and a more demanding schedule for new high school students. There are multiple opportunities every month so you can easily be done by June!**

## **Detailed Breakdown of Requirements**

### **Retreat Options**

Each student must complete a retreat. Please choose the date that best fits your family's schedule and sign up online. There is limited space of 25 for each retreat - don't delay. Those who fail to sign up will be placed at the final retreat. Check sports, rehearsal, and family schedules and plan accordingly.

The retreats will all include their interview and the opportunity for the sacrament of Reconciliation.

**Sign up for your retreat choice  
June 24<sup>th</sup>, July 7<sup>th</sup> or July 29<sup>TH</sup>  
at**

[Summer retreat signup](#)

**DO NOT  
WAIT DATES  
FILL UP**

### **Confirmation Class Attendance Policy**

Please understand that Confirmation classes are cumulative and discussion based; it is of utmost importance that your child attends class. If your child fails to abide by the below attendance policy, he/she may become *ineligible* to receive the sacrament of Confirmation with his/her class. By providing you with these dates now, it should enable you to work around your family schedule!

February 23<sup>rd</sup>  
March 8<sup>th</sup>  
March 15<sup>th</sup>  
March 22<sup>nd</sup>  
March 29<sup>th</sup>  
April 5<sup>th</sup>

• If your child cannot attend his/her scheduled Confirmation class time, please contact **Kat Busfield-Birch** about making up the work at [smm youth@smmchurch.org](mailto:smm youth@smmchurch.org)

**Makeup classes will be in the form of a packet that will need to be completed by both the student and the sponsor or a parent!!!**

### Service Opportunities

Students must complete two services TO THE PARISH. There is no hour minimum but school run events that are not open to the whole parish do not count. CYM IS open to the parish, so CYM events (including 3v3) can be used!

- **Advent Wreath Workshop** – help with cleanup contact Mrs. Yasik
- **Fall Harvest Food Drive** Contact Beth Smith at [bethcostello@yahoo.com](mailto:bethcostello@yahoo.com) for info.
- **Altar Server/Usher at Mass**
- **Help Decorate the Church** – each liturgical season requires help decorating the church! Please contact Richard Heiss at [gaynorheiss@Comcast.net](mailto:gaynorheiss@Comcast.net) - currently needs help **SATURDAY NOVEMBER 30<sup>TH</sup>** to set up for Advent at 10:30AM in the church! Side door by Chandler will be open for entry
- **Santa Breakfast/Bambinelli Brunch** help is needed to prepare the food contact Stephanie Casey for info
- **Lector at Mass** contact Kat for info
- **Cross Holder at Good Friday Service:** contact Kat for details
- **Vacation Bible School Counselor:** contact Mrs. Yasik about this week long service and social opportunity
- **Walk to Easter Counselor- Good Friday:** contact Mrs. Yasik for details
- **Religious Ed. Catechist Aide:** to help as an aide in the Religious Ed. Classes each Sunday starting in September, contact Mrs. Yasik.

Seeing your name on a signup genius does not count. Click on the blue “Service Opportunities” for the link to the genius. Many people sign up but don’t actually show up!

**BRING YOUR FORM**

### Parish Life Events

Each student and family must attend ONE Parish Life events. These are events that are open to the entire parish and that are intended for the whole family, embracing **being with your family**

● **Bambinelli Brunch December 15<sup>th</sup>** – have your nativity’s baby Jesus blessed and enjoy brunch in the church hall

● **Advent Vespers** – enjoy an evening of music that builds us up to the birth of Christ on December 19<sup>th</sup>

● **Parish Mission dates TBA**

● **Soup and Stations- March 27<sup>th</sup>** - Lenten dinner of soup, bread and salad, followed by Stations of the Cross. Parish provides the bread and salad, we ask you to bring soup.

● **Diocesan Pilgrimage- April 4<sup>th</sup> 2020**  
Bishop Malooly’s Pilgrimage is an event for the whole family to experience community, adoration, blessings, and stations of the cross while walking through the diocese as witnesses of the Catholic faith. The day will end with Palm Saturday vigil mass. Pre-registration required, **SIGNUP FORM ON YOUTH MINISTRY PAGE**

**All service and parish life events need to be signed off on by the adult in charge of the event – not the parent. Be sure to bring your form with you (and a pen) and ask them to sign that you were in attendance!**

**Requirements completion form – return by October 1<sup>ST</sup>**

**-also – it should be common sense that you do not ask someone to sign the form until you fill out what you want them to sign for- and parents cannot sign the form or just give blank info with no supervisor. Don't send me an email saying you did them, that is not a signed form by a supervisor!!!**

**Service requirement ( 2 required - no hour amount – just to parish!)**

<b>DATE COMPLETED</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE COMPLETED</b>	<b>SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISING ADULT</b>
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**Social requirement (1 family events)**

<b>DATE COMPLETED</b>	<b>EVENT/PROGRAM ATTENDED</b>	<b>SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISING ADULT</b>
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**(NOTE – IF THE PROGRAM REQUIRED A PERMISSION SLIP, WE WILL NOT NEED A SIGNATURE – WE CHECK THE SLIPS AFTER EVENTS.)**

**CONFIRMATION NAME: \_\_\_\_\_**

**IN ADDITION YOU MUST ATTEND ALL CLASSES AND LECTURES, AND HAND IN YOUR LETTER FOR INTERVIEW.**

**\*\*\*\*\*PLEASE DO NOT LOSE THIS! YOU WILL FIND IT HELPFUL WHEN YOU ARE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT YOU STILL NEED TO DO COME NEXT FALL, AND OFTEN IF YOU COMPLETED YOUR REQUIREMENT IN FEBRUARY AND ARE TRYING TO CHECK IN SEPTEMBER YOUR SUPERVISING ADULT WON'T REMEMBER!**

**YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_**

## **How to choose a Confirmation name**

Confirmation names are tied in to our Baptism. When you are Baptized, you “become new,” and in the early church, that meant you were given a new name. Names in those days referred to your occupation; many early Christians were slaves, so they took the names of saints, or people in the church that they respected. Since then they received Baptism and Confirmation together (along with Eucharist), they took one new name. Today, since the sacraments are separated from each other, the custom still remains that a new name can be taken at the time of the sacrament.

As a result, for Confirmation you can either choose to use your Baptismal name (whether it is a saint’s name or not), or you can choose a saint’s name to use. If you do choose another name, it must be a saint’s name. If you have a name in mind and aren’t sure if it is a saint’s, you can go to [catholiconline.com](http://catholiconline.com) and check the saints index. It’s alphabetical and has literally thousands of names. If your name is a family name and is in another language, as long as the name is in English is on the list, you can use it. If you have no idea of what name to pick, you can also check their list of patron saints (for example, if you like music, Cecilia is the patron saint of musicians). If none of that interests you, you can also go to the saints whose feast is on your birthday, and see if any of those are what you would like to use. We have many books available, which you are welcome to borrow, that you can use to search for names as well.

**St. Mary Magdalen Parish**  
**Sponsor ELIGIBILITY form**  
**-for use by non-parishioners**

Dear Sponsor:

\_\_\_\_\_ has chosen you to be present to sponsor him/her for Confirmation. We will be happy to welcome all those who are not members of the parish. Your presence will be a blessing for us.

Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday, October 17, 2020, at 11:00 AM.

All Confirmandi and their sponsors are expected to meet in the Church Hall by 10:00 AM to meet the Bishop and for final instructions and lineup.

**Please complete this form and have your pastor sign it.** Please return this form to us as soon as possible but **no later than** September 15, 2020. Thank you for your willingness to help these young people as they begin their faith journey.

\_\_\_\_\_ signature of YOUR Pastor (REMEMBER THIS IS ONLY NEEDED IF YOU ARE NOT AN SMM PARISHIONER)

Name of sponsor's parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of sponsor's parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Please answer the following questions. (yes or no)

\_\_\_\_\_ I accept and am aware of the role of Confirmation sponsor.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a practicing Catholic who attends Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have received Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, and Reconciliation.

\_\_\_\_\_ I know I must attend the Confirmation on Saturday, October 17, 2020.

\_\_\_\_\_ I know that either I or a responsible adult substitute must be at the rehearsal on Thursday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM.

\_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor (print name)  
signature

**Mail to SMM, attn. Karen Yasik, 7 Sharpley Road, Wilmington DE 19803**

St. Mary Magdalen Parish  
Wilmington, DE

*The Role of the Sponsor*

**The sponsor helps the confirmed person in the  
unfolding of the gift of the Holy Spirit.**

***One sponsor* accompanies each person being confirmed.**

***Adult Confirmed Catholics*, who strive to have a  
strong and long-lasting influence**

**on the person being confirmed, should be chosen.**

**In our diocese, it is required that the sponsor be at least 16 years of age in addition to  
already being Confirmed themselves.**

**The baptismal godparent is a good choice, to symbolize  
the relationship between Baptism and Confirmation**

**A parent may not be his or her child's sponsor.**

***Before Confirmation*, the sponsor helps the candidate  
*prepare for Confirmation.***

***At Confirmation*, the sponsor presents the candidate for anointing.**

***Afterwards*, through example and advice, the sponsor helps guide  
the confirmed in a life of Christian commitment.**



**CONFIRMATION OCTOBER 2020  
SPONSOR CONTACT INFO FORM**

**STUDENT'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT'S PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPONSOR NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPONSOR ADDRESS (WITH ZIP CODE!)**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SPONSOR PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPONSOR E-MAIL:** \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN THIS FORM TO  
OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION  
7 SHARPLEY ROAD  
WILMINGTON DE 19803

**FORM DUE JANUARY 6, 2020**

**(SO THAT WE CAN MAIL OR EMAIL YOUR SPONSOR INFO FOR  
APRIL MEETING)**

**Remember sponsors must be active, practicing Catholics in  
good standing. If they are not REGISTERED members of this  
parish, they will need to fill out the sponsor eligibility form and  
have it signed by their pastors!**

**WE WILL EMAIL THE ELIGIBILITY FORM TO THEM!**

**Confirmation Class Attendance Policy – this information is also on the back of your requirements sheet so that you have it for reference!**

Please understand that Confirmation classes are cumulative and discussion based; it is of utmost importance that your child attends class. If your child fails to abide by the below attendance policy, he/she may become **ineligible** to receive the sacrament of Confirmation with his/her class. By providing you with these dates well in advance, it should enable you to work around your family schedule!

- If your child cannot attend his/her scheduled Confirmation class time, please contact Kat Busfield-Birch at [smmyouth@smmchurch.org](mailto:smmyouth@smmchurch.org) to receive the packet that must be completed by **both the student and their sponsor or parent!!!**

*Failure to complete all requirements may result in your child being ineligible to receive the sacrament in the fall.*

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Parent/Guardian) have read and understand the attendance  
(Please Print Name)  
policy for the Confirmation Process at St. Mary Magdalen.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Student Name) have read and understand the attendance  
(Please Print Name)  
policy for the Confirmation Process at St. Mary Magdalen.

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Confirmation Student Registration  
Confirmation 2020.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student age: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Parent phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent (s) email(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Materials to be turned in ASAP (first page lists LATEST POSSIBLE DATES):**

**Sponsor Contact Information form**

**Sponsor eligibility form (for sponsors from other parishes)**

**Baptismal (check with Mrs. Yasik- we have many of them from Communion)**

**Prep fee**

**Choice of Confirmation name**

**Completed requirements form**

**Letter to the bishop**

**In addition, students are required to attend one of the retreat choices, where they will have an interview, and complete the service and social requirements listed on the paperwork.**