



2023-2024 Confirmation Candidate Preparation Guide

All candidates need to participate in and attend the following:

A FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM during the year the candidate is preparing for Confirmation.

- Public High School students are to attend Faith Formation through OLV.
 - Submit the 2022-2023 Faith Journey Checklist that you received at your Annual Start-up Meeting to the Faith Formation Office DUE by March 26, 2023
- Catholic High School students are already receiving faith formation in school daily. Additional formation through OLV parish is not required.

CONFIRMATION NAME AND CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

- Confirmation Name Form - **Due August 10, 2023**
 - Each Candidate will research and select a Saint name to become their Confirmation name.
- Sponsor Form - **Due August 3, 2023**
 - Each candidate will need to choose a sponsor who will be a faith mentor.
 - A sponsor can be any Baptized and Confirmed Catholic who is practicing their faith and be able to obtain a Letter of Recommendation from the Pastor of their parish.
 - If the sponsor is a parishioner of St. Mary's Church, a letter of recommendation will need to be requested by printing a form found on the Faith Formation website.
 - Sponsors may **NOT** be parents of the candidate.

FAITH EXPERIENCE - Completed forms are **Due August 31, 2023**

- Each Candidate will choose 3 Faith Experiences.
- As Catholic Christians, we are called to live our faith. Let the Holy Spirit guide you to experience what it means to be a practicing Catholic.
- A list is provided that you will choose from.
- Complete a form for each Faith Experience by the due date listed.
- You are encouraged to enjoy the activity you choose with your family, friends, and other Candidates.

A RETREAT

- ALL candidates are asked to participate in the retreat.

- All candidates must be present for the entire retreat. (August 17th 5:00pm – 9:00pm)

LESSONS – Confirmation is one of the three Sacraments of Christian Initiation, which are the foundation of the Christian Initiation, which are the foundation of the Christian life. You have already received the Sacrament of Baptism and the Eucharist. Now you are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation to complete your initiation into the Church. Through the Sacrament of Confirmation, you will be strengthened with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

PROGRAM Sessions – Our candidates rotate every 20 minutes and work with four instructors on the following:

- Scripture
- Doctrine
- Ritual
- Living the Faith

ATTEND MASS

- Participating in the celebration of the Eucharist regularly, which will allow the Candidate and their family to live a God centered life.

CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL

- Date to be announced.
- Candidates and Sponsors are expected to attend.

RECONCILIATION

- You are encouraged to go to Reconciliation before receiving a Sacrament.
- Every Saturday from 3pm – 4pm Reconciliation is available at OLV National Shrine & Basilica

CONFIRMATION DAY

- Likely during the fall Season (September - October)—Can be any day of the week—Dates will be announced as soon as the bishop's office releases them.
- Further details will be forthcoming.

SACRAMENT FEE

- The Sacrament supply fee is \$80 to help off-set the cost of this program.