



August 23, 2020

Dear Parents and Candidates for Confirmation,

We have begun the very special process of preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation! Confirmation completes the process of initiation into the Church making us fully members, and brings the gifts of the Holy Spirit alive in us so that we can take all that we have learned and whom we have become up to this day, and apply it in action, alive in the Church, full of faith and hope that what God has planned for us will come to be through the power of his Spirit. We hope to come together, and come closer to God and become more aware of God in our lives, and his call for our involvement in that life.

Over the coming months you, our youth and families, will be doing much reflecting, sharing, praying, celebrating, serving and growing. Our staff, parent/adult volunteers and catechists are committed to supporting you every step of the way. Most of all, this is a time of prayer for you as you discern the choices you are making, so that the reception of God's divine life is something that truly "flips on" the switch of faith, hope and love. May we be conformed to Christ and through him give glory to our Father in heaven.

Adult/Teen trained leaders have volunteered to lead Confirmation teams and have prepared to make the Team portion of Confirmation formation a powerful and meaningful time for you. Parents, it is imperative that the leaders receive your support and presence as they coordinate meetings, Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy, attend the retreat and interview, and guide us through the process.

In addition, none of this makes any sense if you aren't regularly attending Mass, Religious Education classes and going to Confession so that fertile ground may be prepared to receive the gifts of God.

On behalf of St. Charles Parish, we welcome your family to the Confirmation program and pray that you and your son or daughter together will find this process of formation a powerful time of faith, hope and love. May the Holy Spirit strengthen and guide you.

Sincerely,

**Marci S. Morrison**  
Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministry

## **ROLE OF THE PARENTS**

Parents play the most important role in their children's continuing initiation into full membership in the Christian community.

Parents of Confirmation candidates:

- Are the primary educators of their children;
- Represent the Church by showing their child a Christian example and the importance of faith;
- Serve as models for their child by being committed Christians;
- Require their child to worship with the parish community weekly at Mass;
- Reinforce and promote belief in the home;
- Encourage their child to reflect and thoughtfully consider the decision to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation;
- Are not permitted to be Confirmation Sponsors for their own child;
- Assist their child with the immediate preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation through prayer, study and service;
- Stress the initiation aspect of the Sacrament by encouraging their child to continue learning about their faith in the parish life and programs into the high school years;
- Help their child in understanding that Confirmation service projects are the beginning of a life committed to Christian service;
- Commit to daily prayer for the Candidates

## **ROLE OF THE CANDIDATES**

As Candidates continue preparing for Confirmation, they must:

- Listen attentively and participate willingly in Religious Education classes;
- Respect each other's point of view;
- Respect their Catechists and Team Leaders;
- Ask questions. (This helps to develop a more mature understanding of Christian beliefs and make their own commitment stronger);
- Attend Mass weekly; Candidates must complete 4 reports on Sunday Mass readings
- Invite a practicing Catholic to be their Confirmation Sponsor (see the "Sponsor" section of this handbook for details);
- Participate in the Confirmation Retreat;
- Return all necessary paperwork by the dates indicated on the calendar;
- Be interviewed with their team by a member of the clergy;
- Remain an active part of the Catholic community by continuing to learn about and practice their faith.

## **SPONSOR REQUIREMENTS**

A Sponsor is required for the Candidate being confirmed. Canons 872 and 874 of the Code of Canon Law list those requirements for the valid and lawful sponsorship in Confirmation:

- The Sponsor's role is to assist the person in Christian initiation.
- The Sponsor's role, together with the parents is to present the child for the Sacrament and help him/her live a life befitting a baptized Catholic.

A Sponsor:

1. Must be mature enough to undertake this responsibility
2. Must have received the three Sacraments of Initiation, namely, Baptism, Communion and Confirmation.
3. Must be no less than 16 years of age at the time of Confirmation.
4. Must know the fundamental truths of the Faith and be a practicing Catholic who goes to Mass every week, receives the Sacraments regularly and sees to the religious instruction of his/her family.
5. Must be a member of the Catholic Church and canonically free to carry out this office. (Those Catholics publicly living in an invalid marriage, ((not according to the church regulations)), and those who are cohabitating, ((living together without marriage)), are ineligible).
6. Must not be father or mother of the one being Confirmed.

If a Sponsor is unable to attend the Confirmation, a Proxy may stand in.

If necessary, a parent may serve as Proxy.

Being a Sponsor is not just an honor given to a good friend or relative. Sponsorship implies a real appreciation of the faith, a practice of the same, and a sense of responsibility toward the person being confirmed. Parents cannot be sponsors for their children because they are already their child's most important teacher. Candidates may choose one of their Godparents to be their Sponsor to show the close connection between Baptism and Confirmation or they may choose a different person. This person should be a confirmed Catholic whom the candidate admires and who bears witness to the Gospel in his/her everyday life.

If the sponsor is NOT a member of St. Charles, they must obtain a Sponsor Certificate signed by a priest from their home parish by **December 3, 2020**.

A Sponsor also plays a vital role in the Candidate's continuing initiation into full membership in the Christian community. A sponsor of a Confirmation Candidate:

- Supports the Candidate in their commitment to a Christian life;
- Must know the Candidate and be willing to serve as a strong and long-lasting Christian influence on the Candidate;
- May help the Candidate prepare for Confirmation;
- Must be reasonably informed on current Church teachings.

## **CONFIRMATION SAINT NAME**

Each Candidate may choose to take a new name for Confirmation, however it should be a name from the list of recognized Saints of the Catholic Church. Candidates may choose to keep their baptismal name as long as it is a Christian name. Names of Saints are chosen to serve as patrons and models for those being confirmed. Candidates should choose a patron whose Christian life and virtues can be imitated.

The Saint Name Form will be completed as part of a class assignment in the Religious Education Program. A sample list of patron Saints can be found on the following website

<http://www.americancatholic.org/Features/Saints/patrons.aspx>

or in the back of their textbook: Catholic Faith Handbook.

## **CONFIRMATION INTERVIEWS**

Confirmation Candidates will be by one of the priests. The interview lasts approximately 30 minutes and is really an opportunity for the priests and the candidates to talk about their experiences in the program, and to determine their readiness. Confirmation interviews will be held the week of April 1-5, 2019. Appointment times will be passed out in March.

## **CONFIRMATION RETREAT**

As part of their preparation, each Candidate is required to attend the Confirmation retreat in their second year of preparation. The retreat is held Pine Valley Bible Camp. The fee for the retreat is due at Registration. The retreat fee is \$180, which includes bus rental fee. The purpose of this retreat is to set the spiritual tone needed to prepare the Candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

## **REHEARSAL AND MASS**

Attendance at the Confirmation rehearsal is mandatory for the Candidate and their sponsor (or proxy). Confirmation is a special occasion celebrated in the Church. Appropriate attire is required. DRESS CODE WILL BE REQUIRED- SEE ATTACHED FORM.

The actual date for Confirmation is determined by Bishop McElroy's office. As soon as the Office of Youth Ministry is informed of the date for Confirmation, you will be informed. The Bishop of San Diego or one of the bishops will lead us in the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. In order to maintain the sacred nature of this time and place, photography and video equipment are strictly prohibited in the church. Following the Confirmation Mass, there will be a reception in the Parish Hall.



**St. Charles Religious Education  
Confirmation Requirements  
2020-2021  
Year 2**

1. Attend classes regularly on Thursday evening.
  - a. Each session is 6:00-7:30 PM. (\*\*Through Zoom to start)
  - b. No more than 3 absences will be accepted throughout the school year.
  - c. Please note, 3 tardies (more than 20 minutes late) equal 1 absence.
2. Attend Sunday Mass (or Saturday Vigil) weekly and on Holy Days of Obligation
  - a. Candidates must complete 4 reports on Sunday Mass readings
  - b. Mass attendance via Online as an Option (\*\*during COVID only)
3. Attend the Confirmation II Retreat on February 5-7, 2021. Cost is \$160-due at registration.
4. Be an active participant in Church Community Life-Challenge of the Week
5. Be an active and willing participant in catechism classes and activities.
6. Complete a minimum of 15 hours of service during **2020-2021** school year. Community Service Hours earned off campus must be through a non-profit, humanitarian organization that services any of the 7 Corporal Works of Mercy.
7. Catechesis on the Sacraments, Creed, Morality, and Prayer.
8. Catechesis on the Holy Spirit based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church.
9. Parents MUST attend all sessions noted on the Class Calendar.
10. Download the BAND app for all Youth Ministry correspondence (Parents & Students)
11. Select an appropriate sponsor, turn in the sponsor form and begin meeting regularly to prepare for Confirmation.
  - a. Attend the Lenten Retreat with Sponsor – Date TBD
  - b. Participate with Sponsor in the Confirmation rehearsal Date TBD

**Determination of readiness:**

- Interview and evaluation with Pastor
- Write a letter requesting the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- Final Assessment given in March
- A willingness to participate in shared faith experiences with other teens at the Parish.
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**Documents Needed:**

- Copy of Baptismal Certificate
- Sponsor Information Form

I have read these requirements and understand what is expected of me in order to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. I understand that if these requirements are not met I will be asked to repeat the year.

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Name of Teen

Teen signature

Date

I have read these requirements and understand what is expected of my teen in order to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. I understand that if these requirements are not met my teen will be asked to repeat the year. By signing below, I am committed to the task of sharing my faith with my child by participating in the required events and most especially attending Sunday Mass.

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Name of Parent or Guardian

Parent or Guardian Signature

Date



## Saint Charles Catechetical Center

South San Diego/Imperial Beach

FOR THE CONFIRMATION OF \_\_\_\_\_  
(NAME OF YOUTH)

**CHURCH LAW STATES:**

Sponsors for the Sacrament of Baptism and Confirmation must be Catholics who have been confirmed and have already received the Sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist, and who lead a life of harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken. (CC. 874 & 893)

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**I HEREBY AFFIRM** my faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and my fidelity to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

**I HEREBY AFFIRM** that I practice my Catholic faith by regularly joining in the celebration of Sunday Mass and Communion.

**IF MARRIED**, my marriage took place in the Catholic Church.

**IF I HAVE CHILDREN**, my children are being educated in the Catholic Church.

**I AFFIRM** that I am a registered member of \_\_\_\_\_ Parish and fulfill my obligation to my parish to the best of my ability.

**I AFFIRM** that I have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation.

**I DO**, therefore, solemnly affirm that I meet all the necessary requirements to act as a Sponsor, so help me God.

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Sponsor Name - Signature

(seal)

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Sponsor Name - Please Print

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Date

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Signature of Parish Office Representative

*This form MUST be legibly signed by Parish Representative at Parish Main Office and turned in prior to the Confirmation.*

## **PHOTO/VIDEO/MEDIA RELEASE**

This release authorizes St. Charles Parish, located in the City of San Diego, California, within the Roman Catholic Diocese of San Diego, its employees, representatives and/or volunteers, to photograph/video tape:

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Print Students Full Name Here

for the purposes of marketing and/or promoting the interests of the Parish Youth Group, including the use of said photographs/video in printed materials, parish websites, and other visual display and/or media.

I understand that such photos/recording will be used for parish-related purposes, but will not be used for any other commercial purposes whatsoever. Therefore, I consent to and authorize the photographing, videotaping or otherwise recording of my child and I also waive any and all rights I or my child may have for remuneration of any kind, which could otherwise accrue as a result of the use of such photographs/video recordings. I also understand that I have the right to revoke this release agreement at any time, by advising the Parish in writing by letter directed to the Pastor of my intent to revoke.

Check here if you DO NOT AUTHORIZE release of photos/video.

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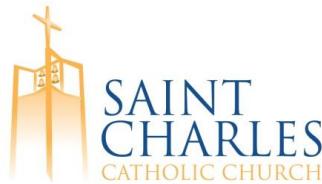
Signature

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Date

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Print Name Here



## **St. Charles Youth Ministry**

### DRESS CODE FOR CONFIRMATION

#### Girls:

- Sunday dress (below knee); no plunging neckline, no sleeveless, no backless, no bare shoulders.
- Skirt and blouse (no mini-skirts); no plunging neckline, no sleeveless, no bare shoulders
- Blouse and dress slacks-dress slacks required. No leggings as pants. (white or dark colors: black or navy blue)
- Dress shoes- (closed-toed shoes: no sandals, sneakers, or flip flops)
- Modest makeup
- Properly groomed hair
- ALL facial piercings to be removed
- ALL tattoos MUST be covered

#### Boys:

- White long sleeve shirt with tie
- Suit or dress coat
- Dress slacks (white or dark colors: black or navy blue-no sagging pants)
- Dress shoes (no sneakers, or flip flops)
- Properly groomed hair; no mohawks
- ALL facial piercings to be removed
- ALL tattoos MUST be covered

#### Family Members and Guests:

- Sunday church attire for both women and men
- Women: no mini-skirts, no plunging neckline, no sleeveless, no backless
- No denim jeans or shorts

#### Photography:

- Absolutely no flash photography during Mass.
- Everyone is to remain in their seats during Mass. No photography from aisles, etc.
- Photographer will take a picture of the Candidate during Anointing.
- Video-taping will be allowed from the Balcony only.
- Individual picture with the Bishop will be taken after Mass at the Parish Hall.

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

## **CONFIRMATION 2 MASS REPORTS**

Mass Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mass Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Presiding Priest: \_\_\_\_\_

What I learned from this Mass (Please be sure to elaborate on your thoughts filling in the space provided):

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Mass Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mass Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Presiding Priest: \_\_\_\_\_

What I learned from this Mass (Please be sure to elaborate on your thoughts filling in the space provided):

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STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Mass Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mass Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Presiding Priest: \_\_\_\_\_

What I learned from this Mass (Please be sure to elaborate on your thoughts filling in the space provided):

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Mass Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mass Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Presiding Priest: \_\_\_\_\_

What I learned from this Mass (Please be sure to elaborate on your thoughts filling in the space provided):

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

Date	Time From ____ to ____	# of Hours	Organization Name	Description of Activity	Signature of Supervisor
					X.  Print Name: Phone Number:
					X.  Print Name: Phone Number:
					X.  Print Name: Phone Number:
					X.  Print Name: Phone Number:
					X.  Print Name: Phone Number:
					X.  Print Name: Phone Number:
					X.  Print Name: Phone Number:
					X.  Print Name: Phone Number:
					X.  Print Name: Phone Number:
					X.  Print Name: Phone Number:

Total Number of Hours: \_\_\_\_\_