



Junior High Program

# **CONFIRMATION**

Candidate Handbook  
2021-2022

**April 5, 2022**  
**6:00 PM**

# Confirmation Process

Candidates in the 2nd year Confirmation Program are eligible to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. The current methodology for Confirmation preparation is not considered to be a time to review a summary of all Christian teaching. It simply is a time to explore and open up the Rite of Confirmation.

The following should help you understand the process and decide whether **your candidate** is ready to participate:

- The Candidate must come willingly to the Sacrament.
- Candidate must complete an Essay on “Why” he or she would like to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation, must be 200 words, in legible writing.
- The process assumes that the candidate has had some form of religious formation. This is not an “everything you need to know about the Catholic Church” process. It assumes that some of their preparation process has already taken place in a parish-based process. The process does not confuse preparation for the Sacrament with other concerns.
- We must have a copy of your candidate’s Baptismal and First Eucharist certificates.
- All Candidates will participate in the liturgical life of the church. They can attend any weekly Mass.
- All Candidates are to maintain satisfactory attendance to their regular scheduled class day and time. **MONDAY 6-7:15 pm.**
- All Candidates will complete 15 hours of community service in a parish ministry.
- All Candidates will attend and participate in a 4 hour **MANDATORY** Confirmation retreat.
- **Parents and/or sponsors** are also required to attend a **MANDATORY** Sponsor’s Retreat. This retreat is a Diocesan requirement. You may substitute Ministry Day, or other parish faith formation events that qualify and are approved.
- The celebration of the **Sacrament of Confirmation** is scheduled for **April 5, 2022 @ 6 pm**

If you have any questions or concerns you may contact the Religious Education Office, 209-320-5716 or email [religioused@presentationchurch.net](mailto:religioused@presentationchurch.net).

# **PROPER ATTIRE**

## **for the Sacrament of Confirmation**

Candidates and Sponsors are expected to be appropriately dressed for the celebration of a Sacrament.

**All candidates are required to wear  
RED or WHITE for the celebration Mass**

### **Boys**

Collared dress shirt. A tie is optional.  
Dress pants with belt. Shirt tucked in. Dress shoes  
No jeans, shorts, or tennis shoes.  
**Extremely baggy clothing is not appropriate.**

### **Girls**

Knee length dress or skirt, dress pants & blouse.  
Shoulders must be covered.

**Tank top type attire, low midriff is not appropriate.**  
**Extremely short or tight clothing is not appropriate.**

Flats or low heeled shoes.

If wearing heels, make sure candidate is comfortable wearing such heels prior to the Rite.

# Confirmation Sponsor Information

Stated most simply, a confirmation sponsor is someone (male or female) who is willing to help the candidate grow in the skills, knowledge, attitudes and practices that are considered essential to being a mature, responsible and committed (confirmed) member of the Catholic Church. In other words, a sponsor is a professed follower of Jesus. The task of the sponsor is to help the candidate take the necessary steps to begin a life-long quest to continue to grow in faith.

The sponsor for the candidate of confirmation has a unique and important role in the catechetical process towards the celebration of the sacrament. The sponsor is the teacher, spiritual guide and confidant for the candidate. The sponsor should be, therefore, someone whose life is such a powerful witness to the Good News of Christ, that the candidate chooses him or her because of the desire to share in that same way of life. The sponsor is such an important part of the process that the candidate should be given proper guidance in choosing his or her sponsor. The sponsor, in turn, should be made aware of the commitment he or she is making.

## ***According to Canon Law 893:***

A sponsor must be at least sixteen (16) years old.

A sponsor must be a fully initiated Catholic (celebrated Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist).

A sponsor must not be bound by any church penalty.

**A parent cannot be a sponsor.**

A parent can help the candidate select as a sponsor someone who reflects the following characteristics, which are beyond the minimum identified by Canon Law:

- A local residency to insure consistent involvement throughout the Confirmation process.
- Presence at all the Liturgical Rites.
- A positive, comfortable relationship with the candidate.
- A willingness and capacity to engage in the confirmation process as a means of enhancing his or her own growth as a Catholic Christian adult.
- A willingness to continue to be supportive of the newly confirmed individual as he or she continues through life on a journey of faith.

The sponsor's role is functional, not symbolic. Sponsor is responsible for helping the candidate to prepare for initiation into the Catholic Christian community and for helping the newly initiated member in fulfilling the responsibilities of that membership.

If you need clarification or have any questions, please contact Religious Education Office, at 209-320-5716 or [religioused@presentationchurch.net](mailto:religioused@presentationchurch.net).



# Community Service Project

For the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, all candidates are required to complete 15 hours of community service.

Please state how the community service that was completed.

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Date	Hours Completed	Where	Witness Signature

Please return completed form to the Religious Education Office by **March 10, 2022.**



## PROPHETS OF A FUTURE NOT OUR OWN

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view.  
The kingdom is not only beyond our efforts, it is even beyond our vision.

We accomplish in our lifetime only a tiny fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing we do is complete, which is a way of saying that the Kingdom always lies beyond us.

No statement says all that could be said.  
No prayer fully expresses our faith.  
No confession brings perfection.  
No pastoral visit brings wholeness.  
No program accomplishes the Church's mission.  
No set of goals and objectives includes everything.

This is what we are about.  
We plant the seeds that one day will grow.  
We water seeds already planted, knowing that they hold future promise.  
We lay foundations that will need further development.  
We provide yeast that produces far beyond our capabilities.  
We cannot do everything, and there is a sense of liberation in realizing that.

This enables us to do something, and to do it very well.

It may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way, an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the rest.

We may never see the end results,  
but that is the difference between the master  
builder and the worker.

We are workers, not master builders; ministers, not messiahs.  
We are prophets of a future not our own.