



YOUTH MINISTRY

Confirmation

HANDBOOK

2019-2020

Confirmation Process and Requirements

Teens between 9th and 12th grade are eligible to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation within the Youth Ministry Program. For the 2019-2020 program year, it is an accelerated 1-year program. Due to the accelerated rate, the requirements are more rigorous than previous years.

Please consider the following requirements when deciding if your family is ready to support the student in receiving Confirmation:

1. The Teen must come willingly to the Sacrament. Candidate must complete a letter to the pastor (50 words or more) on "Why" they would like to celebrate the Sacrament of Initiation. This letter should be turned into the Youth Minister of Presentation Church no later than **November 22nd, 2019**.
2. 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.
3. Registration is required, the program cost is \$120 and we **must have a copy** of your teen's Baptismal certificate and First Communion Certificates.
4. All Candidates will participate in the liturgical life of the church. The 5pm Mass at Presentation has been designated the Youth Mass. Regular attendance of class is required, 4 absences is an auto-drop from the program. Please contact the Youth Minister with attendance questions or concerns throughout the year as they arise.
5. All Candidates are required to complete 24 ministry hours at Presentation Church. Service must be done within a ministry at Presentation. 12 hours are due November 22nd, 2019. The remaining 12 hours are due February 28th, 2020. Logs are included on pages 9 and 10.
6. All teens will attend and participate in at least **one** retreat.
7. The Confirmandi are invited to use their Baptismal name or the name of a Saint as the Confirmation name. Candidates whose Baptismal name is not that of a Saint are encouraged to select a Saint as his or her patron. Guidelines and due dates for this saint report are included on pages 4-6.
8. **Parents and/or sponsors** are required to attend the designated parent/sponsor meetings found on the calendar. Additionally, parents must also attend **three** of the six offered Parent Program nights. A sponsor information and form are included on pages 7 and 8.
9. The celebration of the **Sacrament of Confirmation** is on Thursday March 19th at 6pm. A calendar is included on page 3.

To be considered as a candidate for sacrament celebration, all requirements must be accounted for by February 28th, 2020.

If you have any questions or concerns, please e-mail or call me, Samantha Soto, at youthministry@presentationchurch.net or call 320-5722

YOUTH MINISTRY CALENDAR 2019-2020

Church of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

6715 Leesburg Place Stockton, CA 95207 Phone: (209) 472-2150 Fax: (209) 472-0541

Samantha Soto

209-320-5722

youthministry@presentationchurch.net

JULY 2019							AUGUST 2019							SEPTEMBER 2019							OCTOBER 2019							NOVEMBER 2019							DECEMBER 2019																											
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S																					
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Parent and Student Meeting							Last Day							No Class							Special Class Event							Registrations Dates							Parent Program							Sponsor and Student Meeting							Retreat							Confirmation Date						
JANUARY 2020							FEBRUARY 2020							MARCH 2020							APRIL 2020							MAY 2020							JUNE 2020																											
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OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:

All requirements due by February 28th

Fall requirements due by November 22nd

Confirmation ONLY

Mass 6pm on March 19th
Doors open at 5:30
Student and Sponsor arrive by 5
Rehearsal TBD

RCIA

11/10/2019	Rite of Acceptance/Welcoming
3/01/2020	Rite of Sending
3/01/2020	Rite of Calling
4/4/2020	Palm Sunday and Seder Meal 5pm
4/7/2020	Rehearsal 5:30
4/11/2020	Easter Vigil 6:25

Choosing a Confirmation Name

“I will give them an everlasting name.”- Isaiah 56

What’s in a name?

When you were born, your parents chose your name. They may have chosen your name in honor of a special person in their lives: a grandparent, aunt or uncle, or close friend. They may have chosen your name for the meaning behind it. Perhaps they chose your name because they felt a close connection to a holy man or woman of our faith- one of the saints. Maybe they just really liked your name! Most likely, it was a combination of many factors. (If you do not know why your parents chose the name they did for you, why not ask them about it?) Your name gives you an identity; it tells others who you are. Throughout our lives, we will identify ourselves with many names- the name of the mascot of our school, the name of the region of the country we live in, the title of the career we choose.

However, there is a name above all names that, through our Baptism, we should strive to be known to the world by- and that name is Catholic Christian. At your Baptism, you were called by name, and christened to become a child of God. You entered into the Catholic community by name.

Now it is your turn!

As a part of your preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, you have the privilege and responsibility, just like your parents did when you were born, to choose a name.

† *Your Confirmation name should reflect your closer identification as a member of the Catholic Christian community.*

† *Your Confirmation name should be the name of a saint.*

† *You can choose your baptismal name or you can choose a completely new name.*

† *PRAY! Just as you should pray about any decision you have to make, ask the Holy Spirit to guide you as you choose a saint as your patron/patroness.*

REMEMBER: Do not choose a name just for the name itself-choose for the story behind the saint and how that saint can help you as you go forward in life.

Make sure your saint is Roman Catholic-just because there is “Saint” in front of the name does not mean he or she is Catholic.

Choosing a Confirmation Name Worksheet

Due November 22nd, 2019

All you holy men and women pray for us.

Where should I begin to choose a Confirmation name?

There are a variety of books depicting the lives of the saints and a book is a great place to start! Some of the books tell the life story of one saint in particular, and others give a brief story about the lives of numerous saints so you can read about many holy men and women all in one place.

You can also use the internet to research the saints. You can Google a saint name, just be sure you check the source (**is it Catholic?**). DO NOT USE WIKIPEDIA. Here are a few sites to check out that I have found helpful:

<http://saints.sqpn.com/>

<http://www.catholic.org/saints/>

<http://www.catholic-saints.info/>

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

Possible Names for Confirmation:

1. _____

What I liked about this saint:

Source: _____

2. _____

What I liked about this saint:

Source: _____

3. _____

What I liked about this saint:

Source: _____

Confirmation Name/ Saint Report

Due on February 28th, 2020

Write a report on the saint you have chosen as your patron.

Minimum of 500 words

The following questions must be answered in paragraph form:

1. What is your saint's full name?
2. What Gifts of the Spirit do you see in your saint's example?
3. What difficulties and struggles did your saint encounter?
4. How did this saint follow Jesus in the way he or she lived?
5. How did this saint become holy?
6. What made you decide to choose this saint as your patron for Confirmation?
7. How is this saint an example for your life?
8. Include all sources of information (books and websites)
9. Include a prayer to your saint (you may find one on the internet or make up a prayer of your own).

IMPORTANT: Make sure your final paper is your own work and not copied from a website or a book. Presenting another's work as your own is called plagiarism and is sinful. Plagiarism will result in a meeting with the Pastor and Youth Minister, as a consequence may delay the reception of the sacrament.

Sponsor Information

Stated most simply, a 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 lifelong quest to continue to grow in faith.

The sponsor has a unique and important role in the catechetical process towards the celebration of the sacraments. 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 Laws 874 and 893:

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

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

“leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken.”

A sponsor must not be bound by any church penalty.

A sponsor ***cannot*** be either the father or the mother of the person to be confirmed.

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 initiated individual as he or she continues through life on a journey of faith.

The sponsor's role is functional, not symbolic. He or she 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. Mandatory sponsor and student meetings are during the students designated class time the weeks of November 20th, January 29th, and March 4th, in addition to rehearsal and Confirmation Mass.

If you need clarification or have any questions, please contact Samantha Soto, at youthministry@presentationchurch.net or 209)320-5722