

Important Information

To Parents:

When you brought your child to the Church for Baptism, you accepted the sacred responsibility and privilege of “training them in the practice of the faith.” (Rite of Baptism, 30). You were reminded that you are the first and best teachers of your child and you were entrusted with keeping the light of faith burning brightly in their life. Parents instruct their children, both by what they say and what they do. It is now time for that next step. Confirmation is a celebration of the ongoing power of the already-present Holy Spirit in our lives, the Spirit first received at Baptism. Through this sacrament, the gifts of the Holy Spirit first received at Baptism are deepened and intensified.

Following are some suggestions on ways to assist your young person in their preparation:

1. Pray for and with your child(ren) every day.
2. Initiate conversation about the Sacrament of Confirmation, share your memories of receiving the sacrament, and encourage them to share their ideas of how receiving this sacrament will change their faith life.
3. Help with the selection of a sponsor and saint’s name for Confirmation.
4. Make sure all documents are completed and returned in a timely manner.

Guidelines for reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation:

1. Regular participation in Sunday (or Saturday evening) Mass.
2. An appropriate understanding of the Catholic Christian life. The candidate should understand and reflect the life of Christ in their lifestyle.
3. A firm determination to live the Christian life to the best of their ability. The candidate must be a good steward, giving in Christian proportion of their time, talent, and treasure.
4. The candidate must understand the importance of personal and communal worship in the life of the Church.
5. Faithful participation in the Confirmation preparation program, scheduled classes, retreats, service projects, etc.
6. Commitment to further religious education by the candidate and parents or guardian. Reception of this sacrament is a beginning – not an end. It is one step in our life-long journey to holiness. The candidate must be willing to be actively involved in parish life after Confirmation.

Confirmation Prep Holy Redeemer RACE

Holy Redeemer Faith Community will assist in the Faith Formation of the Confirmation candidates by:

1. Scheduling class sessions during which the candidates will delve deeper into understanding their faith, the scriptures, and the Sacrament of Confirmation. Sessions will be held at Holy Redeemer Carlin Hall.
2. Inviting speakers from the local faith community, greater Minnesota area, and from around the country to share their insights with the candidates. The small groups will be led by volunteers from Holy Redeemer under the direction of the Confirmation Coordinator. It is important that the candidate attend all sessions so as not to miss the information shared at these sessions
3. Priests will attend and/or participate in some of the sessions with the candidates.

Expectations:

Regular Participation in the Sunday Liturgy:

1. Sunday Mass is not optional for Catholics. Celebration of the Eucharist is our highest form of worship and candidates are expected to be active participants. This is the faith they will affirm.

Session Attendance:

1. Candidates are expected to complete all Confirmation preparation components including:
 - RACE Sundays Sessions (minimum of 15) Parent needs to attend with candidate
 - Confirmation preparation Sessions (minimum of 6)
 - Three Catholic Retreats - parish approved
 - Sponsor Covenant
 - Proof of Baptism
 - Letter of Intent to Dana
 - Saint Paper
 - Bishop Letter
 - Mass Journal (10 per year)
2. Emergency absence considerations:
 - Extreme circumstances, including death of family member, severe sickness and/or inclement weather will be considered emergency absences and candidate may be excused from the minimum requirements. These extenuating situations will be excused on a case by case basis. If you feel as though any of your absences fall into this category, please call the Confirmation Coordinator to discuss options. More than 2 missed Class in a year will require a meeting with the parish priest.

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Inclement Weather:

1. If the weather is severe and we decide to cancel any sessions, the cancellation of classes will be posted Holy Redeemer Website in the news box section of the front page. In addition, the cancellation will be broadcast over: KKCK/KARL. We will send out a text messages/email as soon as possible too.
2. We will defer to your judgement as to whether or not it is safe for you to travel. If a session is missed due to weather conditions, it is the responsibility of the parent to see that the child(ren) have completed any assignments that may be due and have their child turn those forms into the small group leaders at the next session.

Participations in Session:

1. Candidate should be Respectful and attentive to speakers, fellow small group members and others in attendance.
2. Candidate should invest in each session in order to get as much out of it as possible, and complete any assignments including meeting with their sponsor, saint's paper, service requirements, interview with small group leaders, and retreats.
3. Candidate should actively participate in small group discussions and take part in the scheduled retreats.
4. Candidate should use the bathroom before coming to class so they don't have to leave during class.

Sponsor:

1. Each candidate is required to have a sponsor and to complete two activities with their chosen sponsor. Please refer to the "Sponsor Information, Sponsor/Candidate Activity and Sponsor Covenant."

Statement of Intent:

1. A letter of Intent must to be submitted. These letters will be read and recorded by Dana Webskowski. For more information on this assignment, please refer to the "Confirmation Letter of Intent" section.

Patron Saint Name Selection and Report:

1. At Confirmation, candidates traditionally choose a canonized saint to be their patron. At the Rite of Confirmation, they will be referred to by this name signifying the profound change that the sacrament brings about. The selection of this name will also symbolize the candidate participation in the Communion of Saints. Each candidate must write a 1-2 page report on this saint. Full details of this assignment can be found in the "Confirmation Saint Paper."