



Policies, Procedures and Expectations For Confirmation

Confirmation Requirements Checklist

- Regular participation in Sunday Mass & Holy Days of Obligation.
- Participation in Sunday Faith Formation in the Fall and Confirmation Class in the Spring with 80% attendance. See below for more information on attendance.
- Participation in the Confirmation retreat.
- Participation in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- Complete a Confirmation Interview with a priest and show a desire and readiness for the sacrament. (Fr. Chuck will be letting us now when these interviews are to take place.)

Required Paperwork for Candidate

- Copy of Baptism Certificate
- Confirmation Information form
- Sponsor Covenant Form
- Saint Name for Confirmation

Role of the Sponsor

To be chosen as a sponsor by the candidate or by the parents is an honor. The sponsor is chosen because of his or her Catholic faith and the positive role model they will be for the candidate.

A sponsor is:

1. A role model: a person who fully embraces and lives their faith fully.
2. A mentor, someone to help guide and encourage the Candidate. Walking side by side as the Candidate seeks to respond to God's call.
3. A trusted adult, who is willing to stand with the Candidate not only during a ceremony, but throughout life's journey.

Canon 874 states: "To be admitted to undertake the office of sponsor, a person must:

1. Not be less than 16 years of age;
2. Be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has received the Eucharist, and who lives a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken.
3. Not be either the father or mother of the person confirmed.

Each Candidate may only have ONE sponsor for Confirmation.

Sponsors are asked to:

- Pray for and with the candidate.
- Actively participate in the process, using the sponsor guide activities, while sharing their faith with candidate.
- Attend the Confirmation Rehearsal and Confirmation.
- Be an active member with their local Catholic Community.
- Complete the Sponsor Covenant form.

Role of the Parent or Guardian

Parents play an essential role in helping the child be formed in his or her faith.

- Pray for your child!
- Attend all the parent meetings.
- Take time for weekly sacred conversations with your child by using the parent guide to discuss the weekly topics.
- Attend Mass regularly.

Attendance

We understand that there are times that a student will need to be absent from class due to illness, family obligations, vacation, etc. Please inform the Associate Director of Discipleship Formation, Tricia Salcher – psalcher@staustin.org – if and when there is a need for your child to be absent. **Our attendance policy is that to be considered an active participant in Confirmation, a student needs to be in class 80% of the time. This means that there are 5 allowed absences.** If there are consecutive absences, a Faith Formation representative will be in touch with the parent(s)/guardian to discuss ways that we can be of assistance.

If you are running behind, please do bring your child to class as he/she will be welcomed, even if they are a little tardy. However, consistent late arrivals are discouraged as they are disruptive to class.

Picking the Name of a Saint

Saints are our brothers and sisters in Christ. They intercede for us before God. We cannot refer to the saints without acknowledging the Communion of Saints and our connection in Christ to each other. Youth will be asked to pick a Saint name for confirmation and write an essay explaining their choice.

Essay on Saints should include:

Name of the Saint chosen, a brief synopsis of the life of the Saint and “Why” they choose the saint. They should reflect an understanding of the Saint. The student may also be asked why they chose this Saint in their confirmation interview.

Essays must be typed, a minimum of 2 paragraphs and maximum 1 page.

Here are some websites to help in your research:

www.lifeteen.com CLICK on “Saints”

www.americancatholic.org/

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

www.catholic-forum.com/saints

