

Confirmation Candidate Requirements

Full Participation in Life Teen (Wednesdays, 5:45pm -8:00pm)

The Sacrament of Confirmation completes a Christian's initiation into the Catholic Church. It is not the end but really the beginning of growing in a deeper and more mature relationship with Christ and His Church. Life Teen provides that ongoing growth in understanding our faith and living it out in our daily lives. Only those high school students who regularly and actively participate in Life Teen are eligible to be candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is also expected that, following Confirmation, the newly confirmed will remain as full and active participants in the Life Teen program and take other roles of service in the parish community.

Sunday Envelope Turn-In (Saturday or Sunday Masses)

Being an active member of the parish includes keeping the Lord's Day holy. Regular and active participation in Sunday Mass is a basic requirement for reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Envelopes, provided to each candidate, are to be placed in the collection basket during one of the Sunday Masses here at St. John's. If the candidate is going to be out of town or wishes to attend Mass at another Catholic Church, they must list the name of the parish and have the envelope signed by the priest celebrating that Mass.

Preparation Sessions Attendance (Sunday Evenings, 7:00pm- 8:45pm)

These eleven sessions of preparation on Sunday evenings are a unique and special time in the life of our Confirmation candidates. Candidates are required to attend each and every session. While their participation in the Life Teen program assures them of an ever-increasing knowledge of their Catholic faith and of a growing personal relationship with Jesus Christ, these special sessions are designed to give them immediate preparation for the reception of this great sacrament of the Holy Spirit.

Rite of Enrollment (Sunday, December 13th at 9:30 AM Mass)

Candidates and their Sponsors/Mentors will attend 9:30 am Mass together on Sunday, December 13th. This is a moment in the process of preparation when the Candidate expresses his or her sincere desire for the Sacrament of Confirmation in a public way before God and the whole parish community. It is also a time for the community to embrace our candidates and promise to pray for them and support them in these days of preparation.

Saint Report (Sunday, February 21st)

The Saint Report should include information regarding the background of the saint you have chosen to be your patron. You must also include the reasons why you chose this saint. The report should be at least 1 typed page, single space, and turned in to the Pastor by Sunday evening, February 21st. Please do not cut and paste from articles that you found on the internet. Read about the life of your saint and then summarize, in your own words, his or her story.

Letter to Bishop Cupich (Sunday, April 18th)

Candidates seeking the sacrament of Confirmation must write a letter to Bishop Cupich requesting reception of the sacrament. This letter must state some background about who you are; about your family; your involvement in school, community, and parish life; why you wish to receive this sacrament; and why you chose the patron saint for your Confirmation name. This letter must be typed and turned in to the Pastor by Sunday evening, January 11th. If the letter needs revision, it will be returned to the Candidate for the necessary changes.

Overnight Retreat (Sunday, January 17th – Monday, January 18th)

Candidates are required to participate in the Overnight Retreat beginning on Sunday, January 17th following the 9:30 AM Mass at St. John's. Candidates will return to St John's by Monday afternoon at 3:00 PM.

Meeting with Bishop Cupich (Sunday, September 26th at 8:30 AM)

Candidates will meet with Bishop Cupich from 8:30 AM – 9:15 AM so that he can get to know them, discuss the Sacrament of Confirmation with them, and determine their readiness for reception of the sacrament.

Confirmation (Sunday, September 26th at 9:30 AM Mass)

Please note the special time of this Mass for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation. Following Mass, there will be a brunch reception in Padre Hall for family and friends of the newly Confirmed members of the Church.