



Saint Regis Parish

A Pennsylvania Charitable Trust
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Fr. E. George Saletrik, Pastor

July 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians of Confirmation Candidates,

I hope you and your family are having a wonderful start to summer! It's hard to believe that it's time to start thinking about Confirmation already. Please note that everything in this packet is required for all youth preparing to receive Confirmation this school year whether they attend Catholic School or our Parish Faith Formation program.

Confirmation is scheduled for **Monday, May 13, 2024 at 7:00pm at Mother of Sorrows Parish in Murrysville**. Bishop Kulick is making some changes to Confirmation this year. Confirmation will be during a Mass (not a liturgy service as in past years). I will let you know any changes as I get the information from the diocese.

This will be an exciting time as your child starts the second year of Confirmation prep but it will also be a very busy year. There are a few requirements and lots of information you need. Hopefully this packet will help keep everything organized.

I know the check list is a little long, but basically, the big things are: the **pre-Confirmation interview** that can be done over the summer or any time until October 26th, the **family Service Project** can be done over the summer or any time until the end of February, attending the **8th Grade Confirmation workshop** currently scheduled for Thursday, October 26th, attending a **diocesan sponsored Confirmation Retreat** (dates and times TBD), and **Meet the Bishop** (new this year) currently scheduled for our region on Sunday, January, 28th at Our Lady of Grace Parish in Greensburg. And of course, there's some paperwork, too.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Joyfully in Christ,

Karen

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Confirmation Requirements and Checklist 2023-2024

Choose a **Sponsor**

(see separate sheet for eligibility or contact the Office of Faith Formation)

Research and choose a **Confirmation (Saint) name**

Submit completed **Confirmation Information Form** to the Office of Faith Formation

(due by October 26, 2023)

Submit copy of **Baptismal Certificate** to Office of Faith Formation with the Confirmation Information Form - contact the Parish of Baptism to request a copy
(not required if Baptized at St. Regis)

Submit a completed **Sponsor Eligibility Form** to the Office of Faith Formation with the Confirmation Information Form (please note that every parish uses a different form, I do not have one to give you, the sponsor's parish will provide)

(The sponsor must contact his/her parish to request. Please note that this **may take a few weeks to receive.** Both the sponsor and the pastor must sign the form. Please note that if your sponsor is a member of St. Regis, he/she must contact the Parish Office and then meet with Father George so both can sign the form)

Complete the **Confirmation (Saint) name worksheet** and submit with the Confirmation Information Form

Attend **pre-Confirmation interview**. Contact Karen in the Office of Faith Formation to schedule **(due by October 26, 2023)**

Attend **8th Grade Confirmation workshop (currently scheduled for Thursday, October 26, 2023)**

Meet the Bishop - This is a new diocesan requirement and is currently scheduled for Sunday, January 28, 2024 from 3:00pm-5:30pm at Our Lady of Grace in Greensburg. If this date is not convenient, please contact me as soon as possible for other possible dates/places.

Attend a **diocesan sponsored Confirmation Retreat**

(more details will be given as the information becomes available)

Complete the **Service Project Reflection sheet (due by the end of February 2023)**

Attend **practice** at Mother of Sorrows (date and time TBD)

Attend Mass regularly and receive **Reconciliation** (be in a state of Grace) before Confirmation

Attend **two years of Confirmation Preparation**

(Catholic School or Faith Formation class, usually in 7th and 8th grades)

Sign and return **Candidate Commitment Form**

Confirmation Name

Choosing a Confirmation name is an important part of sacrament preparation. In choosing a Confirmation name, select the name of a saint with a life story that you can relate to or who possesses Christian qualities that you would like to aspire to in your own faith journey. Choose a **person**, not just a name. You will gain a role model in faith and a powerful intercessor for you.

To research saints, you can consult a book of Catholic saints or search online. Here are some online sources:

- ✓ <https://www.catholic.org/saints/>
- ✓ <https://catholicsaints.info/>
- ✓ <https://mycatholic.life/saints/>
- ✓ <http://www.catholic-saints.info/patron-saints/>

Some questions to consider when choosing a saint name:

- What are your greatest passions?
- What do you find most interesting?
- What do you think you would like to be when you grow up?
- What are your God given talents/gifts?
- Which saints have a feast day on your birthday or the day you were Baptized?
- What do you struggle with or need the most help with?
- What are your hobbies?
- What qualities do you admire most?

Please fill out the worksheet on the back of this page and turn it in to the Office of Faith Formation with your Confirmation Information Form.

Confirmation Name Worksheet

Candidate's Name:

Confirmation (Saint) Name:

Your saint's feast day (if applicable):

Your saint is the patron of (if applicable):

Reason for choosing this saint:

Confirmation Service Project Reflection Sheet

Candidate's Name _____

Date of Activity _____

Organization Name _____

Organization Phone Number _____

Organization Contact Name and Title _____

Description of activity.

How did this service activity help others or draw me closer to Christ?

Why is it important to take time to serve others as we prepare for Confirmation?

St. Regis Pre-Confirmation Possible Interview Questions 2023-2024

1. How would you describe God/what is your relationship with God?
2. Has your relationship with God changed since your first Holy Communion?
3. If you were to meet someone who had never heard of Jesus, who would you say he is?
4. What are some things you like about being Catholic?
5. What is prayer? How do you pray?
6. What is the Eucharist to you? Has your understanding and participation in the Mass changed in any way since your First Holy Communion?
7. What is Confirmation?
8. Why do you want to receive this sacrament?
9. How will you live out your faith as a confirmed, adult member of the Church?
10. Have you chosen a saint name? What did you pick and why?
11. Have you chosen a sponsor? Why did you choose him or her?
12. What are some things you can do to continue to grow in your faith?
13. If someone asked you how to get to heaven, what would you say?
14. Pray the Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be prayers
15. Do you have any questions before receiving Confirmation?

Confirmation Sponsor Role and Qualifications

The Diocese of Greensburg has official qualifications of confirmation sponsors, as well as several guidelines and/or recommendations.

Qualifications of Confirmation Sponsors

1. Be designated by the candidate, by the parents or guardians, or the pastor.
2. Have the qualifications and intention of performing the role of sponsor.
3. Be at least 16 years old.
4. Be a fully initiated Catholic (received baptism, confirmation and Eucharist).
5. Lead a life in harmony with the faith and role of a sponsor (i.e., be a member of a parish, attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, not be in an irregular marriage, etc.).
6. Not be bound by a canonical penalty.
7. Not be the father or mother of the one to be confirmed.

Sponsors for the sacrament of confirmation must abide by the same qualifications as sponsors for the sacrament of baptism. In addition, the following guidelines and/or recommendations apply:

1. There is normally one sponsor for the sacrament of confirmation.
2. It is recommended that a baptismal godparent exercise the role of confirmation sponsor.
3. A non-Catholic may not serve as a sponsor for the sacrament of confirmation. (It is discouraged that a spouse serve as confirmation sponsor).

Our diocese continues the practice of requiring proof of eligibility for sponsorship (in accord with the qualifications above) from the parish in which the sponsor is registered.

Role of a Confirmation Sponsor

There are 3 main roles of a Confirmation sponsor:

1. Is a role model in the Faith.
2. Is a companion on the candidate's faith journey.
3. Is a witness for the candidate before the Church. Their presence at the Confirmation celebration publicly proclaims the candidate's readiness to become fully initiated into the Catholic community.



CANDIDATE COMMITMENT

“For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”

—Jeremiah 29:11

As a baptized Catholic, I am preparing for reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation, by which I will be more perfectly bound to the Catholic Church and enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the Faith as a witness of Christ.

As a candidate for Confirmation, I promise the following:

- I will approach my Confirmation journey with an open mind and an open heart.
- I will attend and will fully participate in all *Chosen* sessions and activities.
- I will be respectful of the leaders and facilitators of the program and show appreciation for their time and effort.
- I will show respect to those in my class who are on the journey with me.
- I will attend Mass every Sunday and on all holy days of obligation.
- I will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before my Confirmation.
- I will accept more responsibility in my family, parish, and community by putting my talents and gifts at the service of others.
- I will commit to daily prayer, praying especially for growth in faith, hope, and love.

As I make these promises, I ask God to give me the grace to be open to his plans for my life—plans he reveals to me in prayer, in my talents and aspirations, and in the encouragement of those who know and love me. I place myself in the loving embrace of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in asking for help in fulfilling this commitment.

Name of Candidate (Print)

Signature of Candidate

Date

Witnessed by: _____

Signature(s) of Candidate's Parent(s)/Legal Guardian(s)