

Confirmation Discernment & Preparation

In Confirmation, the Christian becomes more closely united with Christ. With the strengthening of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit the Christian is able to accept new responsibilities for witnessing Jesus to the world.

Our Faith Formation staff collaborates with parents to prepare children & teens for the reception of Sacraments. What we have learned is that just as for adults, there should be a discernment process for children & teens and their parents as they prepare for the Sacraments. It doesn't have to be and shouldn't be a one size fits all; we all have a different path on the journey to discovering and encountering God's love.

When parents feel their teen is ready, they will enter the preparation period for sacraments. As you prepare your teen for the Sacrament of Confirmation and decide he/she is ready, please contact the Karen Paonessa, Confirmation Coordinator, kpaonessa@transfiguration.com, to meet and discuss their preparation and schedule a date for the reception of Confirmation.

As you consider preparing your teen for Confirmation, the most important preparation includes coming to Mass, praying at home, participating in Our Great Journey Family Faith sessions, sharing faith at home.

Below are the details and dates for the immediate preparation for the Confirmation:

- The discernment process may begin as early as 8th grade. This process must include participation in 2 previous and continuous years of Faith Formation as well as participating in the Confirmation/Antioch Retreat.
- The immediate preparation year begins the following August after 2 years of discernment and Faith Formation participation is complete. The earliest grade that immediate preparation can begin is 10th grade.
- Each teen must participate in the **Antioch Retreat** prior to celebrating Confirmation. This retreat is offered to teens in 10th grade or older.
- Each Confirmation candidate is asked to **complete 25 hours of service** prior to Confirmation, as teens experience living their faith through active service. Teens can begin service hours in 6th grade and complete them in the beginning of their confirmation year. Service can be submitted [online](#).
- Contact Karen Paonessa, kpaonessa@transfiguration.com, when your teen is ready for immediate preparation for Confirmation.

All the following paperwork must be completed for immediate preparation to begin.

- The online [E-Journal](#) should be completed by the teen with their sponsor or parent.
- Complete the [registration form](#) for Confirmation and the Antioch Retreat.
- Submit a **copy of the Baptismal certificate** if your child was not baptized at Transfiguration.

- If the teen's sponsor is from another Catholic Church, a **sponsor certificate** is needed.
- Attend the **Inscription Rite** for those preparing to receive Confirmation in 2024, January 14, 5 pm Mass.
- After completing the preparation, contact Karen to **review preparation and schedule a date for Confirmation.**
- **Options** for celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation:
 - **TBD** – Confirmation with Archbishop or Bishop (Usually in February)
 - Pentecost, **May 19, 2024, Mass** with Fr. Eric and adult confirmandi
 - **Saturday, October 20, 2024, Mass** with Fr. Eric

Parents & Teens are required to attend a Confirmation meeting in **May and September.**

(This meeting is for those who will be confirmed during the current school year.)

Service Summary Sheets should be turned in to the ChrisTeen office as detailed below.

- A Service Summary Sheet must be submitted at the end of 8th grade with a minimum of 10 service hours (at least 5 through activities/ministries at Transfiguration). These hours are for service done in the 6th and 8th-grade years.
- A Service Summary Sheet must be submitted at the end of 9th grade with a minimum of 10 new service hours (at least 5 through activities/ministries at Transfiguration).
- A Service Summary Sheet must be submitted in the fall of 10th grade with a minimum of 5 new service hours (at least 2-1/2 through activities/ministries at Transfiguration).
- New service hours must be completed each year. Students are highly encouraged to go beyond the minimum requirements, but extra hours do not count towards the next years' service. Failure to meet the minimum requirements will delay the student's Confirmation date.

There is a preparation/registration fee to cover the additional costs (workbooks, retreats, certificates, refreshments, etc). This is in addition to the regular Faith Formation registration fee.

For all of the current Confirmation forms and pertinent dates for the current class, visit the **Confirmation Corner**

High school Students Seeking Confirmation: email Karen Paonessa: kpaonessa@transfiguration.com or 678-223-7348.