

# CONFIRMATION

## Frequently Asked Questions

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### **Q1. When is rehearsal? Do the parents need to attend rehearsal? Sponsors?**

Rehearsal will most likely be held the Saturday prior to Confirmation from about 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. All Candidates and sponsors are required to participate in rehearsal. At rehearsal, a parent may stand in for a sponsor who is out-of-town. After the rehearsal, sponsors will be invited to give a 1 minute witness statement about their candidate's growth in faith during their journey towards Confirmation.

### **Q2. What is the sponsor 'witness' talk? What if the sponsor cannot attend rehearsal?**

It's our custom to ask sponsors to stand up and say a few words about their candidate at the end of rehearsal. It's an important way to affirm the spiritual journey of the Confirmandi. In the absence of a sponsor, one parent should plan to speak. After naming your candidate, you may wish to speak about:

- a) How you see him/her trying to live as a disciple of Christ at home, school, community
- b) an example of how he/she has grown in faith through this spiritual journey
- c) your faith hopes for your candidate....

Talks should be very brief. About 30 - 60 seconds. It's important to limit the talk so that all will have a chance to speak. These 'witness talks' have been a very exciting custom in our parish!

### **Q3. When is Confirmation?** You will receive a letter notifying you of the date as soon as we are notified by the Archbishop.

**Q4. What are the dress guidelines for Confirmandi?** Our attire should reflect a spirit of celebration, modesty and respect for the Mass and our guest Presider, Bishop Holley. We should be 'dressed up'.

Ladies ~ a dress or skirt with dress shoes (manageable heel height.)

Modesty dictates that no midriff skin or undergarments be visible. Hemline should fall near or just above the knee. Please do not wear a mini skirt or spaghetti strap dresses. It is preferred that shoulders be covered.

Gentlemen~ Collared dress shirt and tie required. Suit or sport coat preferred, but not required. Dress pants or khakis (please, **no jeans**). Dress shoes and socks (**no sneakers or athletic shoes**).

We appreciate your cooperation with these dress guidelines.

**Q5. How long will the Confirmation Mass be? Is there a reception?** We estimate 1 ½ - 2 hours for the liturgy. We ask that all candidates, guests and family participate in the entire Mass by staying until the final blessing, song and recessional. We celebrate as a community and it is disruptive when people exit early. All are invited to attend a brief reception in the Narthex after the Mass, sponsored by the *Catholic Daughters*.

**Q6. Will we sit with our Confirmation candidate at the Mass? Will families have reserved seating?** Only candidates and their sponsors will have assigned seating in reserved pews. The rest of the pews will be open-seating for families and guests. We ask that you not 'reserve' pews and highly recommend that your guests arrive and be seated at least 20 minutes prior to Mass.

**Q7. May we take photos/videos at the Mass?** Yes, within the following guidelines:

- photos/videos must be taken *from your seat* in a way that does not interfere with the reverence of the sacred Mass or block the view of other people in the assembly.
- **No** tripods are allowed

The Confirmandi, Bishop Holley and Father Pierce will gather in the sanctuary for a group photo opportunity *after* Mass. At this time, parents, family and friends may come forward to take photos of the group.

**Q8. Should the Confirmation Candidate go to confession prior to Confirmation? Yes.** The Church requires candidates to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation prior to Confirmation. In this way, we approach the sacrament in an unburdened state. We will not have a separate reconciliation service, but will provide additional confession times. You may call any parish and request confession by appointment.

We look forward to celebrating the sacrament of Confirmation with you!

*For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, "Abba, Father!" (Rom. 8:14-15)*