



CONFIRMATION

DIVINE MERCY CATHOLIC PARISH

IMPORTANT DATES FOR CONFIRMATION

The Confirmation Retreat will be held on Saturday, March 7 from 9 AM until 2 PM. This retreat is **mandatory** for Confirmation Candidates and their sponsors. If a sponsor cannot attend, a parent or grandparent can come in their place. Please get this date on your calendar now!

The celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation will take place on **Sunday, March 8 at 3 PM at Holy Rosary Cathedral in Toledo, OH.** We have such a large Confirmation class this year that we would no be able to fit in any of our church locations. There will be students from other parishes celebrating Confirmation at this same Mass. Candidates and sponsors will have reserved seating for the Mass and are normally asked to be in their seats 45 min prior to the beginning of Mass for instructions and practice. With the Confirmation Mass and pictures with the Bishop, plan to be at the Cathedral until about 5 PM.

DRESS CODE FOR THE CONFIRMATION MASS

The following guidelines for appropriate attire come from the document “Sacramental and Liturgical Planning” from the Diocese of Toledo.

For the Liturgy of Confirmation the candidates and their sponsors should wear “appropriate attire.” Contemporary society does not provide much guidance as to what is truly “appropriate,” so some specific direction needs to be given.

The U. S. Bishops state that “as Christians we should dress in a modest manner, wearing clothes that reflect our reverence for God and that manifest our respect for the dignity of the liturgy and for one another” (Happy Are Those Who are Called to His Supper, p 15).

Jeans, shorts, tennis shoes, and flip-flops are not appropriate.

Boys must wear a dress shirt, tie, and dress shoes. A suit jacket is optional.

Girls’ shoulders should be covered. If they wear sleeveless, strapless, or spaghetti strap dresses, then they are to wear a sweater or shawl as well. Care should be taken that skirt and dress lengths are not too short.



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SPONSOR INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

To most Catholics, being asked to serve as a Confirmation sponsor is a real honor! Please do not feel like you are asking too much of a person by asking them to take on this important role. In selecting your sponsor, please consider the following guidelines:

- A sponsor must be at least 16 years old.
- A sponsor **MUST** be a fully initiated Catholic who has celebrated the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist and who practices their faith.
- If the sponsor is married, they must have been married in the Catholic Church or have had their marriage validated by the Church.
- Whenever possible, a baptismal godparent serves as sponsor to the Confirmation candidate.
- A sponsor may not be the mother or father of the candidate.
- A sponsor must demonstrate a willingness and capacity to engage in the Confirmation process as a means of enhancing his or her own growth as a Catholic adult.
- A sponsor will be willing to provide spiritual guidance and prayerful support. He or she serves as a companion and mentor to the candidate and will be expected to communicate openly with the candidate, helping the candidate with questions and concerns that may arise as a result of the Confirmation process.
- It is important that sponsors be active, participating members of their parishes in order to model the expectations we have of the candidates. Therefore, we require each sponsor to turn in a “Sponsor Eligibility Form” to verify active membership.





Divine Mercy Catholic Parish

Sponsor Eligibility Form

Please return to the parish office
417 N Main St.
Paulding, OH 45879

Please complete this top portion.

Sponsor's Name _____

Sponsor's Mailing Address _____

Sponsor's Email Address _____

Sponsor will act as a Sponsor for Confirmation

For _____

Candidate's Name

I understand and accept the responsibility of being a sponsor. I promise to be a support and example by living a Catholic life that reflects the spirit and teachings of the Catholic Church. I am prepared to assist by my presence, encouragement, and prayers.

Sponsor's signature _____



The bottom portion is to be completed by the sponsor's home parish.

This sponsor is:

- An active member of this parish
- At least 16 years of age
- Has received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist
- Leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role of sponsor
- Not the parent or guardian of the candidate

Priest's signature _____ Date: _____

Parish name _____

Parish address _____



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COMMON CATHOLIC PRAYERS

Students are required to have the following prayers memorized before they receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Sign of the Cross

+ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Glory Be

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

The Act of Contrition

(You may memorize any version of the Act of Contrition. There are many versions. Here is one example:)

O My God,
I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.
In choosing to do wrong
and failing to do good,
I have sinned against you
whom I should love above all things.
I firmly intend, with your help,
to do penance,
to sin no more,
and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.
Our Savior Jesus Christ
suffered and died for us.
In his name, my God, have mercy. Amen.

The Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with you!
Blessed are you among women,
and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,

and in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by
the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again
from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand
of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge
the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.



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Confirmation students need to become very familiar with the following information:

1. Q: What is the definition of a Sacrament:?
A: A sacrament is an outward sign, instituted by Christ, to give grace.
2. Q: What is Confirmation?
A: Confirmation is the sacrament by which Catholics receive a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Through Confirmation, the Holy Spirit gives us the increased ability to practice our Catholic faith in every aspect of our lives and to witness Christ in every situation.
3. Q: Who is the ordinary minister of Confirmation?
A: The ordinary minister of Confirmation is the Bishop.
4. Q: How many times can you be confirmed?
A: You can only be confirmed one time.
5. Q: What is the **form** of Confirmation?
A: The Bishop says "Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit."
6. Q: What is the **matter** of Confirmation?
A: The matter of this sacrament includes the Holy Chrism (Blessed Oil) and the Laying on of hands by the Bishop.
7. Q: What does Confirmation accomplish in us?
A: Through Confirmation Jesus gives us:
 - an increase of the divine life
 - a new and deeper relationship with the Holy Spirit
 - the sacramental mark or character of Confirmation
 - an increase of strength to profess, defend, and spread the faith
8. Q: What are the Gifts of the Holy Spirit?
A: The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, knowledge, fortitude, counsel, piety, and fear of the Lord.
9. Q: What are the Fruits of the Holy Spirit?
A: The Fruits of the Holy Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.