

CONFIRMATION 2025

THE ROAD TO CONFIRMATION

Sept-Dec OR Jan-Apr	Participate in Alpha [pre-requisite to Confirmation]
Apr. 28, 6:30pm	Parent Info Meeting
Apr. 25	Registration Due (includes sponsor contact info, baptism info)
Apr-May, 90min.	Attend One Confirmation Kickoff Meeting <i>Tues, Apr. 29, 6:30-8pm [OR] Thurs, May 1, 6:30-8pm</i> <i>Wed, May 7, 6:30-8pm [OR] Sat, May 10, 9-10:30am</i> <i>Thurs, May 15, 6-7:30pm [OR] Sun, May 18, 8:50-10:15am</i> ➔ Required for candidate and sponsor. At this event you will receive materials, and all the information you need to get you started! ➔ Sign up for a slot here.
May-Sep	Meet with Sponsor for 5 Discussion Sessions: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Destination2. Your GPS3. Fueling Up4. Verso L'Alto5. Hit the Gas Hands-On Experiences (ideally completed with Sponsor) <ol style="list-style-type: none">6. One Prayer Experience7. One Service Experience
July 5 or 19	Half-way check-In ➔ Small Group Bonfire (Two Options); come to be with your friends & mentors who gathered for ministry nights this year – prayer and social; talk about how Confirmation process is going; answer questions.
Aug. 29-31 Sep. 26-28	Attend One Confirmation Retreat (Two Options) ➔ Friday – Sunday, select which option works for you <u>Location:</u> Pallottine Retreat Center, Elkhorn WI
Sept. 16-29	1-on-1 Wrap Up Meeting: Checklist & Form for Bishop Due ➔ For candidates only. Meet with Sarah for 15 min. Turn in completed, signed checklist and form for bishop.

MORE BELOW

Nov. 2, 6:30pm – 8:30pm Closing Vigil

➔ Final Dinner, Prayer & Rehearsal. Required for both Candidates and Sponsors.

**Nov. 4, 7pm
at Christ King**

Confirmation Mass with Bishop Haines

STEPS BELOW! KEEP READING!

REGISTER NOW

STEP #1: DISCERN - ARE YOU IN?

When you were baptized, you were adopted by the Father and given the opportunity to participate in Christ's role as Priest, Prophet, & King. Through Confirmation, God completes our Baptismal grace and deepens our call to live this three-fold mission. This is not a rite of passage or graduation from religious ed. It is a sacrament of mission and power, giving Christians the strength and grace to live out the mission of Jesus Christ and His Church.

Before pursuing this sacrament, here are a few questions you should consider:

- Do you desire to receive this sacrament? Perhaps you're unsure right now, and that's okay. But you need to make that decision before being Confirmed.
- Are you committed to attending weekly Sunday Mass? If not, and you still want to be Confirmed, you can start that habit now. If you are not ready to make a commitment to attend Mass regularly, you are not ready to be Confirmed.
- Can you confidently renew your baptismal promises? If you do not understand or agree with these promises (part of the Creed), but you'd like to still pursue Confirmation, contact Sarah.
 - Do you reject Satan? And all his works? And all his empty promises? Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth? Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father? Do you 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?
- How are you already living out your call as priest, prophet, and king? And if you're not, are you willing to make that commitment?
 - Priest: attend, worship, and participate at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. Even though we are not ordained priests, we still fulfill a priestly role at Mass by praying on behalf of the world and uniting our lives to Jesus' sacrifice.
 - Prophet: continue learning and growing in faith and wisdom. We are like prophets when we listen to God's truth through scripture, the catechism, and spiritual reading. We also fulfill this role when we share this Good News with others.
 - King: serve and lead within your family, parish, and community. The kingly role is one of servant leadership and governance. We can utilize our resources (time, talents, money, hands/feet) to "build God's kingdom," by serving others and leading pointing them to Christ.

After taking some time to ponder these questions, you may come to the conclusion that you are not ready to pursue Confirmation. Two thoughts on this:

- 1) That's okay! This does not make you a bad Christian or a bad son/daughter. Thank you for realizing that "your yes means yes and your no means no," (Mt. 5:37). I appreciate your integrity and courage; we definitely don't want you to stand before God and commit to something you have no intention of following through on.
- 2) We'll be here! Perhaps you aren't ready today but you might be ready in a few months or a few years. This is not a race – and you can pursue Confirmation anytime you are ready.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

STEP #2: CHOOSE A SPONSOR

Each candidate must choose someone to sponsor them. Your sponsor may be a godparent, a relative, a friend, or a role model in your life.

Qualifications of a sponsor:

1. Must be a fully initiated Catholic, having received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.
2. Sponsors are to be active members of a Catholic Church who attend Mass regularly. Ideally, you would choose someone from one of our three parishes.
3. Must be sufficiently mature in his/her commitment to Christ: committed to life as a disciple.
4. Must be a minimum age of 16 years. But, we recommend choosing someone who has been Confirmed for 5+ years.
5. The person chosen must have the intention of performing their role and assume an ongoing spiritual relationship with the candidate – this is not a one-time role!
6. Cannot be the parent of the Confirmation candidate. Siblings are not recommended but allowed.
7. Not prohibited by law (canon or civil) from exercising the role of sponsor.

The Commitment of a Sponsor:

1. Assist in the preparation for the Sacrament:
 - Meet with your candidate at least 6 times, leading the discussion with guidebook.
 - Pray for your candidate daily.
 - Attend the Confirmation Vigil Retreat.
 - Participate in a service and prayer experience with the candidate. If this is not possible, the candidate can complete on their own.
2. Accompany the candidate and present him/her to the bishop at the Confirmation Mass.
3. Help the candidate fulfill his baptismal promises faithfully by challenging and encouraging as needed.
4. Build this relationship. Go out of your way to know, love, and support your candidate.
5. Continuing to be a source of encouragement and guidance for the candidate after receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Traits of a Sponsor:

- A sponsor prays.
- A sponsor participates in the Liturgy and in the parish.
- A sponsor listens and is respectful.
- A sponsor serves as a bridge, helping the candidate understand and become familiar with the people, places and traditions of the Catholic faith the candidate is unfamiliar with.
- A sponsor respects the candidate's freedom, allowing the candidate to decide whether this is the right time to seek the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- A sponsor lives in a world of hope, feeling confident in being able to live their faith in the world.

Prayer for Choosing a Confirmation Sponsor

Holy Spirit, helper and guide, give me wisdom as I choose my Confirmation sponsor. Help me to choose a person of prayer who will teach me also to be a person of prayer, who will support me in difficult times, who will guide me to make good choices, and who will challenge me when I do not. Help me to choose someone who will love me and teach me to love Jesus. Thank you for giving me a community of people around me to support and guide me as I take this important step in becoming more fully a member of your Church. Amen.

STEP #3: PREPARE FOR THE JOURNEY

- **Sign Up For Your Kickoff Session:** Once you register, you'll be sent a [link](#) to sign up for a kickoff session. This 90 minute session is the necessary first step. Both you and your sponsor must be in attendance. At this meeting you will receive your materials, we'll go through the first session together, and set you up for success this summer. Available kickoff meeting dates:

Tues, Apr. 29, 6:30-8pm [OR] Fri, May 2, 4:30-6pm

Wed, May 7, 6:30-8pm [OR] Sat, May 10, 9-10:30am

Thurs, May 15, 6-7:30pm [OR] Sun, May 18, 8:50-10:15am

- **Supplies:** every Confirmation candidate should have a Catholic Bible (preferably New American). I also highly suggest that you have a Catechism. We'll reference it throughout the sessions. It is available online and in print.
 - **Catechism:** [First Edition](#) or [Second Edition](#) or [Online](#)
 - **Bible Suggestions:** [Amazon](#)

STEP #4: MEET

- Attend your scheduled kickoff session.
- Meet with your sponsor/mentor 5 additional times between May and October. These meetings are scheduled on your own time/location. They may be done at the parish, in a coffee shop/public place, or over Zoom (if absolutely necessary). Each sponsor and student will receive a handbook that provides discussion questions and prayer prompts for each meeting. Meetings are designed to be 60-75 minutes in length.
- Other Experiences: Each duo will also receive resources to help them complete a service and a prayer experience.
- Accountability: each student is responsible for recording when they met with their sponsor and having their sponsor sign off on it. This will be turned in at the one-on-one wrap up meeting in Sept.

STEP #5: MAKE THE COMMITMENT

- **Sept 16-29: Attend a one-on-one wrap up meeting with Core Team member.**
 - For candidates only. At this meeting, students will officially request the sacrament of Confirmation from the Church. Students should have completed all (or most) of their preparation with their sponsor and be able to make a commitment to pursue a Christian life.
 - Items to turn in: Students make this commitment by filling out a formal request to the bishop and submitting their completed, signed checklist.
- *What if I'm not ready?* If you are behind in your meetings, or aren't quite ready to make this big commitment, that's okay! You're welcome to be Confirmed in the spring at a neighboring parish, or next fall. We also have adults receive Confirmation each year!

STEP #6: RECEIVE

- **Closing Vigil:** Nov. 2, 6:30pm – 8:30pm
 - Potluck dinner, Prayer, and Rehearsal for the Confirmation Mass. Required for both Candidates and Sponsors.

- **Confirmation Mass:** Tuesday, November 4, 7pm with Bishop Haines at Christ King