

## Office of Religious Education

St. James the Apostle Parish  
490 South Park Blvd.  
Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

### 2022 - 2023 Confirmation Information (Final Year of Formation)

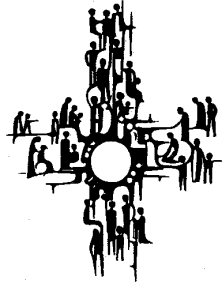
This year your son/daughter will be in their final year of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. We are very excited about this year and are happy to have your student receiving this sacrament at St. James. Our ministry in the Office of Religious Education is to support your efforts as a parent to raise your child of God in the faith that we all profess.

We recognize that there are many activities in your family's life; therefore, we wanted to give you the dates of the major events that your child will be required to attend in order to complete the two year formation process toward the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. These events and items are based on Diocesan regulations and attendance at these events and completion of the documents is **MANDATORY**.

In addition to attendance at the events listed below, an integral part of their formation has been, always will be, attendance at all classes. Absences of 3 or more classes may require a meeting between the candidate, parents and the RE staff to discuss the candidate's readiness to receive this sacrament. Thank you for your guidance to arrange your child's schedule to ensure their attendance at classes and the formation events.

As the dates approach we will provide you with additional details via our electronic newsletter, ***Sacramental REinders***, which is sent the last Friday of every month. Please keep an eye out for it.

We look forward to celebrating this sacrament with your child and your family. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office.



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The following dates have been set; please mark your calendar. More information and forms regarding specific requirements can be found on the parish website under Worship & Sacraments/Confirmation.

*Please note: Students that attend St. James School, please follow the instructions of your teacher to complete these formation requirements; some may be completed in class while others you will complete at home.*

- **Items Due October 1, 2022**

- Confirmation sponsor's name and email (a link will be provided in REminders in early Fall)
- RSVP to Confirmation Retreat, T-Shirt size & height for Confirmation gown  
(a link below to RSVP: will be provided in the REminders in early Fall)

- **November 5, 2022 - Confirmation retreat (candidate and sponsor)**

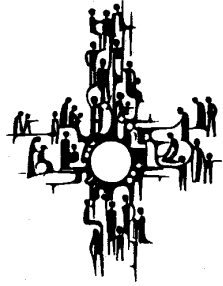
Diocesan policy states that all students wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation MUST attend a Confirmation retreat prior to the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. The St. James the Apostle Confirmation Retreat will be held from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM on November 5, 2022. If you know that your student will not be able to attend the retreat at St. James or **not be able to stay for the entire retreat**, please contact the RE office immediately so that we can try to make arrangements for the candidate to attend another retreat. If no other retreat can be arranged, your students' reception of the Sacrament will have to be postponed until this requirement is met.

***Each candidate's sponsor is also asked to attend the retreat with the Confirmandi.*** The sponsor will be interacting with the candidate throughout the retreat in preparation for Confirmation. If the sponsor is unavailable to attend the retreat, then we ask that a parent attend in the place of the sponsor.

- **Confirmation Enrollment Service (families are invited)** – will be during the retreat (more information to follow)

- **November, 2022 - Confirmation Assessment**

A Confirmation assessment will be given in November during class time before our students begin their final formation. In order that the students are prepared, a **Confirmation Assessment Study Guide** is available on the parish website under Worship & Sacraments/Confirmation. Please note, dependent on the student's score, they may be asked to correct their mistakes.



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- **Items Due Jan 15, 2023 Confirmation Sponsor's Required Materials**

- Confirmation Sponsor's Signed & Sealed Eligibility Form
- And, a copy of the Sponsor's Confirmation Certificate

- **Confirmation Interviews (candidate only)- date TBD**

A sign up will be sent to you to sign your child up for a time that fits your family's schedule. Sign up for each 20 minute session will be sent in December with slots filled on a first come/first serve basis. Interview questions will be sent to you after your student has signed up.

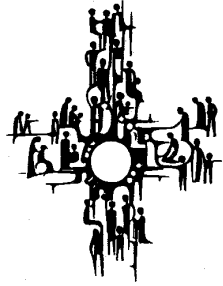
**Items Due at their interview:**

- Confirmation (Saint) Name Report
- Service Project (for final year)

- **Rehearsal for Rite of Confirmation (candidate and sponsor)** – Rehearsal for the Rite of Confirmation will be the day before the Confirmation Mass from 5:30-6:30 PM at St. James the Apostle Church. This is a **MANDATORY** rehearsal. Candidates and their sponsors **both** need to be present at the rehearsal as we will walk through the ceremony. If a candidate and sponsor are both not present, then it affects the seating and the ceremony itself for all the confirmation candidates. If for some reason, the candidate and/or sponsor cannot be present at the rehearsal, we ask that an adult member or friend of the family come so that the 2 assigned seats are occupied and so that they can explain the process to the candidate and the sponsor.
- **Mass for the Rite of Confirmation (all are welcome)** - awaiting date/time from the Diocese, which typically arrives in December. We have requested dates in March, 2023 (excluding Spring Break) but the Diocese provides the final time and date to each parish.

In order that all may enjoy and fully participate in the celebration, we note the following.

- There is plenty of room for all to join our Confirmandi. Please invite whomever you'd like to join your family in this celebration. The doors to the Church will be opened an hour before the celebration. If any family members require special accommodations or will be in a wheelchair, please contact our office so that we may reserve them a seat.



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- As required by the Diocese, please note, there will be **NO PHOTOGRAPHY** during the mass. We have a professional photographer scheduled to take pictures of the anointing. The framed photos will be available immediately following mass in the narthex for purchase. Please see the attached flier. The celebrant will be available for photos with the Confirmandi after the Sacrament in the church.
- Confirmation certificates will be in the narthex after mass for each student.
- Please remember the dress code for the Confirmation mass for both the candidates and their sponsors. We ask that all male confirmation candidates wear dress slacks, collared dress shirts and dark dress shoes (no sneakers). A tie is preferred, but optional. For female candidates, we ask that they wear dress shoes (no flip flops) with either slacks or dresses. Please encourage your child's sponsor to follow a similar dress code. Women sponsors are asked to maintain modesty in regard to the length of the skirt and their neckline while dress attire is requested of the men.
- Each candidate will be given their confirmation gown at the rehearsal. **Please try it on!!** If it does not fit, please let us know so that we can exchange it. **Do not iron the robe**, just hang it up and the wrinkles will come out prior to the Confirmation mass. You will wear it at the mass, then it is yours to keep.
- Each candidate will be given a name tag with your confirmation name to wear on their robe during the confirmation mass. The name tag will be at your assigned seat in the church. The celebrant will use this to call you by name during the anointing. Please place the name tag over your heart.
- If the candidate's confirmation name or sponsor has changed, please be sure to let us know ASAP. This information will be turned in to the Diocese to be placed on your sacramental record.
- Based on the timing of the celebration, there is no reception following the mass so that you may celebrate with your family and friends.
- If your child is sick the day of rehearsal or on the day of the Confirmation, please call the RE office and leave a message. We will get back to you as soon as we return to the office to make arrangements.