

Office of Religious Education

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

August 1, 2023

Dear Parents,

This year your son/daughter will begin their preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. We are very excited and are happy to have your student beginning the formation to receive this sacrament at St. James. The purpose of 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 events for this school year that your child will be required to fulfill in order to complete the first year of the two year formation process toward the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. These items are based on Diocesan regulations and completion of the documents is **MANDATORY**.

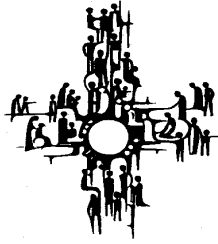
In addition to completion of the items listed below,, an integral part of their formation has been, and always will be, attendance at all classes. Absences of 3 or more classes may require a meeting between the candidate, parents and the RE staff to discuss the candidate's readiness to receive this sacrament.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

As the dates approach we will provide you with additional details via our electronic newsletter, ***Sacramental REminders***, which is sent at the end of every month. We primarily use email to communicate with you throughout the year, so if your email address changes, please notify us at your earliest convenience.

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.

Joyfully,

Lisa Weesner
Coordinator of Religious Education



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Requirements for those in their first year of their Confirmation formation are as follows with more information and useful forms regarding specific requirements on the parish website under Worship & Sacraments/Confirmation.

- **Service Project**
completion of a service project (is required for both years of formation (7th and 8th grade) and must be completed prior to registration for the 2nd year of Confirmation formation.
- **Formation Review**
an assessment will be given in mid-April during class time to ensure that the student is ready to begin their 2nd and final year of formation toward the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. In order that the students are prepared, a **Confirmation Formation 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.
- **Reflect on Sponsor:**
we ask the students to begin thinking about who they believe is a good steward of the Catholic faith and someone that will help guide them as they continue their travels of learning about our faith and our mission as His disciples. This person, who must meet certain requirements, will also interact with the candidates throughout their final year of formation.

As students enter their 2nd year of their Confirmation formation (typically 8th grade), there are more events and requirements that they must attend and complete. Detailed information will be available through our **Sacramental Reminders** email that is sent during the school year; and on the parish website.

Someone may ask themselves what happens if we don't attend these events or meet the requirements? The Diocese states that the Church will not deny the sacraments. The reception of the sacrament will be postponed until all missing requirements are fulfilled. This means that your child could either wait until the next mass at St. James, or attend a confirmation ceremony at another parish after they have completed all the requirements.