

# Preparing for Confirmation 2025

At Baptism we are reminded that “parents will be the first teachers of their child in the ways of faith,” and that “you must make it your constant care to bring your child up in the practice of the faith.” Now your child is ready to accept the responsibility to continue as a faithful follower and witness to the gospel. The parish offers assistance in this process through a sincere and effective program to fulfill Church law, which mandates that everyone must study and prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

In keeping with Diocesan mandates, the process for this formation is two years, typically 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade. In order to attain that end, the following is required preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation:

## Requirements for Preparation

### • Grade 8

- Weekly Mass attendance; class attendance
- Letter to the Attention of Father John requesting to be Part of the Confirmation Class – Submitted to Faith Formation Office by September 1, 2024 (see green sheet) \*
- Completed Sponsor Form – September 1, 2024 (see white form and instruction sheet) \*

### • Grade 9

- Weekly Mass attendance; and 80% class attendance, or no more than 2 absences.
- Ministry Project (pink sheet) – Due April 17, 2025

## Mass/Class Format and Attendance

The format for our 9<sup>th</sup> grade class is generally Mass/Class. Mass/Class is scheduled 5:00 -7:30 PM on approximately 15 Sundays throughout the year. Families should plan to attend the 5 PM Mass, sitting together in the pews reserved for the families of our Confirmation class. The Sunday Confirmation Mass/Class schedule will be sent out in August with the registration materials. All Confirmation Candidates, including those attending Catholic Schools, must attend the 9<sup>th</sup> grade classes here at St. Pius X. The 80% attendance policy means that **no more than 2 classes** can be missed during the 9<sup>th</sup> grade year of preparation.

We will provide catechesis sufficient to prepare candidates for the sacrament of Confirmation. The program will help the candidates realize that they belong to the holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, founded by Christ, and also to a local parish community where we share responsibilities and respect the rights of each member.

We will provide the necessary instruction and resources for parents and sponsors to ensure their ability to be guides and role models as they lead the children toward a deeper commitment of faith. We will keep parents informed of changes in the program as well as the activities of their child.

Each Candidate must complete 10 hours of Ministry service that reflects their understanding of the Works of Mercy and the responsibility to be Christ in the world.

*In the spirit of cooperation, we ask each candidate and parent understand and agree to the following:*

We know the importance of regular Mass attendance on Sundays and Holy days. As parents, we agree to accompany him/her whenever possible and to continue to be a spiritual role model, as a Candidate this demonstrates your understanding of your obligation.

Faith formation is a lifelong endeavor and religious education is part of that process. We understand why it is important to attend Mass, all catechetical sessions, complete all assignments in a timely manner, and not lightly excuse attendance. Due to the limited number of classes in 9<sup>th</sup> grade, we are aware that missing more than two classes would require an interview with Father John and/or the Director of Faith Formation.

We understand the importance of the retreat experience and will attend the event as required.

We understand the importance of the letter to Fr. John requesting to participate in the Sacrament of Confirmation. We will follow the instructions (outlined on green sheet) and will complete the sponsor form (signed by sponsor and priest) and understand both the letter and sponsor form must be turned in to the Office of Faith Formation, by **September 1, 2024**.

We appreciate the time and dedication of the staff, volunteers and guest speakers who are providing instruction, and agree to participate in Mass/Class regularly.

We understand that each candidate will complete a Ministry Project (see pink work sheet), a project that will demonstrate an understanding that to be a mature Christian means to be Christ in the world and to help those in need. This project will reflect an experience of the Works of Mercy (see purple sheet) and demonstrate that **at least 10 hours** were dedicated to the ministry project. This is due on or before **April 17, 2025**.

As a parent, I will guide and assist my child as they choose a practicing Catholic to be their sponsor and role model (see white sponsor form and other sheets for information). I will offer my own help when possible. I will continue to work with my child and offer encouragement as he/she grows in faith and Christian dignity.

# SIGN AND RETURN THIS PAGE ONLY

We have read the *Pledge of Commitment for Preparing for Confirmation 2025* and agree to follow the terms to the best of our ability.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Candidate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date