



# OUR LADY OF GRACE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

## THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

### FORMATION FAQ'S

#### **What is Confirmation?**

Confirmation is one of the Catholic Church's seven Sacraments and is one of three Sacraments of Initiation. This Sacrament originated with Pentecost as the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus' apostles. Today, Confirmation reaffirms our Baptismal promises, further unites us to the Church and is an opportunity to increase our reception of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

#### **What requirements are needed to be Confirmed?**

At Our Lady of Grace, the following must be completed over the course of two years in order to receive Confirmation:

- \*Attend 70% of Sunday Life Nights at least one year prior to Sacramental preparation year.
- \*Attend 70% of Sunday Life Nights during Sacramental preparation year.
- \*Attend THREE retreats (including the MANDATORY Spirit & Fire Confirmation Retreat) over the course of TWO years.
- \*Participate in TEN service hours in a PARISH MINISTRY over the course of TWO years.
- \*Attend all FOUR Confirmation Super Sundays during the Sacramental preparation year.
- \*Choose a Confirmation Sponsor and complete ONE spiritual activity with him/her.
- \*Select a Saint Name.
- \*Complete ONE Confirmation Interview at the end of the Sacramental preparation year.

#### **What retreats can I attend?**

There are several retreats available each year at Our Lady of Grace. These include:

- \*Life Teen Retreat (Fall)
- \*National Catholic Youth Conference, NCYC (November, every other year)
- \*Indianapolis Catholic Youth Conference, ICYC (November, every other year)
- \*Destination Jesus (February)
- \*Spirit & Fire – Mandatory Confirmation Retreat (February)
- \*Love & Leadership Retreat/Box City (April)
- \*Students attending Catholic school can count ONE retreat from school in his/her retreat requirement.

#### **Can I attend Spirit & Fire Retreat before my Sacramental preparation year?**

No. This is built into the process of the Sacramental preparation year.

#### **What paperwork or forms do I need for Confirmation?**

The following forms are required for Confirmation:

- \*Registration with the parish's Religious Education program
- \*Confirmation Filing Form
- \*Copy of student's Baptism Certificate
- \*Sponsor Certificate (if sponsor is from another parish)
- \*Sponsor Activity Form
- \*Saint Name Form

# FORMATION FAQ'S

## Who can be a sponsor? What does he/she need to do?

Any practicing Catholic who is Confirmed and is at least 16 years old can be a Confirmation Sponsor. A candidate's Sponsor cannot be his/her parent. The Sponsor will provide support and guidance during formation. He/she will complete a spiritual activity with the candidate (i.e. going to mass, doing a service project or having a conversation about faith).

## What is a service in a parish ministry?

In serving others, we learn to live out our Catholic faith. Confirmation candidates are required to do TEN hours of service in a parish ministry over the course of their two years in formation. Some examples may include being an altar server at parish Masses, delivering food for Monthly Graced Meals, teaching an ERE class, or attending the Parish Service Day. Students should fill out a Parish Service Form to be turned into the Confirmation Coordinator.

## How do I choose a Saint Name?

Over the course of two formation years, students will have many opportunities to learn about many different saints. They will be provided with resources to discover a saint with which the candidate most identifies.

## When are the required Confirmation events this year?

- \*Life Nights - Sundays from 5:30pm mass until 8:30pm
- \*Super Sunday Formation Days - Following Sundays from 1:00pm until 6:30pm  
September 28, November 9, March 15, & April 26
- \*Confirmation Retreat - Friday, February 27– Sunday, March 1(Parents are asked to attend Sunday)

## My child's schedule is really busy how can they get all this done?

Here are two examples of how a student might complete his/her requirements with only 4-5 commitments each year:

1st Year	2nd Year (Sacramental Preparation Year)
Attend 70% Life Nights	Attend 70% of Life Nights
Attend J-Fest Retreat	Attend Life Teen Retreat
Attend Parish Service Day	Attend Spirit & Fire (MANDATORY)
Sponsor Activity	Volunteer to Clean up after K of C Fish Fry
	Confirmation Interview

1st Year	2nd Year (Sacramental Preparation Year)
Attend 70% Life Nights	Attend 70% of Life Nights
Attend Life Teen Retreat	Attend Spirit & Fire (MANDATORY)
Attend NCYC	Confirmation Interview
Teach as an ERE Cadet Catechist	Sponsor Activity

## What if my child doesn't want to be confirmed?

We encourage each student to go through the formation process. During formation, questions can be answered and the student may grow in understanding of why Confirmation is an important step of faith. It is an individual's choice to be Confirmed and we are available to discuss this matter on an individual basis if a student or parent wishes!