

## **Confirmation Parent Meeting 2025-2026**

### *What is Confirmation?*

Confirmation is a sacramental outpouring of the Holy Spirit that leaves a permanent imprint on the soul, completes Christian initiation, and empowers us to be witnesses to Christ. (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, CCC 1302-1305)

Many people mistakenly see Confirmation as a teen's "graduation" from religious education, as merely a cultural passage into maturity, or as an opportunity to choose whether or not to remain Catholic. None of these views is consistent with the teaching of the Church on this powerful sacrament. Confirmation is not merely a symbolic ceremony or a rite of passage. While it is true that a candidate chooses whether to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and, with the reception of the sacrament, takes a step toward maturity, none of these facts capture the heart of the meaning of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

### *What happens at Confirmation?*

As with every sacrament, Confirmation does not merely symbolize a spiritual reality- it actually effects what it signifies. In Confirmation, our senses are fully engaged: We see the bishop's hand raise in anointing. The candidate feels and smells the chrism, or sacramental oil and hears the bishop proclaim, "Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit." What we physically see, hear, feel, and smell in Confirmation is an anointing, a sealing with the Holy Spirit. These visible elements are not merely symbolic: Working through what is visible and sensory, the same Holy Spirit who was poured out upon the apostles at Pentecost makes a home in the newly confirmed person's soul. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* lists five effects of this outpouring:

- It affirms our identity as children of God.
- It unites us more firmly to Christ.
- It increases in us the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- It strengthens our bond with the Church.
- It strengthens us to spread and defend the Faith by our words and actions, to be fearless witnesses to Christ and the power of the cross.

(see CCC 1303)

### **Confirmation Names**

In order to manifest the close relationship of Confirmation to Baptism, the candidates, according to the longstanding custom of the Church, may retain their baptismal name. However, a special name may be chosen if desired, in which case it should be that of a recognized saint of the Church, or a name not offensive to Christianity.

### **Choosing a Sponsor**

- Can be a Godparent or another positive faith-filled Catholic role model in your life (Parents cannot be Sponsors)
- Must be sufficiently mature in their faith commitment and at least 16 years old
- A sponsor must have the intention of performing their role: to assume an ongoing spiritual relationship with the candidate and to help strengthen their relationship with Christ and the Catholic Church.
- They will need to complete an affidavit to affirm their eligibility to serve as a representative of the Church community. Return to the St. Susanna Parish Office Attn: Shayne Reno.

### **New Session Format**

- You will register for a monthly Morning Session (10:45am-12pm /Meyer Center) or Evening Session (6:30pm-7:45pm /Meyer Center)
- At least one parent needs to be there with their child(ren). If a parent is unavailable a child's sponsor can stand in for them.
- If you are unable to attend a session that you have registered for, you are able to attend the other session if able. Just notify Shayne Reno: [renos@stsusanna.org](mailto:renos@stsusanna.org) asap.

### **Forms to Remember:**

- Candidate Commitment Form (To be turned in at 1st meeting)
- Sponsor Affidavit (To be filled out by your Sponsor/Returned by December)
- Copy of Baptismal Certificate (If not baptized at St. Susanna Returned ASAP)

## ***Confirmation Schedule 2025-2026***

**Confirmation Session #1:** October 12th @ 6:30pm — 7:45pm (Meyer Center)  
October 19th @ 10:45am — 12pm (Meyer Center)

**Confirmation Session #2:** November 9th @ 6:30pm — 7:45pm (Meyer Center)  
November 16th @ 10:45am — 12pm (Meyer Center)

**Confirmation Session #3:** December 14th @ 6:30pm — 7:45pm (Meyer Center)  
December 21st @ 10:45am — 12pm (Meyer Center)

**Confirmation Session #4:** January 11th @ 6:30pm — 7:45pm (Meyer Center)  
January 18th @ 10:45am — 12pm (Meyer Center)

**Confirmation Rehearsal #1** -- February 26th (Thur.) @ 6pm

**Confirmation Mass #1** -- March 4th (Wed.) @ 7pm

**Confirmation Rehearsal #2** -- March 19th (Thur.) @ 6pm

**Confirmation Mass #2** -- March 24th (Tue.) @ 7pm



## Candidate Commitment Form

As a baptized Catholic, I am preparing for reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation, by which I will complete The Sacraments of Initiation, enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit, to spread and defend the Faith as a witness of Christ.

As a candidate for Confirmation, I promise the following:

- *I will attend and fully participate in the (4) monthly Confirmation Preparation Sessions*
- *I will attend Mass every Sunday and on all holy days of obligation*
- *I will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before my Confirmation*
- *I will accept more responsibility in my family, parish and community by the giving of my time and talents in service to them*
- *I will commit to daily prayer, in striving to deepen my relationship with Christ and His Church*
- *If Confirmation requirements have not been met, I understand that the Pastor has the right to delay the conferral of the sacrament at his discretion*

As I make these promises, I ask God to give me the grace to be open to his plans for my life, and to aid me in fulfilling this commitment.

Name of Candidate : \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



# St. Susanna

Catholic Parish • Mason, Ohio

## ***Sponsor Affidavit***

Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Confirmation: \_\_\_\_\_

From the Catholic Church's Code of Canon Law:

***#893-1 To perform the role of sponsor (at Confirmation) it is necessary that a person fulfill the conditions mentioned in canon #874***

**#874-1 To be admitted to the role of sponsor, a person must:**

- A) Be a Baptized Catholic and have the qualifications and intention of performing this role;**
- B) Have completed their sixteenth year;**
- C) Be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has already received the sacrament of the Most Holy Eucharist and leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken;**

*(This means that the Catholic person is a fully initiated catholic (having celebrated Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist) and actively practices their Christian faith in their way of life and participation in their Catholic parish and the sacraments of the Church.)*

- D) If married, your marriage must be a recognized valid marriage in the Catholic Church**
- E) Not be the father or the mother of the one to be confirmed**

I \_\_\_\_\_

(Print full name)

have read and do understand the requirements for serving as a sponsor at Confirmation in the Catholic Church. I do solemnly swear that I am a fully initiated Catholic; that I practice my faith in the way I live and through participation in my parish and the sacraments of the Church; and that, if married, my marriage is recognized by the Catholic Church as a valid sacramental marriage. Therefore, I am eligible to be admitted to the role of sponsor.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Sponsor Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)