

Year Two

1. Church History
2. Grace
3. Sin & Reconciliation
4. Sacraments of Service
5. Justice & Solidarity
6. Medical Ethics
7. Sexuality
8. Living as Disciples: Trinity & Community
9. Moral Theology
10. Natural Law/Magisterium
11. Hebrew Scriptures
12. Conscience Formation
13. 10 Commandments & Beatitudes
14. Social Sin
15. Gifts & Fruits of the Holy Spirit
16. Christian Lifestyle & Vocations
17. Saints & Martyrs

Note:

All candidates will participate in interviews with parish staff before attending sessions #15-17 for immediate preparation.



***“...bear witness to Christ
for the building up of His
Body in faith and love.”***

(Rite of Confirmation, #2)

“Parents and pastors are to take care that the faithful are properly instructed to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and approach the Sacrament at the appropriate time.”

(Code of Canon Law, c. 890)

***Ask Jesus “what he wants
from you and be brave!”***

Vatican City, April 21, 2013 Pope Francis

Preparation for Confirmation helps young people embrace their life of Discipleship which began at Baptism.

Being a disciple of Jesus Christ involves every part of our being – our head (intellect), our heart (love), and our hands (service).

Candidates will have:

- Opportunities to grow in knowledge and understanding of the Gospel message through systematic catechesis. (Head)
- Opportunities to spark a passionate, heartfelt relationship with Jesus Christ through retreats, attendance at weekly Mass, and Scripture. (Heart)
- Opportunities to outwardly express faith through concrete actions in service to the community, and in exercising the Christian apostolate. (Hands)



**A Guide for
Parents**

**Confirmation
Preparation in the
Roman Catholic
Diocese of
Rochester, New York**



Candidates



- Preparation for Confirmation in the Diocese of Rochester is a two-year catechetical process (proximate preparation) that begins in the eighth grade.
- Catholic School students should be referred to their proper parish.
- Candidates who have special needs should have catechesis (teaching of the faith) appropriate to their capacity, and then celebrate Confirmation with the support of their family and faith community.
- Prior to the actual selection of a sponsor in year two, both candidates and parents will be instructed on the role and responsibility of a sponsor.
- Near the end of the two year process there will be opportunities for an interview between the candidate and pastoral leader to reflect on the candidates' self-understanding of their faith, their desire to seek Confirmation, and their commitment to a life-long journey of discipleship; and sessions for immediate preparation for the sacrament.

Parents/Guardians of Candidates

- “The single most important influence on the religious and spiritual lives of adolescents is their parents.” (*Soul Searching*, Christian Smith)
- Parents and guardians are invited to grow in their faith along with the candidates, and attend any sessions of interest.
- Two sessions in particular will be offered for parents and guardians on the meaning and theology of the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- Parents, guardians and candidates will together learn about the role and responsibility of a sponsor.
- Families are encouraged to join the candidates each weekend at Holy Mass, participate in opportunities for service in the community, and spend time together in prayer and reflection.

Jesus said, “Know that I am with you always; yes, to the end of time.”

(Matthew 28:30)



*Sponsors of Candidates

Pre-requisites:

- Must be at least 16 years old.
- Be a fully initiated Catholic: having received Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist
- Must lead a life of faith that is in accord with their commitment as a sponsor.
- Is not the father or mother of the one to be confirmed.

**It is desirable that the sponsor (godparent) at Baptism be chosen as sponsor for Confirmation, if he/she still meets the pre-requisites.*

Year One

1. Revelation: Scripture/Tradition
2. The Gospels
3. Trinity
4. Incarnation
5. Paschal Mystery
6. Church History
7. Nicene Creed
8. Mary: Mother of God
9. Church's Hierarchy
10. Baptism
11. Confirmation
12. Eucharist – Real Presence
13. Prayer
14. Chastity
15. Catholic Social Teaching
16. Moral Decision Making
17. Structure of Mass/Liturgical Yr

Note:

Sessions need not be taken in the order listed, but all of year one should be taken before year two.

Throughout both years candidates are expected to:

- Attend weekly Mass
- Reflect on Sunday Scriptures at sessions
- Seek opportunities for Sacramental Reconciliation
- Learn how to use the Bible and Catechism for reflection and learning
- Attend an annual retreat
- Participate in parish service opportunities