

Important Confirmation Preparation for Confirmation Group of 2023 before 1st Class on Oct. 10

Welcome to Year 1 of Confirmation Preparation for your Sacrament of Confirmation that will take place in April of 2023!

The sacrament of Confirmation celebrates the completion of Baptism and a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit, given through anointing with Sacred Chrism, accompanied by the laying on of hands and prayer, which strengthens the faithful as members of the Church to spread and defend the Catholic Faith by word and deed.

The Sacrament of Confirmation...

- Brings an increase and deepening of baptismal grace
- Roots us more deeply as children of the Father
- Unites us more firmly to Christ
- Increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit within us
- Renders our bond with the Church more perfect
- Gives a special strength of the Holy Spirit

...In order to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly and never be ashamed of the Cross. (See CCC 1303)

For Year 1, please follow these steps for the start of your Confirmation Journey:

1. Please fill out this quick form for name, year, upload Baptism Certificate, Sponsor's name & email, and how you are preparing for Confirmation. I am asking everyone to fill this form out, even if you have previously filled out the form from last week's family newsletter. (The previous form is not collecting responses correctly.)
 1. When choosing a sponsor, please follow these guidelines:
Cannot be a parent; At least 16 years old; Confirmed Catholic in good standing with the church; Does not have to be a local person; Basically a mentor, friend, relative - anyone you look up to and admire their values and their faith and want to have values and faith like them
2. Attend quarterly in-person preparation classes where you learn about the sacrament, what happens, a very broad overview of our faith, etc. Classes are **held at St. Cecilia** on 2nd Sundays of Oct., Nov., Jan., and Feb. from **2:00-4:30 PM**. We ask that you attend with your sponsor, if your sponsor is unavailable to attend, a parent(s) may attend with you. **Classes this year are October 10, November 14, January 9 and February 13.**
3. If you cannot attend in-person classes, there is a homestudy option that will be evaluated on an individual basis, please contact me at kgreiner@stceciliaparish.org for a request for this option.
4. *Candidates are also expected to attend weekly Faith Formation opportunities either High School Small Group Ministry or Life Teen as part of their sacrament preparation!* Weekly Faith Formation is about getting to know Jesus Christ, deepening & strengthening your relationship with Christ, and being in community with fellow peers journeying together to learn more about our faith while receiving care & support from our adult leaders who are mentoring & walking with you!

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. You may reach me at kgreiner@stceciliaparish.org, at 515-232-3514 ext. 358, or setting up a time to meet with me at <https://calendly.com/kgreiner/one-on-one> either in-person or over video call. Thank you!