



St. John Vianney Parish

Sacrament of Confirmation

Are you interested in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Please read the following before registering to begin the process.

What is Confirmation?

Confirmation, along with Baptism and Eucharist, is a Sacrament of Initiation. It seals (confirms) the vows of Baptism. Like Baptism, it can be received only once. Eucharist is the ongoing living out of the faith commitment made in Baptism and Confirmation.

Confirmation is a sacrament of spiritual growth that enables a person to stand before the world as a witness to the power of the Holy Spirit. The person being confirmed is committed to Christ and is ready to be a responsible worker in the Christian community.

How do I begin preparing to receive Confirmation?

There are a few things that need to be taken care of in order for you to begin the Confirmation process:

- † Are you registered in St. John Vianney Parish?
- † Are you a Baptized Catholic?
- † Are you entering your junior year of High School (or older)?
- † Are you active in St. John Vianney Parish?
- † Are you involved in our parish Youth Ministry program?

If you have not been Baptized, you are invited to be a part of our parish Christian Initiation process. If you have not been active in our parish and involved in the Youth Ministry program, you need to begin participating in the Youth Ministry Program for at least a year before beginning the Confirmation process. Contact the Pastoral Office at 939-7911x106, Faith Formation Office at 939-9544 or mwalton@sjvianney.org for details.

What happened? I thought every 8th grader received Confirmation?

In 1980, the Diocese of Oakland announced new guidelines concerning the Sacrament of Confirmation. These new guidelines required the Confirmation age be changed from junior high to high school or above (age 16 or older) and that it become a parish program rather than a Religious Education or Catholic school program. The intent was that Confirmation should be a personal decision of faith, rather than every 8th grader making Confirmation simply because they are in 8th grade.

How do I know if I am ready to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Not all 16-year olds are ready to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation any more than all 18-year olds are ready to receive the Sacrament of Marriage. The issue is the faith of the individual, which is something only you and God can judge. Faith is not something that happens to all people at the same time or in the same way. Confirmation is accepting the faith for yourself that your parents and godparents accepted for you at Baptism. You may be ready to do this at 16 or 18 or 25 or ...

Some questions to ask yourself –

- Am I ready to accept this faith for myself?
- Do I want to be a Catholic?
- Do I choose the Catholic church as my own and not just as my parent's church?
- Do I attend Mass regularly?
- Am I involved in my church? (Youth Group, Retreats, Altar Server, Teaching younger children, etc.)
- Am I willing to spend some time learning about the Catholic faith?
- Am I willing to spend some time doing parish service?

What if I'm not sure?

If you are unsure about taking this step, but are willing to spend some time learning about your faith and have met all the requirements, you are encouraged to register for our Confirmation preparation process. If at some stage of the preparation, you decide it is not for you or you are not ready just yet, that's fine. You can come back the following year or in the future.

What is the Confirmation Preparation Program at St. John Vianney?

Here's what you need to do:

- ✗ Be actively enrolled in Youth Ministry and involved in a service ministry.
- ✗ Participate in a Personal Interview scheduled in August or September.
--bring a copy of baptismal certificate
--show evidence of parish involvement
- ✗ Attend preparation classes from October through May.
- ✗ Select a Sponsor.
--You will need to choose a sponsor by end of September, as they should be able to attend our meetings.
--A sponsor needs to be a fully initiated Catholic whom you feel comfortable sharing your faith journey with.
Parents are not to be sponsors for their own children. Please let us know if you need help in finding someone to fulfill this role
- ✗ Meet individually with your sponsor after each class.
- ✗ Attend Rites, Retreat Weekend and the Rehearsal.
- ✗ Participate in the Sacrament of Confirmation and practice your faith.
-- In the Springtime scheduled according to the Bishop's calendar

How do I sign-up?

A registration form and emergency medical form can be obtained at the Catechetical Office or the Pastoral Office. Question??? -

-- Call Marie Walton at 939-7911 - Ext. 106 or mwalton@sjvianney.org

Calendar of Confirmation Preparation Process 2011- 2012

Event	Date	Time	Location
Session 1 – Candidate <i>Introductory Meeting</i>	Sunday September 25	9:00AM 10-12:30	Church Faith Formation Hall
**Rite of Entrance **Sponsor/ Candidate Meeting	Sunday October 9	9:00 AM 10-12:30 PM	Church Faith Formation Hall
Twilight Retreat	Sunday October 23	4:00-9:00 PM	Mullen Commons Vista
*Session 2 Motivation	Sunday November 6	9:00 AM 10:00-12:30 M	Church Faith Formation Hall
*Session 3 Morality	Sunday November 20	9:00 AM 10-12:30 PM	Church Faith Formation Hall
**Rite of Commitment **Session 4 Being a Catholic	Sunday December 4	9:00 AM 10-12:30 PM	Church Faith Formation Hall
*Session 5 Eucharist	Sunday December 18	9:00 AM 10-12:30 PM	Church Faith Formation Hall
*Session 6 Sacraments	Sunday January 8	9:00 AM 10-12:30 PM	Church Faith Formation Hall
*Session 7 Prayer	Sunday January 22	9:00 AM 10-12:30 PM	Church Faith Formation Hall
Weekend Retreat	Friday, Feb 3 - Sunday, Feb 5	7:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Diocesan Retreat Center
*Session 8 Scripture	Sunday February 26	9:00 AM 10-12:30 PM	Church Faith Formation Hall
** Sponsor/Candidate Retreat	Sunday March 11	2:00-6:00 PM	Mullen Commons
Stations of the Cross	Friday March 30	6:30 PM	Church
**Rite of Enrollment	Thursday April 5	7:00 PM	Church
**Rehearsal	To be determined		Church
**Rite of Confirmation	Sunday April 15	12:30 PM	Church
*Session 9 What Next?	Sunday May 6	9:00 AM 10-12:30 PM	Church Faith Formation Hall

* Sponsors are invited and encouraged to attend these sessions.

** Sponsors are required to attend these events.