

St. Matthew Church

1001 E. Schaumburg Road
Schaumburg, Illinois 60194
847-891-1220 Fax: 847-891-3140
stmatthewparish.org

October 1, 2023

Dear Confirmation Parents:

Over the next several weeks, you will be receiving more information from us related to the steps we need to take to ensure that your teen is ready for Confirmation on **Tuesday, April 30th, 2024**. The Mass will be at 7:00pm. For your planning purposes, I suggest you plan for the ceremony and pictures to take at least 2 hours. This is the current plan, subject to change based on the assignment of Bishops. We will let you know of any changes, should they occur.

The first step will be for your teen to select a Sponsor. You'll find a sponsor form included with this letter. I ask that you and your teen review the form select a Sponsor and **return the completed sponsor form and Confirmation Registry Form to us no later than December 4, 2023.**

I am asking that you work with your teen to answer the questions contained within the enclosed Confirmation packet. All questions are due no later than March 4, 2024. The goal of the assignment is for them to put into their own words what they have learned in preparation for Confirmation. I encourage you to work with them on this assignment. **It must be sent to us, as a pdf attachment, from your email to ensure you've had the chance to review their response, as well.** I'm sure you'll find that the assignment won't take them a lot of extra time for research, but it is meant to help them come to a better understanding of what the Sacrament of Confirmation is all about.

The teens are expected to attend Sunday Mass at least twice a month at St. Matthew. This requirement is in effect from this month through Confirmation. In addition, they should be completing and submitting a monthly service project related to one of the Works of Mercy.

A reminder ~ I would like you to write a letter to your teen. The goal of the letter is to let them know that you are proud of them ~ why Confirmation is something you think is important; and include some things you would like to say to them. The letter becomes a keepsake for them and will be opened by them later this year. Please place the letter in an envelope ~ seal it, and please address it to them. **The Confirmation assignment, including your sealed letter to your teen is to be returned to us by March 4, 2024.**

As always, should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Religious Education Office at 847-891-1220 ext. 139 If you prefer to e-mail any questions or concerns, please e-mail me at: mbartold.stmatthew@gmail.com.

Peace and all good!

Milissa Bartold
Pastoral Associate

Dates to Remember:

- December 4, 2023: Return completed Confirmation Registry Form and Sponsor Form.
- March 4, 2024 Return the completed Confirmation assignment paperwork.
- April 30, 2024 at 7pm Rite of Confirmation

CONFIRMATION REGISTRY BOOK INFORMATION

This information about the confirmation candidate is used to enter the information into our sacramental register. **Please Print Clearly**

First Name: _____

Middle Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Confirmation Name: _____

Birthdate: _____ Age: _____

Date of Baptism: _____

Name of Baptismal Church:

Address (include the zip code) of Baptismal Church:

Birth Parents' Names

Mother's First & MAIDEN Name:

Father's First & Last Name:

Your Address:

Sponsor's First & Last Name:

Office Use Only

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Please return this form by December 4, 2023 to:

St. Matthew Parish 1001 E Schaumburg Road . Schaumburg, IL 60194

St. Matthew Parish

Religious Education Program

Confirmation Sponsor Form

Student's Name _____ Sponsor's Name _____

The Sponsor's role is to assist the person in Christian Initiation. Also, together with the parent, the Sponsor presents the student for the Sacrament and helps to guide the student to live a life of holiness as a baptized Catholic. Being a sponsor is not just an honor given to a good friend or relative. Sponsorship implies a real appreciation of our Catholic Faith, a lifestyle that proclaims the truth, and sense of responsibility toward the young person being confirmed.

Please read the requirements for sponsorship before signing!
Canon 874 and 892 of the Code of Canon Law lists these requirements for the valid and lawful sponsorship for Confirmation:

A SPONSOR:

- Must be at least 16 years of age. Must be mature enough to undertake this responsibility.
- Must have received the three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.
- Must know and believe in the fundamental truths of the Faith and be a practicing Catholic who attends Mass on Sunday and receives the Sacraments regularly.
- If married, the sponsor must have been married in the Catholic Church. If single, the sponsor must be living singly according to the Church's teaching.
- Must not be the father or mother of the one to be confirmed.

This section must be filled out by the Sponsor!

I declare that I am a registered member of the parish listed below and that I fulfill the requirements to be a sponsor.

Sponsor Name _____ Date: _____
(Please print or type)

Sponsor's Signature _____

Name of Sponsor's Church _____ Phone : _____

This section must be filled out by the Sponsor's Catholic Church Parish!

I verify that this member, to my knowledge, is qualified to act as a Catholic sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Pastor's Signature: _____ Date _____

Parish Name: _____

Parish Address: _____

Parish Phone Number: _____

Parish
Seal

St. Matthew Parish

Religious Education Program

Instructions

- All reports should be in paragraph form. Each question should have an answer of at least one page. Please use an 11 point font. The assignment should be written in essay format, answering the questions within the context of an essay and not individual question/answer format.

#1: Confirmation Name Selection

for Reflection and Response

1. What confirmation name did you choose?
2. Why did you choose that name?
3. What are some important events that occurred in the life of the saint or other important Christian role model whose name you will share?
4. What about this saint inspires you to be a better Catholic and how is this saint a model for Christians today? (this must be included in the report)

#2: Why I Chose My Sponsor?

Question for Reflection and Response

Please share why you chose this person to be your sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Give examples of how your sponsor is living their life as a role model and a disciple of Jesus Christ. What quality of your sponsor do you think is most important? What is the most important thing that your sponsor has taught you?

#3: The Ten Commandments

Assignment:

In your own words, please explain each of the 10 Commandments.

- First, list the actual Commandment.
- Then, in your own words, explain what the Commandment means.
- Give an example of how someone follows the Commandment and
- An example of how one might break or disobey this Commandment.

Please type your response using full paragraphs. Be sure to include your name.

#4: What does Confirmation Mean to Me?

Assignment:

In your own words,

- Please explain what the Sacrament of Confirmation means to you and why you want to receive it.
- What have you learned about the Sacrament of Confirmation and why is it important?

Please type your response using full paragraphs. Be sure to include your name.

#5: The Sunday Mass

Assignment: Answer the following questions:

- Why are Catholics required to go to Mass on Sunday (or Saturday evening)?
- What does the Mass mean?
- Why are we supposed to go each week?
- What happens at Mass? What important event does each Mass celebrate?
- Why do we choose Sunday (instead of another day) as the day on which we must go to Mass?

Please type your response using full paragraphs. Be sure to include your name.

#6: The Works of Mercy

Assignment: Answer the following questions:

- Identify the Corporal Works of Mercy and explain what each one means.
- Explain how you can do each Corporal Work of Mercy.
- Identify the Spiritual Works of Mercy.
- Identify how you can do each spiritual work of mercy.

Please type your response using full paragraphs. Be sure to include your name.