



Confirmation

Confirmation is a Sacrament of Initiation that allows us to receive the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit and to be fully initiated in the Catholic faith. Children wishing to prepare for this sacrament should register with the Religious Education office. A parent or guardian must attend the General Sacramental Session held in October.

Confirmation enriches the soul of the person with deep graces of the Holy Spirit. Confirmation is the sacrament that calls us to witness courageously the gift of faith by word and, especially, by our example.

Bishop Matano wants to make sure every candidate for confirmation is well formed in his or her faith and understands how to live out the call to discipleship all Catholics have.

The new policy for Confirmation:

- Children must at least be in 8th grade to begin preparation.
- Children are to be enrolled in either Religious Education OR attend a Catholic School.
- This is the beginning of a 2 year process, with immediate preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation taking place in the spring of the 2nd year.
- Weekly Mass attendance is an expected and essential part of this process
- Service to parish and community is on-going.

Candidates and parents must attend two meetings at which the theology of the sacrament is explained and ways in which the family can best prepare for this experience are presented. Parental attendance within the past two years at *General Sacramental Session: Raising Your Child Catholic is a pre-requisite for any sacramental participation.*

For more detailed information regarding dates and times of required meetings/sessions, please see the weekly bulletin announcements or contact the Religious Education Office.

Confirmation or Chrismation is the second sacrament of Christian initiation. It is conferred by anointing with chrism, an oil into which balm has been mixed, giving it a special perfume, together with a special prayer that refers, in both its Western and Eastern variants, to a gift of the Holy Spirit that marks the recipient as with a seal. Through the sacrament the grace given in baptism is strengthened and deepened. Like baptism, confirmation may be received only once, and the recipient must be in a state of grace (meaning free from any known unconfessed mortal sin) in order to receive its effects. The "originating" minister of the sacrament is a validly consecrated bishop.

**Roman Catholic Church." [Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia.](#)