

2024 Confirmation program & registration

PLEASE READ THROUGH THIS SLIDESHOW

This slideshow is for both parents and candidates who are looking for more information and how to register.

You are always welcome to contact me with questions:
mwomack@staloyusparish.com

Note from MacDougall Womack

Dear parents and candidates,

I apologize that this is not a video. I recorded narration for this slide show, but my PowerPoint client won't export it. I will continue to work on it, and I will email you again when it works.

Meanwhile, these slides have the most important information about our Confirmation program and how to register. I will include supporting information in the notes section of each slide.

Please don't hesitate to email me with any questions and to proceed with registration.

Thank you!



T. MacDougall Womack, Jr.
Youth Minister

No notes.



Prayer

Lord, You send out Your Spirit to touch the hearts of all people, so that they may believe in You and in Jesus whom You sent.

Look kindly on all candidates for Confirmation as they listen to Your voice.

Open their hearts to Your Spirit and bring to fulfillment the good work that You have begun in them.

As we prepare these children for Confirmation, make each of us an instrument of Your love.

Teach us to appreciate what is holy in others, and to be patient with what we do not understand.

Deepen our faith in the Gospel and help us to pass it on by our example.

We pray that You will continue to guide us and sustain us.

Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

From St. Joseph on Carrollton Manor
stjoesbuckeystown.org

No notes.



Agenda

- What is Confirmation?
- Why should I be Confirmed?
- What do I attend?
- Who can be my sponsor?
- What is a sponsor's role?
- How can parents help?
- How do I register?

No notes.



What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is the third and final sacrament of initiation. It completes your baptism.

Confirmation mimics the feast of Pentecost, which is the birthday of our church!

“In Confirmation the soul of a baptized Christian is imprinted with a permanent seal that can be received only once and marks this individual forever as a Christian.” (YOUCAT 205)

No notes.



Why should I be Confirmed?

Teens, this is your choice to follow Christ and be active in His church.

You don't need to understand everything our church teaches to be confirmed. It is good to question and find your own reasons to believe.

Your family may pressure you to be confirmed; they probably want you to have the support and stability of our church's community, especially when they're no longer with you.

Teens, at your baptism your parents and godparents spoke for you. They promised to teach you our faith. Now you have an opportunity in Confirmation to take responsibility for yourself.

You do not need to be perfect to be Confirmed. No one is perfect.

What do I attend?

Orientation: August 25 (1 – 6 :30 pm)

Small group meetings: (7 – 9 pm)

1. September 8
2. September 22
3. October 6
4. October 20

Closing service: November 3 (1 – 6:30 pm)

Sacrament: November 4 & 6 (7 pm)

This is our schedule. All the dates are Sundays EXCEPT for the Sacramental dates.

Orientation includes 5:30 pm Mass.

Small group meetings are sometimes called “home sessions” because your small group leaders open their homes to host you.

Most small groups will change the default time (7 – 9 pm). That is ok! I put 7 – 9 pm on our schedule for two reasons: (a) to send the message that this is a significant time commitment, and (b) because it seems every other time on the weekend is spoken for by a sport, school, club, etc.

If you have conflicts on these small group dates, then please tell your small group leaders at orientation.

The Closing Service includes a rehearsal for the Confirmation Masses.

We are hosting two Confirmation Masses. You have the chance to give your preference on the online form. We will notify you of your assigned Mass by August.

Common questions

Who is eligible for Confirmation?

- Juniors and seniors who have received baptism and Eucharist and are current in their religious education.

What are small group meetings?

- Meetings hosted by two adult leaders, typically off campus.

Can non-parishioners participate?

- Yes. They need written permission from their pastor and Fr. Randy.

What if I miss an event?

- We will provide make-up material which should be completed and returned to MacDougall. Please let us know in advance if you can.

The slide says “juniors and seniors” because the program begins in August, which is the next school year. You register as sophomores and juniors.

Non-parishioners need to send me written permission from their pastor for them to participate in our program and receive the sacrament at St. Aloysius. I will bring said permission to Fr. Randy to get his permission. FYI, Fr. Randy is retiring as of July 1, 2024. It would be wise to move quickly on securing permission.

For each non-parishioner candidate we need at least one parent to be a small group leader throughout our program.

Who can be my sponsor?

1. Must be 16 or older
2. Must be someone other than the candidate's biological parent, adoptive parent, or step-parent
3. Must have received the Catholic Sacrament of Confirmation
4. Must participate in Sunday Mass and receive Reconciliation and Eucharist regularly
5. If married, marriage is recorded as the Catholic Sacrament of Marriage (i.e., by or "blessed" by a Catholic priest or deacon in a Catholic Church)
6. Must be a registered, active member of a Catholic parish

These are requirements set by our Church. I am not at liberty to modify them.

Regarding #5: this means you were married in the Catholic Church, witnessed by a Catholic priest or deacon, OR you were married outside the Catholic Church and later worked with a Catholic priest or deacon to make your marriage sacramental. Commonly referred to as having your marriage "blessed."

Please let me know if your potential sponsor was not married in the Catholic Church but is interested in working to make their marriage sacramental. I can put them in touch with Deacon Chauvin here at St. Aloysius.

What is a sponsor's role?

They should be someone with an active faith life which you want to emulate!

They should spend time with you outside our program. Ex: dinner, coffee, ice cream, Zoom, Facetime, etc.

They must complete a sponsor form. If they are not a St. Aloysius parishioner, then their pastor must sign it before submitting it.

<https://tinyurl.com/ConfSponsor24>

Sponsors attend orientation, closing service, and your Mass. They do not attend small group meetings. (They do not need to be local.)

Choose someone who has a faith life you admire.

Good, common choices: Grandparents, older siblings, aunts/uncles, Godparents, teachers/coaches, et. al.

Choose someone who understands that being a sponsor is a blessing and a responsibility and who will spend time with you OUTSIDE our orientation and closing service.

I need your help ensuring your sponsor submits a sponsor form. I will contact you to remind your sponsor if I have not received their form in time.

If your sponsors lives out of town/state and cannot attend orientation and/or the closing service then I can work with your family to send a suitable stand-in.

How can parents help?

We need small group leaders! Small groups are the teens' favorite part of the program.

Small group leaders participate at orientation, the four small group meetings, and the closing service.

You can volunteer with your spouse, a friend, or ask us to pair you with someone.

Each group has 6 – 8 teens. You can request your old Come, Lord Jesus group.

Your teen can be in your group.

The small group leaders always work in pairs.

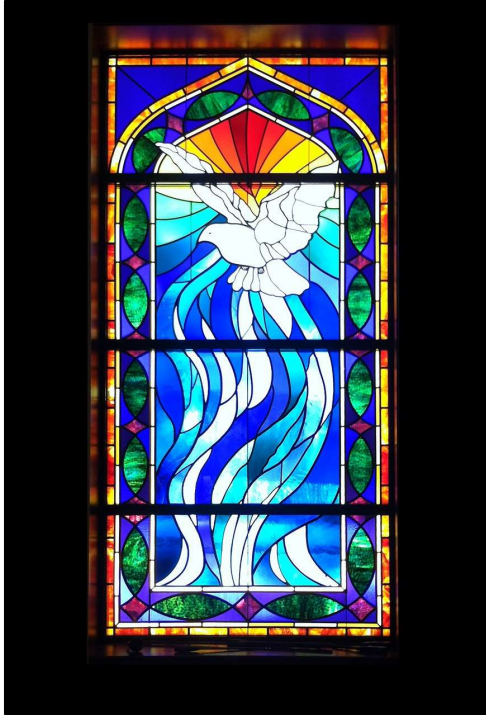
Small group meetings are wonderful because they aren't classroom-style learning, and the candidates can share what they have found to be true about their Catholic faith, their successes, their failures, what they don't understand, etc. That is so much harder to foster in a large-group setting!

How do I register?

1. Complete the online form: <https://tinyurl.com/ConfForm24>
2. Pay the \$55 fee (via check, cash, or online)
 - If the fee is difficult for your family please contact Fr. Randy directly; he is happy to help, and nobody else needs to know: rcuevas@stalloysiusparish.com
 - You will receive an email with a link to our payment site after submitting the form.
3. Submit a completed sponsor form: <https://tinyurl.com/ConfSponsor24>
4. Submit a COPY of the candidate's baptismal certificate if they were baptized at another church.
 - If you have misplaced the baptismal certificate you can call the church where the candidate was baptized for a copy. Ask them to mail it to YOU, not to St. Aloysius.

Form and fee are due by June 30. Baptism certificate by July 15. Sponsor form by July 31.

No notes.



What if I have questions?

Visit our website:

www.aloysius.org/confirmation

Contact MacDougall:

mwomack@stalloysiusparish.com

You are also welcome to contact Fr. Randy:

rcuevas@stalloysiusparish.com

Thank you for watching this video!

No notes.