

Overview of Confirmation Process



Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish Moorestown, New Jersey

At Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, Confirmation is celebrated in spring of eighth grade. The liturgy is held at **St. Isaac Jogues Parish in Marlton** to accommodate the confirmands, sponsors, and guests.

It is our hope that our candidates will truly understand their Confirmation is a process of life-long learning and participation in the parish and community. We thank you for your cooperation and involvement in this preparation process.

Please contact the Office of Religious Education for questions and details regarding the Confirmation process.
(856) 235-7136 reprogram@olgcnj.org

Information printed as of January 31, 2024. Policies subject to change.

Diocese of Trenton Guidelines: Confirmation

In the Sacrament of Confirmation, a baptized person is “sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit” and is strengthened for service to the Body of Christ. Confirmation is conferred upon those who have been instructed in their faith, and have demonstrated a willingness to participate in the life of the Church.

- The pastor or his delegate will determine readiness for reception of the sacrament.
- Readiness for candidacy will require that initial catechetical preparation has taken place and that potential candidates have been faithful in participating in the liturgical and sacramental life of the Church.
- If students cannot profess knowledge of their faith and are not regularly participating in the liturgical and sacramental life of the church, a more intensive program of additional or extended preparation will be offered to them before they are accepted as candidates.
- The right of the candidate to postpone reception of Confirmation at their own request should be carefully respected by parents, catechetical leader and the pastor.

(Diocese of Trenton: Parish Religious Education Administration Manual: 504, A-E: November 2012)

Outline of the Confirmation Program

Seventh Grade

Community Worship / Liturgical Ministry

Confirmation students are expected to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days. Confirmands are invited to serve as lectors, greeters, and musicians.

Religious Education Class

Candidates participate in religion classes. This includes the readiness for the sacrament of Confirmation.

Confirmation Sponsor / Eligibility Certificate

Candidates choose a confirmation sponsor and prepare a report why the person was chosen. A sponsor who is not a member of Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish will need a certificate stating he/she is eligible to be a sponsor.

Confirmation Name / Saint Research

Candidates choose a confirmation name, and prepare saint research based on this saint.

Study Guide / Assessment

Teachers will administer assessments during the year as part of the religion curriculum.

Service Experience / Reflection

The candidate is asked to volunteer 20 or more hours to a chosen service and to write a recap and reflection of the experience.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Reconciliation is available weekly on Saturday afternoons, as well weekdays in Advent and Lent. Students and their families are encouraged to celebrate the sacrament regularly.

Eighth Grade

Community Worship / Liturgical Ministry

Confirmation students are expected to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days. Confirmands are invited to serve as lectors, greeters, and musicians.

Religious Education Classes

Candidates participate in religion classes including the immediate preparation of the sacrament.

Sacramental Register Form

Parents complete the Sacramental Register Form for official parish record of Confirmation.

Confirmation Gown Orders

Parents completed order form and payment by the deadline requested.

Presentation of Completed Requirements

Completed confirmation requirements will be presented to the pastor at a special liturgy. Parents oversee that all items are submitted by the deadlines requested.

Confirmation Retreat

A retreat for the confirmands is planned prior to Confirmation.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

The confirmands celebrate Reconciliation before Confirmation.

Confirmation Practice

Students review Confirmation Rite, responses, and specifics prior to the celebration of the Sacrament.

Confirmation Liturgy

The Confirmation date is determined by the Bishop's Office. Specifics (time, seating, guests) will be provided to parents.

Dress Code

Appropriate church attire is to be worn under confirmation gowns, which includes dress shoes, dress shirt and tie for boys; dress outfit for girls. Both candidates and sponsors are to dress suitable and modest for the occasion.

Disability Seating

For events at OLG, the Church and Chapel are disability accessible. St. Isaac Jogues Church is disability accessible, and can accommodate wheelchairs and walkers at the end of most pews.

Photos

Flash photography is prohibited at the Confirmation liturgy. Please do not interrupt the flow of the liturgy, or post photos of other children to social media without parent permission.

Sacrament of Confirmation

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

Presider: Do you renounce Satan, and all his works, and all his empty promises?

Candidates: **I do.**

Presider: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth?

Candidates: **I do.**

Presider: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

Candidates: **I do.**

Presider: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who today through the Sacrament of Confirmation is given to you in a special way just as he was given to the Apostles on the day of Pentecost?

Candidates: **I do.**

Presider: Do you believe in the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

Candidates: **I do.**

Presider: This is our faith. This is the faith of the Church. We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Candidates: **Amen.**

Laying on of Hands

Anointing With Chrism

Presider: (*Confirmation name*), be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

Response: **Amen.**

Presider: Peace be with you.

Response: **And with your spirit.**