

*Saint Michael the Archangel*

# **CONFIRMATION HANDBOOK 2020–2021**

# MISSION

Saint Michael's Confirmation class is a sacramental preparation program focused in catechesis, formation, and mission of the Christian life to prepare each candidate for the sacrament of Confirmation.

## PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS

- Attendance and participation in catechesis at Saint Michael's Family of Faith programming for 8th grade, following the pre-requisite of participation in 7th grade.
- Attendance at a 3 part retreat at Saint Michael's parish
- Completion of 10 service hours
- Participation in our virtual saint fair
- Forms to be completed:
  - Sacramental Form: October 19th
  - Retreat Choice Form: October 19th
  - Sponsor Form: Nov 21st
  - Service Hour Form: March 6th

# SPONSOR-CANDIDATE RELATIONSHIP

Confirmation sponsors take on the responsibility of being a mentor of how to have a personal relationship with Jesus and how to live the faith outside of Mass. This is a huge responsibility! It is important for the candidates to seek out an individual that truly strives to live the Catholic lifestyle everyday. Sponsor and candidates should be meeting on a regular basis to discuss the candidate's questions about the faith, talk about their daily prayer life, and discuss how they can live the faith after Confirmation. The sponsor-candidate relationship should continue after Confirmation to help the newly confirmed student to continue to practice the faith in their daily life!

## **Sponsor Details:**

Sponsors must have their letter signed by their Parish Priest and turned in by **November 21st**.

When a sponsor is chosen, please make sure to share that they are agreeing to be present at all events where sponsors are needed. Sponsors **must be able** to be present at rehearsal, and the day of Confirmation. A Proxy (fill in) Sponsor can **only** be used in case of a family emergency or sudden illness. If the sponsor cannot be present at the rehearsal because of family emergency or illness, then the proxy sponsor must be present at the rehearsal and Confirmation. If a proxy sponsor is needed, they must also fulfill all of the requirements for a sponsor.

# CONFIRMATION SAINT

Saints are constantly interceding for our holiness. When the candidate chooses a Confirmation Saint, they are choosing a person in Heaven that will be praying for them into eternity. It can be impactful for candidates to choose a Saint that has meaning in their life. They could pick a Saint that struggled with a similar virtue or is a Patron Saint of something that relates to the candidate. Candidates will need to research Saints to find one that they desire to specifically ask for intercessions with during this journey.

This year will be our annual saint fair will be virtual! We will be having each candidate submit a video by **February 1st**. More details for the project requirements will be sent out at a future date!

# SERVICE HOURS

Service is a core mission value of the Catholic Church. The service hours for 8<sup>th</sup> grade are meant to be an introduction for the students to find a way that they enjoy serving the church and find where their gifts and talents are. This year, we are adapting our options to make service hours accessible to students. We will be requiring 10 hours of service. The service hour form is for all hours of service and can be turned in by **March 6th**.

# CONFIRMATION RETREATS

Saint Michael's will be running a 3 part retreat throughout the year to provide a space to be with God, learn what it means to be a confirmed Catholic, and how to be a witness to the world. The retreat dates will be **November 21st, January 9th, and March 6th from 8am-12pm.** Each retreat will incorporate breakfast, prayer and an hour of service.

**Students must participate in all 3 retreats for it to qualify as their retreat weekend. The fee for the all 3 retreat days is \$75.**

## DRESS CODE

The following are the expectations regarding dress code for both candidates and sponsors. This will take place inside the Church, so we want to make sure that clothing choices are honorable to the Lord in His house! Sponsors should also follow this same dress code.

### **Ladies:**

Dresses/shirts/blouses should not expose the midriff area, nor be strapless.

Chest and shoulders must be covered (sweaters and jackets are fine). Skirts or slacks with a blouse are also acceptable, and should still follow the above guidelines that apply.

Dresses or skirts should reach to the top of the knee cap (a good rule of thumb is that if the hem touches the

floor when kneeling, the length is appropriate). All candidates and sponsors will be part of the opening procession of the Mass and make a “profound inclination” at the sanctuary step—that is a full bow from the waist. Please make sure dress/skirt length is still modest when making such an inclination.

Hair should be neatly groomed.

Please wear dress shoes that you feel comfortable walking in.

### **Gentlemen:**

Dress pants and dress shirt with a tie.

Shirts must be tucked in.

Suit jackets are recommended and suggested, but not required.

Dress shoes are required; please do not wear sneakers or Sperry's.

Hair should be neatly groomed and cut to an appropriate length

## **CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL**

Students **must** be present at the Confirmation Rehearsal. If students are not present at the rehearsal, then they cannot receive Confirmation at the parish.

# IMPORTANT DATES

**October 14th:** Confirmation Parent Meeting 7pm

**October 19th:** Sacramental Form and Retreat Form  
Due

**November 21st:** Confirmation Retreat Day 1 8a-12p

**November 21st:** Sponsor Form Due

**January 9th:** Confirmation Retreat Day 2 8a-12p

**February 1:** Saint Video Due

**March 6th:** Confirmation Retreat Day 3 8a-12p

**March 6th:** Service Hours Due

**March 18th:** Confirmation Rehearsal 7-8:00PM,  
students and sponsors are required to attend (tentative)

**March 19th:** Confirmation 7PM with reception  
following, student and sponsor arrival time TBA. (tentative)

# CONTACT US

Katie Roden, Director of Evangelization  
[kroden@saintmichael-cd.org](mailto:kroden@saintmichael-cd.org)

Maggie Maurer, Director of Catechesis  
[msimon@saintmichael-cd.org](mailto:msimon@saintmichael-cd.org)

Website: [saintmichael-cd.org](http://saintmichael-cd.org)