



Dear Parishioner,

On behalf of the parish community of St. Joseph Church, I would like to extend the invitation to you and your family to take part in the Confirmation Program being offered by St. Joseph's Youth Ministry (SJYM).

The Confirmation Ministry program is open to high school students who have completed the 8th grade remote Confirmation preparation (religious education), are at least 14 years of age, and who are interested in beginning immediate preparation for Confirmation in Spring 2010.

Enclosed you will find:

- Confirmation Overview
- List of Dates and Deadlines
- Candidate Registration Form (Due May 11th by 4:00pm)
- Parent/Guardian Registration Form (Due May 11th by 4:00pm)
- Sponsor Registration Form (Due May 11th by 4:00pm)
- Retreat Preference Form (Due May 11th by 4:00pm)
- Registration Checklist

Please note that the Candidate Registration Form, Sponsor Registration Form and program fee are due by Monday, MAY 11th 2009 at 4:00pm to the St. Joseph's Rectory.

ALL Learning Session are required and will take place on Sunday evenings from 6:00-8:00pm in the Parish Center.

-The registration fee is **\$150.00** and is due by May 11, 2009
Checks can be made payable to *St. Joseph Youth Ministry*

A \$10 late fee will be applied to all registrations/payments received after this date.

No one is ever denied religious education or sacramental preparation because of lack of money to pay fees. If you are unable to pay the full amount, please contact the Parish Office immediately. Any donations for those who cannot cover their costs would be greatly appreciated.

On behalf of the entire Confirmation Ministry Team, we look forward to working with you and joining your family on its journey of sacramental preparation and full initiation into the Catholic Church!

Lauren Arroyo
Coordinator of Youth Ministry

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St. Joseph Fullerton Parish Confirmation Overview:

What is Confirmation?

Confirmation increases and deepens the grace first received at Baptism. It is the third Sacrament of Initiation following Baptism and Eucharist. It enables us to better approach God as Father, strengthens our bond with Christ, “increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us,” binds us more closely with the Church, and “gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action.” (CCC, 1303)

Confirmation Preparation has Two Stages:

- Remote Preparation: The year of religious education prior to immediate preparation received through either parochial school, parish religious education or youth ministry programs with systematic and intentional adolescent catechesis.
- Immediate Preparation: The brief program focused on the sacrament’s meaning and ritual which provides formation for full, conscious, and active participation in the Rite of Confirmation.

What the Archdiocese Requires of Immediate Preparation:

The Archdiocese of Baltimore requires all parishes to include certain components in the immediate phase of Confirmation preparation. Each requirement of the St. Joseph Fullerton Confirmation Program fulfills one of these components. For more information on how we fulfill these components, please visit the SJYM website:

www.stjoefullerton.org/SJYM/Confirmation.htm

Candidate Requirements:

Every candidate is required to participate in ALL of the following:

- » Attend Mass weekly and on Holy Days of Obligation
- » Complete 21 hours, at minimum, of service to community, parish and family
- » Confirmation Kick Off @ St. Isaac Jogues
- » ALL 5 Learning Sessions
- » Rite of Welcome & Commitment Mass
- » Candidate/Sponsor Reflection
- » Confirmation Overnight Retreat
- » Complete an *Entrance Interview* in the Fall and a *Pastoral Interview* in the Spring which allows for guidance, encouragement, discussions of faith, content, ownership of faith and continued growth.
- » Experience spiritual growth with their peers through 3 L.I.G.H.T. (St. Joseph’s High School Youth Ministry) activities
- » Confirmation Rehearsal and Liturgy

Parent/Guardian Requirements:

- » Attend the Parent/Sponsor Confirmation Seminar
- » Make every effort to get your teen to ALL required events
- » Support your teen in prayer and love

ST. JOSEPH FULLERTON PARISH CONFIRMATION OVERVIEW

What is a Confirmation Sponsor?

A Confirmation Sponsor is an invaluable assistant to parents in transmitting the faith. For that reason, parents cannot sponsor their own children. A sponsor is a sort of Catholic mentor. They should be good role models, comfortable in their faith, and able to be *active* in the mentoring process. It is *strongly encouraged* that the sponsor chosen lives within a reasonable proximity to allow for *active involvement*. Sponsors can be older adult friends whom the candidate can trust to be open, honest, caring, and encouraging.

Who can be a Confirmation Sponsor?

The sponsor must be a *fully-initiated, practicing* member of the Catholic Church, who is at least 16 years of age and registered at a Catholic parish.

Fully-initiated- baptized, confirmed and receives the Eucharist.

Practicing- attends Mass regularly and support the mission of the parish.

How to Choose Your Sponsor:

The role of a sponsor is that of an active mentor not of holding an honorary title. By definition, a mentor is someone who serves as a guide, counselor, and teacher for another person. Whomever you choose should be active in the church, able and willing to share why his/her Catholic faith is important to him/her, and who lives close enough to help you with and be involved in your preparation. You can choose a relative (**other than a parent/guardian**), friend, or someone from the Church as your sponsor. Carefully consider your choice, pray about it, and when you think you have the right person, ask him or her to help you grow in faith by being your sponsor!

Your Sponsor Serves You in Three Ways:

- 1) **As a role model for you in faith.** Your sponsor is someone other than your parents because he/she will assist you and your parents in your continued faith formation. The person you choose does not have to be the same gender as you.
- 2) **As a companion on your faith journey, supporting you in prayer and in your search for the Holy Spirit.** Someone whose Christian lifestyle you admire, someone with whom you feel comfortable, and someone who has the time and willingness to be involved with you throughout this process.
- 3) **As a witness for you before the entire Church.** Standing by you as you are confirmed, he/she proclaims by that gesture that you are ready and willing to accept the responsibilities and privileges of being a fully initiated member of the Catholic Christian community

What is Required of a Confirmation Sponsor:

The sponsor needs to be willing to meet with the candidate on a regular basis prior to Confirmation and to make a commitment to continue the faith journey after Confirmation. The sponsor is to attend, stand witness for his/her candidate, and present his/her candidate to the Bishop at the Confirmation Liturgy.

Attendance is required at the:

- Candidate/Sponsor Reflection and Commitment Liturgy
- Confirmation Rehearsal
- Confirmation Liturgy



List of Dates and Deadlines

St. Joseph Fullerton's Confirmation Program wants to provide you with a complete list of dates and deadlines from the time of registration. Please take the time to write these dates in your family calendar or place this list in a visible location.

All dates and deadlines are mandatory.

*Registration Materials Due	Monday, May 11, 2009	Due by 4:00pm
*Confirmation Kick Off @ St. Isaac Jogues	Sunday, May 17, 2009	1:00pm-8:30pm
*Parent Meeting @ St. Isaac Jogues	Sunday, May 17, 2009	3:00-5:30pm
*Sponsor/Candidate Day of Reflection & Commitment Liturgy	Saturday, August 29, 2009	4:00pm-8:30pm
*Entrance Interviews	To be scheduled in October/November 2009	
*Service Hours	Due by the 1st Learning Session (01/17/10)	
*5 Confirmation Learning Sessions:	Sunday, January 17, 2010	6:00pm-8:00pm
	Sunday, January 31, 2010	6:00pm-8:00pm
	Sunday, February 14, 2010	6:00pm-8:00pm
	Sunday, February 28, 2010	6:00pm-8:00pm
	Sunday, March 14, 2010	6:00pm-8:00pm
*3 LIGHT Requirements	Due by Retreat Weekend	
*Confirmation Retreat # 1 @ Msgr. O'Dwyer Retreat House	Saturday, March 20, 2010	9:00am ———>
	Sunday, March 21, 2010	5:00pm
*Confirmation Retreat # 2 @ Msgr. O'Dwyer Retreat House	Saturday, March 27, 2010	9:00am ———>
	Sunday, March 28, 2010	5:00pm
*Make-Up Learning Session (If we have to take a snow day!!!)	Sunday, April 11, 2010	6:00pm-8:00pm
*Pastoral Interviews	To be scheduled in April 2010	
*Confirmation Rehearsal	TBA @ The Confirmation Kick-Off (Sunday, May 17, 2009 @ St. Isaac Jogues)	
*Sacrament of Confirmation	TBA @ The Confirmation Kick-Off (Sunday, May 17, 2009 @ St. Isaac Jogues)	



Candidate Registration Form

St. Joseph Fullerton's Confirmation Program for immediate preparation is in accordance with Archdiocese of Baltimore guidelines as outlined in *The Seal of the Spirit*. Please check the Confirmation Overview for the program's requirements.

IF NOT BAPTIZED AT ST. JOSEPH FULLERTON, PLEASE INCLUDE A COPY OF YOUR BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE WITH THIS FORM

CANDIDATE'S INFORMATION (please type or print legibly)

Name _____ (First/Middle/Last)
 Address _____
 City _____ Zip _____ E-mail _____
 Telephone [home](_____) _____ [cell](_____) _____
 Date of Birth _____ Age _____ Grade _____ M / ___ F
 Father's Name _____ (First/Middle/Last)
 Mother's Name _____ (First/Middle/Last)
 (Candidate lives with: ___ Both parents ___ Mother ___ Father ___ Guardian)
 Date of Baptism ___/___/___
 Church of Baptism (including full mailing address)*

**If not Baptized at St. Joseph (Fullerton), a copy of your Baptismal Certificate MUST accompany this form.*

If not baptized in the Catholic faith, Church of Profession of Faith (including full mailing address)*

Date of Profession of Faith ___/___/___

**If not made at St. Joseph (Fullerton), official verification from above named parish MUST accompany this form.*

Have you received First Eucharist? ___ Yes ___ No Have you received Reconciliation? ___ Yes ___ No
 Remote Preparation (8th grade) Completed at: ___ SJS ___ St. Joe's Rel. Ed. other _____
 High School _____ Year of Graduating Class _____

TO BE COMPLETED BY CANDIDATE! You may use the reverse side, if necessary.

Why do you want to be Confirmed? If you are not sure, please say so.

Do you attend Mass Weekly? _____ Which mass do you usually attend? _____

THIS FORM IS DUE BY **May 11, 2009**, with the non-refundable registration fee of \$150.00

Checks may be made payable to St. Joseph Youth Ministry.

Please return to the Parish Office on or before this day, a \$10 late fee will be applied to all late and/or incomplete registrations. After this date, St. Joseph Youth Ministry reserves the right to deny late and/or incomplete registrations.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Rec'd on: _____ Fee Paid: _____ Ck#: _____ Bapt. Cert.: _____ Sponsor Cert: _____
 Add'l Registration Forms: Parent: ___ Sponsor: ___ Sponsor's Name: _____
 Retreat Preference Sheet _____ Retreat Date Chosen _____



Parent/Guardian Registration Form

Please return this form to the parish office by May 11, 2009.

(Please type or print legibly)

Name of Teen Candidate: _____

Please give family name if different from candidate's: _____

Mother's Name: _____ Religion: _____

(first) (middle) (maiden) (last)

Telephone: [home]() _____ [work]() _____ [cell] () _____

email: _____ STAND certified? __yes __no

If different from candidate:

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Father's Name: _____ Religion: _____

(first) (middle) (last)

Telephone: [home]() _____ [work]() _____ [cell] () _____

email: _____ STAND certified? __yes __no

If different from candidate:

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Is your family registered in our parish? __yes __no Do you need registration materials? __yes __no

Do you feel it is important for your teen to receive this Sacrament? Why/why not? _____

I can assist in the following activities (please check/indicate Mother &/or Father):

Prayer Support [M]__ [F]__

Scholarship Donation [M]__ [F]__

Chaperoning Retreat [M]__ [F]__

Helping at Special Occasions [M]__ [F]__

Other (Please Specify) _____

Please list any activities that you would be willing to coordinate or volunteer to serve at:

I have reviewed and discussed the requirements of the program with my teen candidate and feel I understand what is being asked of us. I accept the requirements and responsibilities outlined and will be present both for the benefit of my candidate and the program as a whole.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE

Thank you for your time. May God bless you and your family!



Sponsor Registration Form

In accordance with Canon Law, sponsors must be *at least sixteen years of age, practicing Catholics* who have *received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.*

(Parents cannot sponsor their own teens, nor can they act as proxies.)

SPONSOR'S Information (please type or print legibly)

Name _____ (First/Middle/Last)

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Telephone (_____) _____

Sponsor's email _____

Are you registered at St. Joseph Fullerton? Yes ___ No ___ *

**** If not, a sponsor certificate from the parish at which you are registered MUST accompany this form.***

*At which Parish are you registered? _____

Are you a Baptized Catholic? Yes ___ No ___

Have you received:

First Communion? Yes ___ No ___

Reconciliation? Yes ___ No ___

Confirmation? Yes ___ No ___

Name of Candidate you are sponsoring (First/Last name) _____

Congratulations, you have been chosen to be a Confirmation sponsor! This candidate sees in you a profound faith commitment, finds trust and knows you are someone who will care about them in faith.

TO BE COMPLETED BY SPONSOR! *You may use the reverse side, if necessary.*

In what capacity do you know your candidate (friend, relative, etc.)? Please describe.

Has your candidate shared with you the sponsor expectations and program dates? ___Yes ___No

Why do you want to be a sponsor?

Do you attend Mass Weekly? ___ Which mass do you usually attend? _____

I have reviewed and discussed with my candidate this year's program, it's requirements for both candidate AND sponsor, and have prayerfully considered this opportunity to share and grow in my faith. I feel I understand that my candidate has chosen me as his/her faith mentor and the importance of this role. I accept the requirements and responsibilities outlined and will be present both for the benefit of both my candidate and the program as a whole.

SPONSOR'S SIGNATURE

DATE

THIS FORM IS DUE BY **May 11, 2009** to the St. Joseph's Parish Office by 4:00pm.

Candidate registrations will be considered late and/or incomplete without this form(& certificate, if applicable).

Retreat Preference Form

What is a retreat?

A retreat is an invitation from Jesus to “come away and rest a while” (Mark 6:31). It is an opportunity for building community and prayer—being in the presence of God—by means of prayer, games, group activities, discussions, talks, and quiet time.

Information About This Year’s Confirmation Retreat:

The Confirmation Retreats will be held overnight at the Msgr. O’Dwyer Retreat House in Sparks, MD. Due to our large numbers and everyone’s hectic schedules we have two weekends to choose from. Every candidate is required to attend one of the retreat weekends.

The retreat will be from 9am Saturday morning until 5pm Sunday afternoon. Candidates will meet at St. Joseph Fullerton Saturday morning and will be bused to the Retreat House. There will NOT be transportation back to the Parish! Instead we are inviting you to join us for a closing Liturgy at 4:00pm on Sunday at the Retreat House. More information will be given closer to the retreat dates.

The Retreat Weekends for the 2010 Confirmation Program are:

Retreat # 1 March 20-21, 2010

Retreat # 2 March 27-28, 2010

Please check your calendars as Retreat # 2 could overlap with some school’s Spring/Easter breaks!!! Please indicate on this sheet which retreat weekend you prefer, if any. We will do our best to honor your preferences but space is limited.

Once retreat dates are assigned we ask that they not be changed. Should an alternate date be needed after this, it is up to the candidate to contact one of the other parishes in our region: Immaculate Heart of Mary, St. Isaac Jogues, or St. Ursula, to ask permission to attend one of their Confirmation retreats.

Note: not all parishes operate on the same calendar as St. Joseph, therefore any conflicts should be addressed immediately to begin this process!

Please check which retreat dates you prefer:

_____ Retreat # 1 March 20-21, 2010

_____ Retreat # 2 March 27-28, 2010

_____ No Preference

Please explain why you prefer one date over the other: _____



St. Joseph Confirmation Ministry
Registration Checklist



Before completing registration, please carefully read and review the enclosed Confirmation Overview.

It contains a lot of important information regarding the new program we are piloting for the 2009-2010 school year.

ALL of the following must be submitted by May 11 2009 to the Parish Office by 4:00pm.

- Candidate Registration Form** (yellow)
 - If not baptized at St. Joseph (Fullerton), a copy of your Baptismal Certificate MUST accompany your registration.
- Parent/Guardian Registration Form** (blue)
- Sponsor Registration Form** (lavender)
 - If not a St. Joseph (Fullerton) parishioner, a sponsor certificate from the sponsor's parish MUST be included.
- Retreat Preference Sheet** (salmon)
- Registration Fee of \$150.00** (Checks may be made payable to St. Joseph Youth Ministry.)

ALL of the above are due to the Parish Office by May 11, 2009 @ 4:00pm.

Please return to the Parish Office on or before this day, a \$10 late fee will be applied to all late and/or incomplete registrations.

After this date, St. Joseph Youth Ministry reserves the right to deny late and/or incomplete registrations.