

CONFIRMATION FAQ's...

Can a parent sponsor a child?

Parents are not eligible to be a sponsor for their child. *Canon 874-5*. Your parents have given you your foundation in faith and will continue to guide you along your journey. Confirmation gives you the opportunity to get support on your faith journey from someone who inspires you by how they live out their life in faith.

Can a stepparent be a sponsor?

Since a stepparent fills at least a partial role as parent, even if both parents are active in the child's life, another sponsor would be needed.

What if my sponsor can't be here for Confirmation/Rehearsal?

A parent or other adult who is of the Catholic faith may stand in for your sponsor on the day of rehearsal or the actual day of Confirmation in the event they are unable to attend.

What is a Sponsor Certificate of Eligibility?

The sponsor initiates this. A sponsor certificate of eligibility/letter is a document from the sponsor's home parish, written on that parish's letterhead or sealed with parish seal, and signed by the pastor stating that he/she is a practicing Catholic in good standing.

Can a person sponsor more than one child?

While it is recommended to have one sponsor per child there may be situations where a sponsor may attend to more than one confirmand. Please bring your situation to the program coordinator.

Can someone who turns 16 the day after Confirmation be a sponsor?

No. A sponsor needs to be 16 years old by the date of the Confirmation *Mass. Canon Law 874-2*

Does my Confirmation saint name need to be of a canonized saint or can it be a blessed?

As there aren't any Official Vatican Rules regarding Confirmation names, we take the direction of our diocese and parish priests. Here at St Joan of Arc, your saint name may be your baptized name, a canonized saint, a Blessed, or a name from the Bible.

Does the saint I choose for Confirmation need to be the same gender as myself?

No, you may choose a saint of either gender, however, you can't change the name to match your gender.

What if I am unable to attend my parish's Confirmation Retreat?

You may attend a Confirmation retreat at another parish. Contact the middle school coordinator as they may have a list of retreat dates of nearby parishes. It is up to you to find a retreat and contact that parish to check on availability. Please let our middle school coordinator know of your plans. You will also need a letter of attendance from the retreat leader of where you attended and submit to our middle school coordinator.

What if I am unable to attend Confirmation on the date my parish offers it?

Please contact the middle school coordinator for dates and locations of Confirmation masses within our diocese. It is up to you to contact churches for their availability and let our middle school coordinator know of your plans. Once you have met all program requirements, you will receive a letter of good standing which you will present to the Confirmation coordinator of the parish where you wish to be confirmed.

Myself/Sponsor/Family members are gluten free, what are my options?

Indicate that by checking off the box on the Candidate and Sponsor Information form.

Please: bring your pyx the day of the ceremony and give it to the middle school coordinator when you arrive. You will be seated on the side of the church which distributes pyx with gluten free hosts.

My Sponsor/Family member uses a wheelchair/walker, where do we sit?

Indicate that by checking off the box on the Candidate and Sponsor Information form. We will accommodate appropriate seating, and let you know where after rehearsal.

What are the dress requirements for Confirmation?

Dress Code for Candidates and Sponsors: Your "Sunday Best"! You are being presented to the Bishop.

Boys & Sponsors should wear shirts & ties, khakis or dress slacks; sport coats are optional.

Girls & Sponsors should wear a dress/skirt of appropriate length, (no shorter than 4" above the top of the knee) or dress slacks. No yoga pants, leggings, athletic wear, spaghetti straps, strapless dresses, halter style tops/dresses, rompers or exposed midriffs, Sweaters will be available for anyone dressed inappropriately.

All: No jeans, tennis shoes, or beach flip-flops. No chewing gum.