

Confirmation Requirements

Requirements for the sacrament of Confirmation are established by the Archdiocese of Hartford and administered by St. John Fisher Parish. While we are very proud of our student and service-centered curriculum developed over years of experience, we are also held to the Archdiocese process which requires us to include certain elements in the program and to collect and report specific information to fulfill the Archdiocese mandates. We share the following program outline:

Class Attendance

The Confirmation preparation schedule consists of monthly meetings, a mandatory retreat, and the sacrament of Reconciliation being received just before the sacrament of Confirmation.

Over the past few years, Confirmation has been celebrated at the Cathedral of St. Joseph in Hartford in November of candidates' tenth grade year. The exact date is released by the Archdiocese sometime in the summer.

Service Projects

Our program is built on a platform of the importance of Christian service to others. Confirmation candidates are expected to participate in a **minimum of six** service projects, at least one of which needs to be within our parish and the community.

To facilitate this, a robust schedule of service projects will be shared throughout the ninth grade year including opportunities to come to class one hour early to participate in service. The class also organizes a significant service project Soup for a Cause which is a fundraiser for The House of Bread's Kids Café which feeds about 200 kids in Hartford each day.

Confirmation Sponsor

Confirmation candidates will choose a sponsor to help guide them in sacramental preparation. The function and criteria for a sponsor are set by Canon Law, and the sponsor is required to complete and sign an affirmation form certifying that they conform. This student's choice and the sponsor certificate are due by the **December** class.

Reflection Essays

Confirmation candidates are asked to prayerfully reflect and share on two specific essay prompts:

1. Choosing a Confirmation Saint Name (due by **February** class)
2. Service project that meant the most (due by **May** class)

Sacrament Information

Before receiving the sacrament of Confirmation, the Archdiocese verifies that candidates have received other preparatory sacraments. We must provide the location and date (month/day/year) of Baptism; year and location of Reconciliation; and, year and location of First Holy Communion. Please provide this information by the **October** class.

If any of these sacraments were received at St. John Fisher, we have this information on file. If any of these were celebrated at other parishes, there is unfortunately not a master database we can access for this information. If you are not able to locate the appropriate certificates to provide this detail, please contact the church(es) where the sacraments were received to get this information.

More detail on all these requirements is provided on the attached forms, via reminders throughout the year, and at individual classes. Suggested deadlines for each requirement have been set but feel free to complete and hand things in early. Any of the information can be brought to class or submitted electronically to: stjconfirmation@gmail.com which is also the email for any questions.

Deadline Overview - please bring the following to class or email it to stjconfirmation@gmail.com by the class date outlined:

October

Confirmation & Archdiocese Information Form

December

Choose a Sponsor prompt

Sponsor Certificate (including signature of affirmation by sponsor)

February

Choose a Saint + essay

May

Service Form (for any projects done outside of class)

Service Reflection essay