

Summary of 2019 Confirmation Requirements

Requirement

Due Date

Submit a Copy of Your Baptismal Certificate
(if you were not baptized at St. Therese and haven't submitted it yet)

ASAP

Choose a Confirmation Sponsor

February 13

Send Sponsor Packet to Sponsor

ASAP *(once chosen)*

- Letter to Sponsor
- Certificate of Sponsorship
- Sponsor Covenant (Two Copies - One for your sponsor to keep and one to send back)

Confirmation Name Form

February 20

Confirmation Registration Form

February 27

Forms from Sponsor Due

March 13

- Certificate of Sponsorship for Confirmation
- Signed Sponsor Covenant (from Sponsor)

Letter to Our Bishop

March 20

Sign up for Meeting with Father and the DRE

April 3

Memorize the Gifts and Fruits of the Spirit

April 10

Complete Thirty Documented Volunteer Service Hours

April 24

Attend Confirmation Retreat

May 4

Please note: This retreat is mandatory. If you are unable to attend please contact the R.E. Office as soon as possible in order to see if there are any other possible dates available (with other parishes).

Meet with Father Louis and Deacon Mike

TBD

Attend Confirmation Refresher Class

Sunday, Sept. 22, 2019 at 6 PM
(School Building Room 101)

Attend Confirmation Rehearsal

Sunday, Sept. 29, 2019 at 6 PM
(Church) This is a tentative date

Confirmation with Bishop Callahan

Saturday, Oct. 12, 2019 at 11 AM

If you have any questions, please contact the R.E. Office at 1-715-254-4064
or email mike@sttheresecc.org

Memorize the Fruits and Gifts of the Spirit

The Gifts and Fruits of the Spirit are strengthened in the Sacrament of Confirmation. As such, Father has asked that the students work on memorizing them throughout the year so that they will be familiar with not only their names, but also the meaning behind them. Please work on memorizing them as you will be tested on them prior to Confirmation.

THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT (Seven in all)

Wisdom Understanding Counsel Fortitude Knowledge Piety Fear of the Lord

THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT (Fourteen in all)

Charity Joy Peace Patience Kindness Goodness
Perseverance Mildness Faith Modesty Continency Chastity

Confirmation Retreat

Please save the date for this very important retreat which will be held at Saint Matthew's this year. We will begin promptly at 8 AM and conclude with Mass at 4:30 PM. Lunch will be included. All tenth graders are expected to attend as part of their immediate preparation for receiving the sacrament of Confirmation in the fall. The retreat will conclude with 4:30 PM Mass at St. Matthew's and all families are encouraged to attend. Saint Matthew's Parish is located at 229 South 28th Avenue near Aspirus Wausau Hospital.

Confirmation Refresher Class

Our last preparation class for Confirmation will be held on Sunday, September 22nd, 2019 from 6-8 PM in room 101 of the school building.

Confirmation Rehearsal

The rehearsal typically takes place a few weeks before Confirmation. The date and time is tentatively set for Sunday, September 29th at 6 PM but will be finalized prior to the end of the tenth grade school year. All candidates are expected to be present. It is preferable that the sponsor also attend. However, if the sponsor is unable to attend then we encourage a parent to attend with their child so that they may pass along the pertinent information to the sponsor.

Confirmation 2019

Bishop Callahan is planning on celebrating Confirmation with us at Saint Therese Parish on Saturday, October 12th, 2019 at 11:00 AM. Please mark your calendars!



Choosing a Confirmation Sponsor

Due by February 13, 2019

Choosing a Sponsor for Confirmation is a very serious matter. It is not a popularity contest. You want to choose someone who you feel is a great model for you in the faith. Additionally, the Sponsor should be an individual with whom you feel comfortable asking questions and seeking advice. Understanding all of this, please keep the following requirements for your Confirmation Sponsor in mind:

1. Your Sponsor must be a practicing Catholic and have received all of the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist.
2. Your Sponsor must be at least 16 years of age, and may be either male or female.
3. In order to express more clearly the relationship between Baptism and Confirmation, and to make the duty and function of the Sponsor more effective, "It is desirable that the Godparent at Baptism, if possible, also be the Sponsor at Confirmation" (Canon 893.2).
4. According to the directive in Canons 893 and 874.5, neither the father nor the mother of a candidate can serve as a Sponsor. This is because, at your baptism, your parents have already accepted the primary responsibility of raising you Catholic and educating you in the faith.
5. The chosen Sponsor should be a person who lives their faith and will provide spiritual leadership and support in addition to what parents already provide to their child. The Sponsor is someone who will challenge you to holiness and Christian discipleship.

Once you have chosen an individual based on the requirements listed above, you need to ask him/her if he/she is willing to serve as your Sponsor. If so, the following needs to be completed:

1. Enter your Sponsor's Name and full mailing address on the "Confirmation Registration Form" and return it to your catechist or the Religious Education Office no later than the date listed above.
2. Please give your Sponsor the attached letter addressed to them, the certificate of sponsorship, as well as the two copies of the Sponsor Covenant Form.
3. Have the Sponsor fill out the "Certificate of Sponsorship for Confirmation" form. This form also needs to be signed by their parish priest and stamped with their parish seal. Once this is completed, it should be returned to the Saint Therese Parish Religious Education Office by the date listed in the front of this packet.
4. The Sponsor should also fill out the "Sponsor Covenant" and return it with their "Certificate of Sponsorship for Confirmation" form. There are two copies included so that your Sponsor may keep one for him/herself.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call the Religious Education Office at 1-715-254-4064. Thank you.



St. Therese Parish

Dear Sponsor,

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* reminds us that the desire for God is written in our hearts. This is true not only for adults but for young people as well. All people are naturally and spiritually drawn toward God.

As young people prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation, they are entering a unique stage of their spiritual journey. Preparation for the sacrament is about preparation for celebrating and living a life of faith. Adults-parents, other family members, Sponsors, catechists, members of the parish team, and the entire assembly - are privileged to journey with the young people during this time of preparation.

A Sponsor is a companion and guide who gives spiritual help and encouragement to a person who is preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The *Code of Canon Law* reminds us that "[t]he sponsor's function is to take care that the person confirmed behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the duties inherent in the sacrament" (Canon 892).

As a Sponsor, you have been chosen to play an essential role in the life of a young person who is in the process of preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. You may have been asked to be the Sponsor for this candidate because you are the candidate's godparent, or because of ties of friendship of family, or because you are viewed by this young person as a model of faith. Perhaps all these reasons were involved in the choice. Whatever the case, you are now embarking on a shared faith journey that can enrich both you and your candidate.

As you share in this blessed time of sacrament preparation, enjoy the time you and your candidate spend together. Keep the lines of communication open and keep your candidate in your prayers. Remember that the Holy Spirit - given to you at your own Confirmation - will be with you to help and guide you in the weeks and months ahead.

We ask that you please fill out the attached "Sponsor Covenant". Please keep a copy for yourself to remind you of the commitment that you have made. Please also take your "Certificate of Sponsorship for Confirmation" to your parish to have it filled out by your parish priest. We ask that you please mail both forms back to us at:

Saint Therese Parish
Attn: Mike Lambrecht
112 West Kort Street
Schofield, WI 54476

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 1-715-254-4064 or mike@sttheresecc.org. Thank you for your willingness and generosity in serving as a Confirmation Sponsor.

Sincerely,

Mike Lambrecht
Director of Religious Education

Certificate of Sponsorship for Confirmation

Due by March 13, 2019

I recognize that Sponsors have a special ministry in the Sacrament of Confirmation. Along with the parents, Sponsors present the candidate for confirmation to the Church. It is also their responsibility to assist the confirmand to lead a life in harmony with their Baptism and Confirmation, and to fulfill the obligations flowing from them.

I recognize that in order to serve as a Sponsor for Confirmation, a person must:

1. Be a fully initiated Catholic who has been baptized, confirmed and has received First Eucharist.
2. Be someone who is actively participating in the life of the Church.
3. Be at least sixteen years of age.
4. Lead a life of faith in harmony with the ministry they are undertaking, and have the intention of undertaking the ministry of Sponsor.
5. Not be a parent of the candidate to be confirmed.

I hereby testify that I fulfill these requirements to serve in the ministry of Sponsor.

Signature

Print Name

Candidate being sponsored (Print Name)

I hereby testify that _____ **residing at**
Sponsor Name
_____ **is a registered member**
Address City State Zip
of _____ **parish, and affirm that he/she fulfills all the requirements to**
Parish Name
serve in the ministry of Sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Signature of Sponsor's Parish Priest

Sponsor's Parish Address

Place Parish Seal Here

Sponsor's Parish City, State, Zip

**Please return to: St. Therese Parish
Attn: DRE
112 West Kort Street
Schofield, WI 54476**

Sponsor Covenant

(Sponsor - Please Keep this Copy)

The Covenant is a solemn agreement God and his people entered into. God's faithful and loving commitment to us was fulfilled in Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world. As you now prepare to Sponsor a candidate for Confirmation, you are also called to enter into a covenant relationship. Read over the promises below. As a sign of your serious commitment to fulfill your role as a Sponsor, sign your name at the bottom of this covenant. Print your candidate's name on the space provided and return your signed copy as soon as possible.

As a Confirmation Sponsor, I pledge...

To be a living example of faith for my candidate.

To work willingly with my candidate throughout the preparation process.

To discuss on a regular basis what my candidate is learning in formal sessions.

To reflect with my candidate on the meaning of Confirmation in the life of a Catholic.

To participate in candidate/Sponsor events.

To be open to growing in my own faith as I journey through the preparation process with my candidate.

I ask the help of the Holy Spirit as I begin this preparation process with my candidate. I pray that the Holy Spirit will be with me as I dedicate myself to living the commitment I make through this covenant.

Please keep this copy for your reference

Sponsor's Signature

Candidate's Name (Printed)

Date

Sponsor Covenant

(Copy to be submitted to Saint Therese by March 13, 2019)

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I ask the help of the Holy Spirit as I begin this preparation process with my candidate. I pray that the Holy Spirit will be with me as I dedicate myself to living the commitment I make through this covenant.

Sponsor's Signature

Candidate's Name (Printed)

Date

Please submit this copy to:

Saint Therese Parish
Attn: DRE
112 West Kort St.
Schofield, WI 54476

Confirmation Name Form

Due by February 20, 2019

Choosing a Confirmation Saint Name

The Confirmandi (candidate for confirmation) should understand that a Saint's name is chosen so that the Saint becomes a model and intercessor in their life. We seek this intercession of the Saints because the Church has always believed and taught that all the redeemed are part of God's family. God's family includes the Saints in heaven; the holy souls in purgatory; and those of us on earth, who continue to persevere and grow in holiness, while living the Christian life with the help of God's grace. The Saints, however, are with God before the throne of grace. Their prayers (intercession) are very effective.

Confirmandi are strongly encouraged to choose the name of a Saint for their confirmation name. Doing this helps them to develop a relationship with a new Saint. Those of us on earth need the powerful intercession of all the Saints in heaven, who stand before Jesus' throne of grace. Confirmandi should research several Saints in whom they are interested. The parish library has many books on Saints available. Furthermore, there are numerous online resources such as:

<http://www.catholic.org/saints/>

or

<https://www.ewtn.com/saintsHoly/>

Please ask your catechist for help if you need it. The Saint who best connects with you is the one whom you should choose as your confirmation name.

Once you choose a Saint, please fill out the form below and return it to your catechist by the date listed above.

The Saint I have chosen for my Confirmation name is:

Full Saint name and location - For Example: Saint Francis of Assisi or St. Catherine of Siena

I have chosen this Saint because:

What spiritual lesson can you learn from your chosen Saint?

Candidate Signature:

Candidate Name (Printed)

Parent/Guardian Signature:

Confirmation Registration Form

Due by February 27, 2019

The following information is needed for recording the Sacrament of Confirmation in our parish register. Please fill out the information as completely as possible and print:

Your Full Baptismal Name: _____

First Middle Last

Chosen Confirmation Name: _____

Current Age: _____ Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Place of Birth: _____ Date of Baptism: ____/____/____

Father's Full Name: _____

Mother's Full Name: _____

Mother's Maiden Name: _____

Sponsor's Name: _____

Sponsor's Address: _____

Sponsor's Parish _____

Sponsor's Parish Address _____

Baptismal Certificate

If you were not baptized at St. Therese and have not yet submitted a copy of your baptismal certificate to the Religious Education Office, please do so as soon as possible. It is needed for our records prior to you receiving the sacrament of Confirmation. If you were not baptized at Saint Therese and do not know if you have submitted your baptismal form or not, please contact Mike in the R.E. Office at 1-715-254-4064.

Directions for the Letter to Bishop William Patrick Callahan

Due by March 20, 2019

There is a longstanding tradition here at Saint Therese Parish where each Confirmation candidate is required to write a letter to our bishop. The letter should tell Bishop Callahan about why you want to be confirmed, who you are choosing for your Confirmation Saint and why, and a short biography of the life of the Saint that you chose. The letter should be about one full page, typed (size 12 font), and double-spaced. There is no need to put the letter in an envelope or to address the letter as I will be mailing all of the letters together to our Bishop in one large envelope.

The format to be used is as follows:

DATE

The Most Reverend William Patrick Callahan
Bishop of La Crosse
P. O. Box 4004
La Crosse WI 54602

Your Excellency:

BODY OF THE LETTER

- One paragraph on why you want to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.
- One paragraph introducing the Saint you chose for your Confirmation name and why you chose the Saint you did.
- Two to three paragraphs on the life of your Saint (a short biography of your Saint).

Sincerely,

Sign your name

Type your name

Directions for the Meeting with Father Louis (and Deacon Mike)

Each student is required to sit down for a 10 minute interview with Father Louis and the Director of Religious Education. The point of these interviews is to allow the students a chance to express, in a more personal way, your desire to be confirmed as Roman Catholics and to clearly understand your motivation for wanting to do so. Also, each student should be ready to demonstrate that they understand the sacrament as well as the basic elements of our faith and Christian living.

A sign-up sheet will be provided during class.

Confirmation Candidate Volunteer Service Hour Form

Confirmation Candidates are reminded that at least thirty hours of volunteer service are required prior to receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. Any unpaid activity deemed appropriate by the Director of Religious Education will be accepted. In order to get credit for completed service hours, this form must be submitted for each event. The form should also be signed by the individual in charge of organizing or running the volunteer activity. Some examples of acceptable service are listed below:

- | | |
|---|--|
| Attending Pro-Life Rallies
Helping the Elderly
Helping with the Parish Picnic
Jubilee House
Reading at Mass
Singing with a Choir for Mass (Practices not included)
Ushering at Mass | Helping with Easter Hopping In
Helping with the Parish Breakfasts
Helping with Vacation Bible School
Raking Leaves
Serving at Mass
Unpaid Babysitting (for Non-family Members)
Volunteering with the Boy/Girl Scouts |
|---|--|

Volunteer Service Hour Form

_____ has served the _____
(Student's Name Printed) (Organization)

for _____ hours on _____. Student's Grade: _____
(Date)

Description of Volunteer Work: _____

I verify that the above information is correct and that the student did not receive any compensation for their efforts.

Signature: _____ Phone: _____
(Organizer/Contact Person)

Title: _____

Please note that chores done for parents or immediate family members are considered family responsibilities and, therefore, do not qualify for Confirmation service hours.