

Dear Confirmation Candidates, Parents, and Sponsors,

Hello and welcome to the exciting process that is preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation! We are so glad you are here. I am Michelle Boris, the Coordinator of Young Adult Ministries here at St. Mary of the Lake, and I am thrilled to be on this journey of faith with you and your family. Through the graces received in the sacrament, we can more fully enter into the call to serve God and the Church in new and deeply personal ways.

Confirmation is a theologically rich and life-changing sacrament, and the Church asks candidates to participate in education and growth to be properly formed and ready for the commitment they are preparing to make to God. The sacrament of Confirmation is not a graduation, but an opportunity to explore our Catholic faith as a fully initiated member of the Church. I want to emphasize that this is not simply a checklist or transaction; through this process, you get to enter into an actual encounter with the living person of the Holy Spirit. Young people, we want to answer the questions you are asking, help you understand the meaning of the sacrament that you are going to receive, and help you to be open to a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.

In John 10:10, Jesus says, “I came that they might have life and have it more abundantly.” Throughout this preparation process, you will be offered this choice. You get the opportunity to explore who God is and why a relationship with Him matters, what it means for your life, and how the Sacrament of Confirmation unites us more firmly to Christ. In Confirmation, you will receive the fullness of the gifts of the Holy Spirit to become disciples equipped with grace to go out and change the world.

To do this, preparation will look a little different this year. During each session, candidates will have small group times where they’ll journey through series from Alpha Youth and YDisciple to answer the big questions about the Catholic faith and our call to discipleship we received in Baptism that is strengthened in Confirmation. Candidates, during these discussion times, you are encouraged to ask questions, explore your faith, form connections with your peers and adult mentors, and ultimately, deepen your relationship with Christ.

As we explore these topics and what they mean, we hope that parents and sponsors can dive into these with us as well. You are welcome to join us for our Tuesday sessions, and we will be sending home weekly resources to explore these topics further with your candidate. Parents, as the primary formators of your child’s faith, your candidate needs you to model what an adult faith looks like. We pray that you enter fully into this process as a family, and that through this process you can all grow closer to each other and the God who loves you deeply.

We will be hosting a meeting on Tuesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> for all registered candidates, parents, and sponsors (if selected) to go through all the details of the Confirmation preparation process. If you have any questions before then, please do not hesitate to reach out. Know that I am here as a resource for you and your families and we look forward to growing in faith alongside you this year.

God bless,

Michelle Boris  
Coordinator of Young Adult Ministries  
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## Confirmation Schedule 2025-2026

Please note that topics and dates are subject to change. Bolded dates and times are sessions held at irregular times. All other sessions are held from: 6:00-7:30 PM in Kohler Hall in the Parish Life Center.

Date	Event	Time	Details
<b>October 21</b>	<b>Candidate, Parent &amp; Sponsor Meeting</b>	<b>6:00-7:00 PM</b>	<b>Confirmation Expectations &amp; Packet Overview</b> Parents attend with candidates. <i>Sponsors are encouraged to attend if selected/local.</i>
<b>October 25 OR October 26</b>	<b>Rite of Enrollment</b>	<b>5:00 PM (Oct. 25) 9:00 AM or Preferred: 11:00 AM</b>	<b>Rite of Enrollment at Mass (choose one; <u>please arrive 15 minutes early to check in. Everyone encouraged to attend 11:00 AM if possible.</u>)</b>
October 28	Session 1	6:00-7:30 PM	Alpha Youth Session 1: Welcome to the Conversation
November 4	Session 2	6:00-7:30 PM	Alpha Youth Session 2: Jesus Is...?
November 11	Session 3	6:00-7:30 PM	Alpha Youth Session 3: What Does Love Look Like?
November 18	Session 4	6:00-7:30 PM	Alpha Youth Session 4: Why Would I Want A Relationship with God
<b>November 25: Thanksgiving Break</b>			
December 2	Session 5	6:00-7:30 PM	Alpha Youth Session 5: What Does a Relationship with God Look Like?
<b>December 7</b>	<b>Retreat Day</b>	<b>Start- 9:00 AM- Mass (Church) End- 4:00 PM (Kohler Hall)</b>	<b>Alpha Youth Session 6: Who Is the Holy Spirit? &amp; 7: How Can I Be Filled with the Holy Spirit?</b>
December 9	<b>Session 6</b>	6:00-7:30 PM	Alpha Youth Session 8: How Does God Help Us Overcome Evil
<b>December 16, 2025 - January 6, 2026: Christmas Break</b>			
January 13	Session 7	6:00-7:30 PM	Alpha Youth Session 9: Does God Heal Today?
January 20	Session 8	6:00-7:30 PM	Alpha Youth Session 10: What Happens Next
January 27	Session 9	6:00-7:30 PM	YDisciple - Never Alone - Session 1: Belonging
February 3	Session 10	6:00-7:30 PM	YDisciple - Never Alone - Session 2: Guided
February 10	Session 11	6:00-7:30 PM	YDisciple - Never Alone - Session 3: Empowered
February 17	Session 12	6:00-7:30 PM	YDisciple - Never Alone - Session 4: Alive
February 24	Session 13	6:00-7:30 PM	YDisciple - Confirmation Bible Study Session 1: The Basics
March 3	Session 14	6:00-7:30 PM	YDisciple - Confirmation Bible Study Session 2: The Gifts
<b>March 10 – Spring Break</b>			
March 17	Session 15	6:00-7:30 PM	YDisciple - Confirmation Bible Study Session 3: The Proof
March 24	Session 16	6:00-7:30 PM	YDisciple - Confirmation Bible Study Session 4: The Mission
<b>March 31 – Holy Week – No Session</b>			
<b>April 7</b>	<b>Ceremony Preparation Meeting</b>	<b>6:00-7:00 PM</b>	<b>Ceremony Prep Details.</b> Parents and sponsors should attend with candidates.
<b>April 12</b>	<b>Rite of Sending</b>	<b>11:00 AM Mass</b>	
<b>April 13</b>	<b>Confirmation Ceremony</b>	<b>7:00 PM</b>	<b>At the Cathedral of St. Paul; Arrive by 6:30 PM</b>
<b>TBD</b>	<b>Sponsor Formation</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>For sponsors only; will have virtual option</b>