

St. Victoria Confirmation Preparation -Year 1 Commitment

2023-24

Confirmation Candidate Ownership

Congratulations on answering the invitation and deciding to pursue Confirmation! What is Confirmation? **Confirmation is a sacramental outpouring of the Holy Spirit that leaves a permanent imprint on the soul, completes Christian initiation, and empower us to be witnesses to Christ (CCC1302-1305).** Mass attendance, service, retreats, prayer, and building community are opportunities to encounter Jesus and essential practices for an active Catholic witness to Christ! These practices will help you continue on your faith journey for years to come.

☐ **Encounter Jesus in Weekly Mass and Complete Ten Mass Reflections**

Weekly Mass provides the **opportunity** to unite with Christ physically through Eucharist, as well as encounter Him in scripture, one another, and through the priest. Mass brings us peace, healing, and joy! To help us personally encounter Jesus, we'll be doing "Mass notes" and answer the question of "what did I notice at this Mass" in our Confirmation notebooks. Turn in Confirmation notebooks in the library "Confirmation bucket" so they can be logged. Shoot for taking weekly Mass notes, but plan to turn in notebooks in parish library at least **10 times** before April 2024.

☐ **Commit to Daily Prayer**

Through prayer we get to know, trust, and recognize God. Have stress, anxiety, or doubts? Elated with extraordinary blessings? Setting aside a few minutes to connect with God enables us to live with peace, joy, love, and self-control. Encounter God's guidance when praying with scripture or journaling. Help others by praying for their needs. Need prayers? Put your prayer in the Confirmation prayer basket upon arrival.

☐ **Actively Explore Jesus in Weekly Small Group Confirmation Gatherings and Retreats**

Active participation in and commitment to your Confirmation journey is essential. Confirmation sessions are like a date with a friend and can't be made up! We ask you to be open to Jesus and willing to share with your small group. You are the key to team success for your small group!

➤ **Attend Twenty Weekly Confirmation Sessions with a seeking heart and willingness to share**

Block your calendar for Wednesday at 7:30 – 9:10pm as a date with God (and your small group). Pre-plan homework and talk to coaches about leaving early or missing practice(s). If you'll miss more than 3 sessions, consider waiting a year, or give Ann a call to discuss.

➤ **Retreat: Sunday, Feb 4, 2-8pm**

St. Victoria will host an on-site retreat for the 9th Grade Confirmation group. This is a highlight! *If impossible, attend 2025 Year 1 retreat.*

☐ **Be the "Face and Hands" of Jesus by serving St. Victoria**

We all need to be Jesus to others and actively serve the community in which we belong and the broader world. Each person in our Confirmation group will be part of a ministry. Some will choose to be part of regular scheduled ministries such as Middle School Small group leader, choir, lector, or altar server. If you are not part of these ministries, you will need to sign up to be a greeter/usher and/or sweet social hospitality at **least three times** during this Confirmation season using signup genius.

☐ **Build Trusted Peers and Mentors, AND meet at least monthly with your Confirmation Sponsor **Nov 1****

Having many peers, mentors, and role models in our faith journey is essential! We need others to attend Mass with us, pray with us, share faith experiences, and help answer our questions. Select one Catholic Confirmation Sponsor (see requirements on the website). If you need help identifying a sponsor, contact Ann. Sponsors need to be selected no later than Nov 1, 2023 and inputted into the Confirmation profile @StVictoria.net. We'll explain how to do this on Oct 25.

☐ **Find God's Voice in a Bible verse and inspiration selecting a Confirmation Saint **Dec 1****

Scripture and Saints are great Catholic blessings. Scripture is God's voice telling us about His wisdom and love. Saints are awesome role models. Finding a verse and Saint that speak to our experience and struggles is inspiring and comforting. Enter your Saint and Bible verse in your Confirmation profile by Dec 1. There's suggestions on the Confirmation website. You can change these at any time before Confirmation.

Parent Leadership

Parents have a unique ability to reveal God and His love! Parent leadership is vital. Attending the kick-off retreat and weekly Mass, along with initiating weekly faith conversations makes faith REAL and is a necessary part of deepening understanding and discovering truth! Candidates need parents praying for them, and may need support working through conflicts with coaches, homework, or other priorities.

☐ **Participate in Parent/Student Retreat on Sept 10 (3-8pm)**

☐ **Participate in 40 Day Challenge**

Between 9/10 – 10/25 establish a 15 minute/day prayer time together with your teen. Teens will write a bit about this in their profile.

☐ **Initiate Weekly discussions with your son/daughter – See weekly email from Ann/Joey with topics and prompts.**

CANDIDATE SIGNATURE: _____ PARENT SIGNATURE: _____
Questions? Contact Ann Esping (aesping@stvictoria.org) or Joey Nelson (jnelson@stvictoria.org) 952-443-2661.