CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION PACKAGE



2025

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We are very happy that your child is preparing to receive Confirmation in 2025! Please take some time to fill out this registration package and mark all pertinent dates in your calendar. We suggest you simply detach the last page and stick it to your fridge for an easy reminder. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email Krishna Shanthakumar at kshanthakumar@archtoronto.org

REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Fill out and submit the "2025 Confirmation Registration Form" at https://linktr.ee/stlukesthym.
- 2. Sign up and attend (in-person) a 20-minute "**Pre-Journey Interview**" (Candidate & Parents) at https://linktr.ee/stlukesthym on either:
 - a. Thurs Sept 12 or Fri Sept 13, 2024 between 5:00 pm 9:00 pm; or
 - b. Sat Sept 14, 2024 between 9:00 am 4:00 pm.
- 3. Attend MANDATORY Parent Information Session (FOR PARENTS ONLY) on:
 - a. Mon Sept 9, 2024 from 6:30 pm 7:30 pm in the Parish Hall
- 4. Complete and submit the following before Dec 16, 2024:
 - a. A copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate (in digital format and in English) and emailed to <u>kshanthakumar@archtoronto.org</u> (**if certificate is not in English it needs to be Officially Translated into English, no Google Translate**)
 - b. \$70 given to Krishna Shanthakumar (paid by <u>cheque ONLY</u> made payable to "St. Luke's Parish" and include on the Memo "2025 Confirmation Your Child's Name"; you will receive a receipt when submitted)
 - c. Sponsor to complete "2025 Confirmation Sponsors Form" at https://linktr.ee/stlukesthym
- 5. Materials needed for the Confirmation Prep Program:
 - a. Chosen Student Workbook
 - b. Bible (NRSV version either digital access or hard copy)
 - c. Catechism of the Catholic Church (either digital access or hard copy)
 - d. Pen or Pencil

FAQ'S ABOUT CONFIRMATION

WHAT IS CONFIRMATION?

Confirmation is an essential part of Christian initiation. The Bishop seals us with the gift of the Holy Spirit. This sacrament is intended to:

- root us more deeply as sons & daughters of God;
- incorporate us more firmly into Christ;
- strengthen our bond with the Church;
- associate us more closely with the mission of the Church; and
- strengthen us to bear witness to the Christian faith.



WHAT IS A SPONSOR?

A **model of faith** for the candidate and must be a **fully initiated**, **practicing Catholic** in good standing under church laws. It is desirable that the sponsor chosen be a godparent who undertook the role at Baptism.

The sponsor is to **work with the candidate for Confirmation** to ensure that he/she behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations inherent in this sacrament. The sponsor must be:

- 1. At least 16 years of age.
- 2. They have been **fully initiated in the Catholic Church** (received Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation);
- 3. In **good standing with the Church** (e.g. has not married outside of the Catholic Church; not cohabiting; attends Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation) and is not the father or mother of the one to be confirmed.

HOW TO CHOOSE A SPONSOR

- 1. **Pray to the Holy Spirit** and ask him to reveal who in your life might be able to serve as your sponsor;
- Consider your godparents; if either of them is practicing their faith and willing, they are fantastic choices for your sponsor;
- Consider aunts, uncles, family friends who often share their faith and attend
 Mass regularly, these adults who are strong in their faith will be able to lead
 you closer to God throughout your life;
- 4. Ensure that whichever person you choose meets all the requirements listed above (is 16 years or older, is fully initiated in the Roman Catholic Church, and regularly attends Sunday Mass).
- 5. If you and your family need help finding someone to serve as your sponsor, make sure they indicate this on the registration form and we will make sure you get one.



WHY MUST I TAKE PART IN A PARISH-BASED PROGRAM WHEN I AM ATTENDING A CATHOLIC SCHOOL?

The Catholic schools assist the parents and the parish with what is called "initial preparation" for the sacraments. Initial preparation deals primarily with content: What do we believe as Catholics?

"Immediate preparation," which takes place shortly before a Sacrament is celebrated is the responsibility of the parents and the parish. Immediate preparation leads the candidates to take a closer and more intimate look at their relationship with God and with the Church.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I MISS A CONFIRMATION PREPARATION CLASS?

Enrolling in the Confirmation program means <u>commitment</u> to taking part in all aspects of the preparation sessions and the retreat. If you are sick or have some other serious conflict, contact the coordinator of the program to arrange to make up the session. Candidates who fail to participate without a valid reason may be required to withdraw from the program and delay receiving the sacrament of Confirmation to a later date.

© All above FAQ information taken directly from the Archdiocesan website, https://www.archtoronto.org/our-catholic-faith/sacraments-and-sacramentals/confirmation

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The Archdiocese of Toronto requires that students complete a certain degree of preparation in the school, home and Parish before receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. Below are the requirements outlined and explained.

- Students must complete the Confirmation preparation classes offered by the Parish. The dates for these classes are listed on the Calendar attached to this package. If a student knows they will miss a class it is their job to do the work missed during that class.
- 2. Students must attend a one-day retreat offered by the Parish. The date for this retreat is listed on the Calendar attached to this package.



2025 CONFIRMATION PREP PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Please carefully read and mark the appropriate dates on your calendar.

	Date	Time	Session / Description
MON	09-Sep-24	6:30 PM -7:30 PM	PARENT INFORMATION SESSION
THURS-SAT	12 to 14 Sep-24	VARIOUS TIMES	PRE-JOURNEY INTERVIEW
MON	16-Sep-24 to 18-Nov-24	6:30 PM -8:30 PM	ALPHA YOUTH [1 of 3]
TUE	17-Sep-24 to 03-Dec-24	6:30 PM -8:30 PM	CHOSEN (ASCENSION) [1 of 3]
TBD	16-Sep-24 to 09-Dec-24	TBD	CCO FAITH STUDIES [1 of 3]
SUN	24-Nov-24	12:15 PM	COMMITMENT MASS
SUN	23-Feb-25	12:15 PM - 1:15 PM	RITE OF ENROLLMENT OF CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES
TUE	25-Feb-25 to 20-May-25	6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	CHOSEN (ASCENSION)
SAT	26-Apr-25	TBD	RETREAT
	25-31-May-25	VARIOUS TIMES	PRE-CONFIRMATION INTERVIEWS
TUES	03-Jun-25	6:30 PM -7:30 PM	REHEARSAL
SAT	07-Jun-25	10:00 AM	RITE OF CONFIRMATION
TUE	10-Jun-25	6:30 PM - 8:30 PM	CHOSEN (ASCENSION)

All events are in-person in the Parish Hall unless otherwise specified.

^{*}Candidates and parents must arrive 1 hour prior to Rite of Confirmation Mass to receive gowns and get seats.

^{***} Dates & Times subject to change. Notification of changes will be sent via email