



Confirmation 2023-2024

Our Lady of the Fields

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June 2023

Dear Confirmation Families,

We are reaching out to you as our records indicate that your son or daughter is entering (or beyond) ninth grade and may be ready to enter deeper into relationship with Christ and His Church by receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation!

The Sacrament of Confirmation complements the graces we received at Baptism. Confirmation affirms the grace we received at Baptism, allowing us to enter deeper into relationship with Christ, increase the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and their effect in our lives, strengthen our bond with the Church, and enable us to live as witnesses of Christ's love in the world around us. The Sacrament of Confirmation is a beautiful opportunity to be inspired by the love of the Holy Spirit and to enter further into relationship with Christ, the Church, and our Parish community, enabling us to use our God-given gifts to live out the fundamental call to be Christ's missionary disciples.

Preparation to receive the Sacrament will consist of the following opportunities:

- (1) **Parent & Candidate Orientation** | Thursday, September 14 at 7:00pm. Orientation is for everyone regardless of Fall or Spring Formation Sessions. Candidates and at least one parent/guardian should attend.
- (2) **Small Group Formation Sessions** | Each Formation Session is comprised of 6 Small Group Sessions. Candidates may choose to attend the Fall **OR** the Spring Formation Session. Please see the Confirmation Calendar for specific dates and times.
- (3) **Life Nights** | Every Candidate must attend a minimum of 6 Life Nights. Life Nights take place on Sunday evenings from 6:00pm to 8:00pm. See the Confirmation Calendar for dates.
- (4) **Candidate Retreat** | Candidates will attend an all-day retreat during the Formation Session they choose to participate in. **The Fall Session Confirmation Retreat is Saturday, October 14. The Spring Session Confirmation Retreat is Saturday, March 2.**
- (5) **Sponsor Orientation (Zoom Meeting)** | Thursday, October 12 at 7:00pm EST. Sponsor Information is due to the Confirmation Office by September 23, regardless of Formation Session. Sponsor Information can be submitted via a Google Form to be sent at a later date.

To participate in Confirmation Formation this year, please complete the online registration on our website using the link below. **Registration Due August 11, 2023.** You will receive a Registration Confirmation via email, and an invoice with payment options will be sent separately.

<https://www.ourladyofthefields.org/confirmation-2023-2024/>

The Confirmation Masses will be celebrated at Our Lady of the Fields by one of the Bishops of the Archdiocese of Baltimore. The date of Confirmation is decided by the Bishops and will be communicated at a later date.

We will discuss the above information and other details at the Parent & Candidate Orientation on September 14. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact: confirmation@olfparish.com.

Please be sure to communicate any foreseen scheduling conflicts as far in advance as possible. We will work with individual families on a case-by-case basis to ensure that our Candidates are afforded every opportunity to participate fully in Confirmation Formation.

We are humbled to have the privilege to accompany you and your son or daughter in this important journey!

In Christ,

Ian Gill
Director Youth Ministry