



# *St. James the Apostle Catholic Church*

480 S. Park Blvd., Glen Ellyn, Illinois 60137

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August 2025

Dear Parents,

It is with great joy that I welcome you and your child to the 2nd year in the process of preparation for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. James the Apostle. I commend you on your commitment to guiding your child in his/her faith formation. As the primary educator of your child, it is your witness that most impacts their continued walk in faith toward knowing, loving, and serving our Lord. Your example of regular and consistent practice of the Catholic faith through first and foremost weekly Mass attendance, frequent Reconciliation, and daily prayer will greatly impact whether your child remains close to the Church throughout their lives. As parents, we must take our role very seriously. May God bless you on this journey.

The celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation is a momentous occasion in the spiritual life of your child. It is the Sacrament by which we receive the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

*"Confirmation brings an increase and deepening of baptismal grace...it unites us more firmly to Christ; - it increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us; - it renders our bond with the Church more perfect; - it gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross" (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1303).*

We understand that the lives of the families in our community are very full. It is essential, however, that in the midst of this busyness, you place your child's preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation as a top priority. This packet outlines all of the formation requirements necessary for completion in the process toward the reception of the Sacrament. These items are based on Diocesan regulations and completion is *mandatory*.

The date of Confirmation is assigned to us by the Diocese of Joliet, and typically this information is not relayed to our Office until October or November. When we are notified of our assigned date, we will pass that information on to you. There will be a mandatory rehearsal the week of Confirmation that must be attended by your child and his/her sponsor.

We look forward to celebrating this sacrament with your child and your family. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

In Christ,

Laura Tumpane  
Director of Religious Education



Office of Religious Education  
St. James the Apostle Catholic Church  
490 S. Park Blvd.  
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### **Requirements for the Second Year of Confirmation Formation**

- **Weekly - Attendance at Sunday or vigil Mass** (an obligation for *all* Catholics)
  - Students must complete a weekly Mass journal entry commenting on the Gospel and responding to the homily given
- **Sept 24 - Parent Meeting**
  - Held in Sebahar Hall during RE class times (2 Options: 5pm or 6:45pm)
- **Oct 5 - Confirmation Kick-Off Event**
  - Begins with 11am Mass; concludes at 2:30pm
  - This event is designed for fellowship, encouragement and service
- **Oct 29 - Sponsor's Signed & Sealed Eligibility Form Due:**
  - **Sponsor Eligibility Form may also be found** on the parish website under *Worship & Sacraments/Confirmation*.
  - A copy of the Sponsor's Confirmation Certificate is also required
  - **Sponsor chosen must meet all of the following requirements:**
    - At least 16 years of age
    - A fully initiated Catholic (one who has received Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) who actively practices the Catholic faith including weekly Sunday Mass attendance
    - Not the candidate's mother or father
    - If married, validly married according to the laws of the Catholic Church
- **Nov 19 - Saint Report Due**
  - See attached guidelines
- **SERVICE PROJECTS:**
  - See attached page for all Service Project details
- **Dec 17 & Jan 21 - In-class Service Projects during RE**
- **Feb 4 & 11 - Interviews:**
  - Confirmation interviews will be held during class, in 20 minute segments and include four students in each group.
- **Feb 25 - Service Project Essay Due**
  - See attached guidelines
- **Mar 4 - Mass Journal Due**
  - Completed journal from weekly Mass attendance
- **Mar 7 - Confirmation Retreat**
  - **Holy Fire** Retreat will be held at Central Athletic Complex in Wheaton
  - See details at [EQSAINTS.COM/HOLYFIRE-JOLIET](http://EQSAINTS.COM/HOLYFIRE-JOLIET)
  - Per Diocesan policy, attendance at a Confirmation retreat is required.
- **June 26-28 - Steubenville Joliet Youth Conference**
  - This is not a requirement, but please consider enabling your child to attend this incredible event!

*\* Reception of the sacrament will be postponed until all missing requirements have been fulfilled.*