

February 14, 2019

Dear Confirmation Parents and Students:

I hope this letter finds you well! I first wanted to introduce myself for those who do not know me. My name is Michaelyn McGinnis and I am the Director of Christian Formation. I will be journeying with you and your children as they learn about their faith, deepen their knowledge of Christ and Catholicism and take responsibility for their faith on November 4th at Confirmation.

The following pages are all part of the Confirmation Preparation packet. Each item in this packet are vital to the sacrament of confirmation. Please turn this packet in by Wednesday, March 13th, 2019 in full completion.

I am overjoyed by the desire for your child to be Confirmed this fall with us. I have been praying for you all for months and I am very confident in the Lord's desire to delight in each one of you.

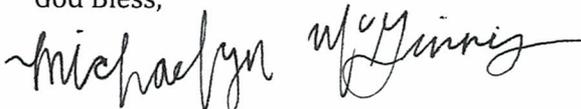
The Lord is moving!

Additionally, I need each of you, students and parents alike, to register on Flocknote for the group 'Confirmation 2019' as soon as possible. This will be our tool to send out reminders, flyers, announcements and important notes throughout our process. Please follow the instructions listed below to register for this!

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions!

I cannot wait to see how the Lord works in each of your hearts!

God Bless,



Michaelyn McGinnis
Director of Christian Formation
michaelynm@stjudecatholic.org

We ♥ having you as part of our flock!

Text **stjudechurch** to **84576**

Get important updates via email & text!



CONFIRMATION GUIDELINES

To become a Confirmation Candidate you must:

- Be a Baptized Catholic.
- Be registered at St. Jude Parish.
- Be a practicing member of St. Jude Church.
*Practicing means regularly attending Mass on Sundays and Holy Days, and regularly receives the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.
- Must be 16 by December 31st, 2018.
- All applicants must be in high school and participate in a religious education program (Catholic School or PSR) at the time of application and have at least (2) two years consecutively prior to application.
- Be committed to complete participation in the Confirmation Preparation Process.
- **Turn in a completed Confirmation Packet by Wednesday March 13th, 2019.**

As a Candidate, you must:

- Attend the Kickoff Confirmation Retreat
- Attend all Confirmation Preparation Session (6) without fail
- Participate in all Rites
- Choose a Saint Name
- Choose a Confirmation Sponsor
- Write a letter requesting Confirmation to the Pastor
- Submit a copy of Baptismal Certificate
- **Turn in a completed Confirmation Packet by Wednesday March 13th, 2019.**

To Celebrate Confirmation, you must:

- Have successfully completed the preparation process for Confirmation.
- Be ready to restate your Baptismal promises and continue your faith commitment.
- Be ready to continue as a participating member of our Catholic Faith Community.
- Participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation prior to Confirmation night
- Take responsibility for your faith and not treat Confirmation night like a 'graduation' but understand that this is a continual 'yes' that you will give to the Lord to live our each day in your faith, which you will now have taken responsibility for.

CONFIRMATION PACKET CHECKLIST

- Parent-Child Contract
- Letter of Intent Form
- Baptismal Certificate
- \$40 Material Fee
- Choosing a Saint Name Form
- Confirmation Sponsor Eligibility Certificate
 - Must be signed and sealed by the Sponsor's registered church parish and turned in WITH the rest of the packet
- Request for the Sacrament of Confirmation Form
- A Reflection Paper will be due by Session V. More info will be passed out at the first Confirmation Session**

St. Jude Parish
Confirmation Preparation Process Packet

PARENT-CHILD CONTRACT

INSTRUCTIONS: STUDENT AND AT LEAST ONE PARENT MUST SIGN, DATE AND RETURN THIS PARENT-CHILD CONTRACT BY **WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13TH, 2019** WITH THE REST OF THE CONFIRMATION PACKET.

Contract Rationale

In Saint Jude Parish the confirmation preparation process is intended to be as much of a family experience as possible. Parents are asked to support and encourage their children, not only in their commitment to attendance and participation in all activities and aspects of the process, but, most important of all, in a deeper understanding of the significance of Confirmation itself. For this process to be successful, we ask that students and parents make the following written commitment.

STUDENT COMMITMENT:

As a student enrolled in our process of preparation, I promise to participate with an open mind and respectfully toward all others. I commit myself to attendance of all activities associated with the Confirmation Preparation Process. I understand that participation is a requirement in order to complete the program, and receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

Student Signature

Date

PARENT COMMITMENT:

As a parent of my child enrolled in our process of preparation, I promise to encourage my child to employ a positive and open-minded attitude toward this process, as well as the sacrament itself. I will see to it that my child attends all activities associated with the Confirmation Preparation Process. I understand that participation is a requirement in order to complete the program, and receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

Parent Signature

Date

St. Jude Confirmation Preparation Registration
(Letter of Intent)

I, _____, intend to be a part of the Confirmation process in my parish of St. Jude during the coming year(s). I have seriously considered this, will do what is necessary to prepare for Confirmation during the coming year(s), and desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Candidate's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please complete the following information for our records. **Print** all information.

FULL NAME OF CANDIDATE: _____

NICKNAME OR NAME YOU GO BY: _____

ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ SCHOOL ATTENDING IN FALL: _____

CITY, STATE OF BIRTH: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS (candidate & parent): _____

FATHER'S FULL NAME: _____

MOTHER'S FULL NAME (Including Maiden): _____

BIRTHDAY: _____ AGE: _____ GRADE: _____

Is your family officially registered as parishioners at St. Jude: _____ Yes _____ No
(If you intend to be confirmed at St. Jude, your family must be registered parishioners.)

I was baptized at St. Jude the Apostle: _____ Yes _____ No
If not baptized at St. Jude, please list the church of baptism including city and state:

Church: _____ City, State: _____

(If you were not baptized at St. Jude, you must submit a copy of your Baptismal Certificate with this form. Baptismal Certificates are not kept at church office from 1st Communion, so a new copy must be attached to this form.)

Confirmation Fee: \$40 (cost of materials), contact Michaelyn McGinnis, if this fee is a financial hardship. **Please submit this completed form, your Confirmation fee and a copy of your Baptismal certificate, along with the rest of the Confirmation Packet by Wednesday, March 13, 2019.**

For office use only: Vol. _____ Page # _____ Entry # _____ Bapt. Cert. _____
Date fee pd _____ Cash _____ Check # _____ Saint Name _____

THE CHOOSING OF A SAINT'S NAME

Many people choose an additional saint's name at Confirmation. The preferred name, however, is the baptismal name because it expresses the relationship that exists between baptism and Confirmation.

If a new name is taken it should be the name of a recognized saint of the Catholic Church. If the baptismal name is not that of a recognized saint, a new name could be chosen for Confirmation.

Names of saints are chosen to serve as models for those being confirmed. Candidates should choose a patron saint's name, not because of the attractiveness of the name, but because of the attractiveness of the Christian life that the person led.

If you choose to keep your baptismal name, find out if it's derived from a saint's name and complete this sheet.

If you choose your baptismal name, and it is not derived from a saint's name, find out why your name was given to you and what it means to you now.

Fill out the following:

Name chosen _____ Saint's Feast Day _____
If you used a derivative, list the name of the saint that it represents. _____

Find out something about this saint and write a summary of his/her life.

Why did you select this name? _____

If this is your baptismal name, ask you parents, or whoever named you, how they selected it. Then write their response. _____

Candidate's Full Name _____

This paper is due by Wednesday March 13, 2019 with the rest of the Confirmation Packet!

CHOOSING MY CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

Introduction:

It is an honor when a teenager chooses a sponsor. In order to assist you as a candidate in your preparation, the Church has expectations of a person who is a sponsor:

There should be a sponsor for each of those to be confirmed. The sponsor brings the candidate to receive the sacrament, presents him/her to the minister for the anointing, and will later help him/her fulfill his/her baptismal promises faithfully under the influence of the Holy Spirit. The sponsor is to satisfy these requirements:

- A. That she/he be sufficiently mature for this role.
- B. That she/he belongs to the Catholic Church and has been initiated in the three sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
- C. That she/he not be prohibited by law from exercising the role of sponsor.

(From the Introduction to the Rite of Confirmation)

Further our Diocesan and parish guidelines (see Confirmation handbook) specify that sponsors may be of either sex, practicing the Catholic faith, be 16 years of age or older, and are not under impediment of the Church due to marriage or other circumstances. **Sponsors may not be parents of the candidates.**

What is important here?

First, that there be one sponsor, either a man or woman for each candidate for Confirmation.

Second, that the sponsor be present at the ceremony so that he/she can make his/her own commitment publicly.

Third, that the Church understands that the bond between sponsor and the family needs to be very close. In addition the Church asks that the sponsor not only be ready to help the parents, when appropriate, in the Christian formation of the candidate, but even more that he or she be an example to the candidate of what a Catholic Christian is.

Finally, that the sponsor speaks not only for him/herself, but also for the Church.

In deciding on a sponsor, you have some important directions set for you by this brief paragraph from the ritual. Everything suggests that this is a serious responsibility to choose well; it's a decision worth much thought, prayer and discussion. When you have decided, it is appropriate that you tell the sponsor-to-be what led you to your decision. There is indeed a great honor involved, but also a great responsibility.

Therefore, you are looking for a mature member of the Catholic Church, one who is fully initiated, and has received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Your sponsor needs to be a person of faith, who is an active member of the Catholic church,

attends Mass and receives the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. You are looking for someone who can share the faith of Catholics with you, and whose life shows that faith in great and small ways of everyday living. You are looking for someone you can call upon for help. You are looking for someone who knows that being a Catholic Christian has to do with prayer, with justice toward the poor, with kindness even for strangers as well as friends, with many things that are not so popular or common in our own society. You are looking for someone whose faith life has led him/her to the decision that regular sharing in the Eucharist and the other sacraments of the Church is a way of life.

The Church (you and the other people that make up our parish) is also looking for these sponsors. You participate in the selection, but it is not you the sponsor represents at the confirmation and thereafter, it is the Church. The Church is an assembly of baptized people. Confirmation calls one to embrace that baptismal calling. We take this calling seriously. We ask that the candidate be prepared to speak honestly when he/she says they understand and will do all that Confirmation implies for life. When you ask someone to be a sponsor, you are asking that they witness for the Church your promise as a candidate. More than that, you are asking the sponsor to bring the Church to life, to embody the Church - at the celebration of Confirmation and always afterwards in the life of the candidate. That is what it means that sponsors “represent the Church” at Confirmation.

All of this is not to say that a sponsor cannot be a relative or close friend. Most appropriately, the sponsor should be one of the original godparents from Baptism. This helps tie the connection between the two events. The sponsor can be a friend or relative if he/she is a person who can answer to the qualities we have been discussing.

Ideally, the sponsor is someone who is willing to make a time commitment to this Confirmation process and the availability of the sponsor should be considered in making this selection. The year’s calendar gives an indication of when and where the sponsor needs to make every effort to be present at a session or practice.

All of this boils down to two major qualities a candidate needs to look for in a sponsor:

- A. An open, affirming, warm attitude toward people;
- B. An attitude toward life filled with faith.

Well, think of it yourself. What kind of person do you like to go to when you are going through a struggle? Or maybe put it another way: What type of individual adult do you look to and feel encouraged by in your own journey when you want support or affirmation? Candidates need to hear that it’s OK for them to struggle by hearing about a sponsor’s struggle or pain. Rather than weaken an adult’s image as a role model, it usually enhances it to share the truth because that process inevitably wins the respect of anyone of any age. Henri Nouwen says that a minister needs to be a “wounded healer.” By this he means that the best way to help another person find healing is for us to share in his/her “woundedness” by sharing our own with him/her. The relationship of a candidate and a

sponsor is a beautiful and rare opportunity to share faith with another. It is bound to be a helpful and challenging experience for both of you.

What are sponsors being asked to do?

1. To attend candidate/sponsor sessions as scheduled.
2. To meet individually with your candidate before Confirmation for sharing faith. It can take place in an informal chatting after a movie, or going to a ball game, going to Mass together, eating out together, etc. Faith sharing questions will be provided at the first sponsor meeting.
3. To attend the rehearsal before Confirmation, the Confirmation ceremony itself and the reception following.
4. Pray for the candidate who has chosen you as a sponsor.

The Confirmation Team and Parish Staff look forward to meeting the sponsors once they are chosen. If you have any questions concerning the sponsor, please call one of the team or the parish office (766-2431).

PLEASE TURN IN YOUR SPONSOR FORM BY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019 WITH THE REST OF THE CONFIRMATION PACKET!

Note: Sponsors are required to have a parish verification form from their church parish stating that they are qualified to serve as a Confirmation sponsor. These are due with the confirmation packet to the parish office. Contact Michaelyn McGinnis at 225-766-2431 if you have any questions.

St. Jude the Apostle
9150 Highland Road
Baton Rouge, LA. 70810
(225) 766-2431 Fax: (225) 766-0722

**Confirmation
Sponsor Eligibility Certificate**

I am a registered member of _____ parish.
(Name of Church Parish)

- I am sixteen (16) years of age or older
- Confirmed
- My marriage is recognized by the Catholic Church
- I am a regularly practicing member of the Church

I have read the above and understand the role which I am undertaking and promise to live a life worthy of this call.

Print Sponsor's Name

Signature of Sponsor

Sponsor Address

Sponsor Phone Numbers

City, State, Zip

Sponsor's Cell Number

Name of Candidate (Please print)

Sponsor's Email

Signature of Sponsor's Pastor

Pastor remarks

Date

(Church Seal)

Due Wednesday, MARCH 13, 2019 with the Confirmation Packet!

REQUEST FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

I, _____, a member of St. Jude the Apostle Church Parish ask you, Father Trey Nelson as my pastor, and you, Bishop Robert Muench, Bishop of the Diocese of Baton Rouge, to receive me as a candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation, and confirm me as a member of the Roman Catholic Church.

I would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation because _____

My preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation has been (describe what you have done personally and have learned) _____

and has included participation in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

I have chosen _____ as my sponsor to present me to you on the day of my Confirmation and to witness to my commitment. I made that choice because _____

We have met _____ times to share about our faith and I have learned from my sponsor _____

You will seal my commitment to Jesus Christ and His Church by anointing me with oil and by calling me by name. The name I wish to be called at my Confirmation is _____ (I understand I can keep my Baptismal name or may choose a saint's name.) I have chosen that name because _____

I understand that the gifts of the Holy Spirit help me build up the Church. I have been using my gifts in the following ways to serve others: _____

I wish to share further in building up the church by doing the following: _____

(Signature of Candidate)

DUE BY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2019 WITH CONFIRMATION PACKET.

CONFIRMATION DATES 2019

Date	Session #	Important Information
September 8, 2019 9:00 AM-5:00 PM • Parish Hall/Church	Confirmation Retreat Candidate	Kickoff Retreat for Confirmation
September 15, 2019 10:00 AM • Ministry Building 11:30 AM • Mass	Session I • Candidate	
September 22, 2019 10:00 AM • Ministry Building 11:30 AM • Mass	Session II • Candidate	
September 29, 2019 10:00 AM • Ministry Building 11:30 AM • Mass	Session III • Candidate	
October 6, 2019 10:00 AM • Ministry Building 11:30 AM • Mass	Session IV Candidates and Sponsors	Sponsor & Candidate Meeting 10:00 AM Ministry Building Rite of Enrollment <i>Sponsors must be at 11:30 Mass</i>
October 13, 2019 6:30-7:30 PM • Church	Hour of Reflection Candidate	
October 14-15, 2019 PM • Church	Parish Mission	Attendance is encouraged!
October 20, 2019 10:00 AM • Ministry Building 11:30 AM • Mass	Session V • Candidate	LAST Day to turn in Profession of Faith Paper <i>*Turn in to your leader or church office</i>
October 27, 2019 10:00 AM • Ministry Building 11:30 AM • Mass	Session VI • Candidate	
November 3, 2019 5:00 PM • Church	Confirmation Practice Candidates & Sponsors	
November 4, 2019 7:00 PM • Church	Confirmation Candidates and Sponsors	Reception • Parish Hall <i>Immediately following ceremony</i>

St. Jude the Apostle Parish

2019

11th Grade Confirmation Syllabus

"To Live the Faith that I Profess"

- 9-8-2019** **Confirmation Kickoff Retreat**- A fun day filled with prayer, activities, food and community! Join us for sign in at 9am in the Parish Hall until 5:00 pm. We will go to 9:45am mass as a team! Lunch and snacks will be provided. ****This event is mandatory!** If for some reason you have a legitimate conflict with this date, contact Michaelyn McGinnis. You will be responsible for attending another Confirmation retreat at another parish if you have a conflict!**
- 9-15-2019** **SESSION I-** ("*Confirmation: Why Me and Why Now?*") 10:00 a.m. in the Ministry Building followed with Mass at 11:30 a.m. Sit as a group in reserved section.
- 9-22-2019** **SESSION II-** ("*Prayer: Remaining Wired to God in a Wireless World*") 10:00 a.m. in the Ministry Building followed with Mass at 11:30 a.m. Sit as a group in reserved section.
- 9-29-2019** **SESSION III-** ("*Creed: Belief Based on Promise*") 10:00 a.m. in the Ministry Building followed with Mass at 11:30 a.m. Sit as a group in reserved section.
- 10-6-2019** **SESSION IV-** ("*Morality: Honoring God, Self, and Others*") 10:00 a.m. meeting for Candidates and Sponsors in the Ministry Building, followed with Mass at 11:30 a.m. Sit as a group in reserved section. **(Rite of Enrollment) Sponsors and Candidates must attend 11:30 Mass..**
- 10-13-2019** **Hour of Reflection** (6:00 — 7:00 PM) Mandatory Participation in the Church/Youth House

PARISH MISSION OCTOBER 14TH & 15TH IN THE EVENING IN CHURCH

- 10-20-2019** **SESSION V-** ("*Social Outreach: To Be Apostles of Hope*") 10:00 a.m. in the Ministry Building followed with Mass at 11:30 a.m. Sit as a group in reserved section. **REFLECTION PAPER DUE NO LATER THAN THIS DAY!**

10-27-2019 **SESSION VI-** (*"Vocation: God's Purpose for Me in This Life"*) 10:00 a.m. in the Ministry Building followed with Mass at 11:30 a.m. Sit as a group in reserved section.

11-3-2019 **5:00 PM- Confirmation Practice** in the church: Candidates and Sponsors must attend. There will be a time of adoration to begin practice.

11-4-2019 **7:00PM- Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation** with Bishop Duca in the Church. Candidates report to MB no later than 6:00 PM for meeting with Bishop. Sponsors arrive at 6:30 PM in the parish hall.

DATE OVERVIEW:

<u>Date:</u>	<u>Type:</u>	<u>Time:</u>	<u>Place:</u>
Sept. 8, 2019 Candidates	Confirmation Kickoff Retreat	9:00 AM- 5:00 PM	Parish Hall/Church
Sept. 15, 2019 Candidates	Session I	10:00 AM 11:30 AM	Ministry Building Church
Sept. 22, 2019 Candidates	Session II	10:00 AM 11:30 AM	Ministry Building Church
Sept. 29, 2019 Candidates	Session III	10:00 AM 11:30 AM	Ministry Building Church
Oct. 6, 2019 Candidates AND Sponsors	Session IV	10:00 AM 11:30 AM	Ministry Building Church RITE of ENROLLMENT
Oct. 13, 2019 Candidates	Hour of Reflection	6:30 PM- 7:30 PM	Church/Youth House
Oct. 20, 2019 Candidates	Session V	10:00 AM 11:30 AM	Ministry Building Church LAST day to turn in Profession of Faith Paper
Oct. 27, 2019 Candidates	Session VI	10:00 AM 11:30 AM	Ministry Building Church
Nov. 3, 2019 Candidates AND Sponsors	Confirmation Practice & Adoration	5:00 PM	Church
Nov. 4, 2019 Candidates AND Sponsors	CONFIRMATION Reception following	7:00 PM	Church Parish Hall

ALL PAPERWORK IS DUE BY MARCH 13TH, 2019 TO THE CHURCH OFFICE; PLEASE SUBMIT A COMPLETED PACKET. Also, our Parish Mission will be on October 14th and 15th, you are encouraged to attend!