



OLPH Confirmation Guide

Congratulations, you have a child receiving the sacrament of Confirmation this year! Please read the following information

Candidate Requirements

According to Sacramental Norms of the Diocese of Memphis and guidelines of OLPH Parish, the following are required of Candidates for Confirmation:

- **Grade Requirement** – Student must be in eighth grade or 14 years of age (or above) and express a desire for Confirmation.
- **Registration**
 - Complete the Registration Form requesting Confirmation
 - Certificate of Baptism - A copy of the child's baptism certificate is required if your child was baptized at a parish other than OLPH.
 - Parish Registration – one of the following criteria must be met:
 - Your family must be registered members of OLPH.
 - If you are a registered member of another parish but wish for your child to be confirmed with OLPH, you must provide a letter from your pastor stating that your child has permission to do so.
 - If you would like your child to receive Confirmation in the parish in which you are registered, we will be happy to provide a letter certifying his/her participation in our program, at your request.
 - Supply Fee - \$50 payable at Registration
- **Religious Education Classes** – Child must be attending a Catholic school or be enrolled in Parish Religious Education classes for at least the year prior to the sacramental year. In other words, a child in eighth grade may receive Confirmation only if he or she was enrolled in a Catholic school or Parish Religious Education class during their seventh grade year. Please provide evidence of this enrollment if the child was not enrolled here at OLPH last year.
- **Mass Attendance** – All children and young adults are expected to attend Sunday Mass on a weekly basis in order to connect religious education, sacramental preparation and prayer, to the Liturgy of the Mass. **NOTE: Competitive sports leagues require many of our students to be out of town on the weekend. Parents should make sure that students never miss Sunday Mass due to a ball game. (Coaches should be informed of this issue well in advance.)** It is the responsibility of parents to check www.masstimes.org for churches and Mass times when traveling. Please make Mass attendance part of your travel plans.

- **Confirmation Retreat** – Attendance at a Confirmation retreat is required by the Diocese of Memphis. **Important Note: This Retreat is mandatory. The student must be present for the entire retreat.**
- **Eucharistic Adoration** –We encourage all students preparing for Confirmation to take advantage of opportunities to worship our Lord through Eucharistic Adoration. **NOTE: First Friday Adoration is held every month at OLPH Church in the Chapel following 8:15 a.m. Mass, with Benediction at 8:00pm.**
- **Letter to the Bishop** - Confirmandi must write a letter to Bishop David Talley requesting Confirmation. This letter is to be the work of the Confirmandi, always in their own words, about their spiritual relationship with God.
- **Parent Sacrament Meetings** - The Diocese of Memphis requires parents to attend meetings on Confirmation See PRE Calendar for Meeting Dates
- **Reconciliation** – Confirmandi are encouraged to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly, preferably with their families, especially during the liturgical seasons of Advent and Lent.
- **Sponsors and Confirmation Names** - Information on choosing Sponsors and Confirmation names will be given by their Confirmation teacher, including the due dates.
- **Sponsor Qualifications:**
 - The individual must be at least 16 years old.
 - A parent may not be a sponsor though they may stand as a proxy if the sponsor cannot attend.
 - He or she must have received the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation in the Catholic Church.
 - If he or she is married, the marriage should have taken place in the Catholic Church.
 - The person must have the intention, the ability, and adequate time to be a Sponsor.
 - The Sponsor should live according to the Catholic Faith: attend Mass every weekend and receive the sacraments of the Church regularly, especially Reconciliation and the Eucharist. (A Catholic is required to receive Reconciliation and Eucharist once each year.)
 - The Sponsor should practice the Faith within a Catholic parish community, and live a moral life
- **Works of Mercy/Service Hours** - Students are required to perform minimum 30 hours (15 hours year 1 (7th Grade) and 15 year 2 (8th Grade). Further details will be available on the OLPH website
- **Saint Project:** Breakfast with the Saints-Further details will be provided at a later date
- **Attire for Confirmandi at Confirmation:**

Girls:

- o Simple white dress must be appropriate in length. Dresses that are strapless or have spaghetti straps **must** have a white jacket, shawl or sweater worn over them. Low necklines are not appropriate.
- o Appropriate white or nude colored dress shoes (open toe is fine)

Boys:

- o Dark Suit or Dark Sport Coat
- o Tan/khaki pants with belt
- o White shirt and Tie (regular tie or bow tie)
- o Dark socks and appropriate dress shoes