



Confirmation 2026-2027 Information

The Archdiocese of Atlanta is moving Confirmation to the middle school years and encouraging a more family-centered approach to preparation. As a result, we will now welcome rising 8th, 9th, and 10th grade students—who meet the preparation requirements—to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in Spring 2027.

Introduction to Confirmation Preparation

Archdiocesan Guidelines

Confirmation is a very exciting time in the faith journey of a Catholic. The Archdiocese of Atlanta guidelines are as follows:

The free-standing, parish-conducted Confirmation formation program must be distinguished from the ordinarily required two-year prerequisite foundational religious education program... the parish Confirmation formation program should occur independently from the on-going religious education program. The parish Confirmation formation program should also be of brief duration and intensely focused on the nature, effects, gifts, and fruits of the Sacrament of Confirmation as they are discussed in the Catechism.

*The candidate has the right to make the decision about readiness to receive this Sacrament... The Sacrament of Confirmation is sometimes called the Sacrament of Christian maturity, even though biological age is not necessarily an indicator of receptivity to the Sacrament, (Catechism no. 1308). **

Confirmation Program Requirements

1. Confirmation Sign-Up

- We require all families to fill out the [2027 Spring Confirmation Class Form](#) to ensure we have all of you in our database

2. Parish Registration

- All families must be registered as parishioners at St. Ann's.
- To register online, please fill out the [PARISH REGISTRATION](#) or go to st-ann.org and click on REGISTER.

3. Baptism Certificate

- Regardless of whether your child was baptized at St. Ann or not, we now must have all Confirmandi fill out this [SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION FORM FOR BAPTISM](#).

4. 2 Years of Faith Formation: EDGE and Life Teen

- Students must successfully complete 2 years of faith formation: Sacramental Year 1 and Year 2
- Attendance at a Catholic school can meet this requirement.

- c. Students may miss up to three sessions without completing a make-up session. Additional absences must be made up by attending another Edge session or completing an online lesson
- d. The 2026-2027 Edge and Life Teen Calendars will be available online July 1, 2026.

5. Service Hours

- a. **10 hours of community service are required** and can be split between Year 1 and Year 2. This service does not need to take place on campus or directly with a service organization. Any act of service that helps or shows love to others outside of your own family can count.
- b. The [SERVICE HOUR VERIFICATION FORM](#) must be completed **by March 1, 2027**

6. Saint and Sponsor form

- a. Each Confirmandi is required to complete a Saint and Sponsor Form. On this form, they will indicate the sponsor they have chosen and the saint they have selected.
- b. [The SAINT AND SPONSOR FORM](#) must be completed this form **by March 1, 2027**

7. Catch the Spirit

- a. This Confirmation camp is a required stand alone component for confirmation.
- b. This year, Catch the Spirit will be offered 2 different weeks in the summer 2026 and open to both Year 1 and Year 2 students:
 - i. **July 13-16, 2026: 5:30pm - 9:00 pm**
 - ii. **July 20-23, 2026: 9:30am - 1:00pm**

8. Confirmation Retreat

- a. Participation in the Confirmation Retreat, which will take place at Camp Hidden Lake: 830 Hidden Lake Road Dahlonega, GA 30533. The Retreat is a 1-night, overnight retreat leaving Saturday at 8:00am. The retreat ends at the conclusion of Sunday, 6:00pm Mass.
- b. The confirmation retreat will be offered 2 different weekends and open to Year 1 and Year 2 students:
 - i. **October - October 10-11, 2026**
 - ii. **January - January 30-31, 2027**

9. NEW: Parent Faith Formation

- a. Parents of all Confirmation Year 2 students are now required to complete **six hours** of Faith Formation through programs of their choice.
- b. **Exemptions:** Parents who are Catechists for Launch, Core Members for Edge or Life Teen, or work at a Catholic school are exempt.
- c. **Faith Formation Options:**
 - i. St. Ann's is a vibrant community offering many adult faith formation opportunities including: priest workshops, bible studies, men and women's groups etc. You are also welcome to engage in other Faith Formation programs throughout the diocese.
- d. [Parent Faith Formation Form](#) must be completed this form **by March 1, 2027**

Confirmation Specifics

Confirmation Mass

- Confirmation will be celebrated in late spring 2027 (April or May)
- We will request our dates June 1, 2026 and will communicate the exact date as soon as we know.
- There will be 2 Masses celebrated on the same day. A sign-up link will be sent out closer to the date.
- Confirmandi will actively participate in the Mass as gift bearers, lectors, or in the procession.

- We invite your family to take part in the **Confirmation Mass** in a meaningful way by signing up as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (EM), or altar server.

Confirmation Rehearsal

- A rehearsal for Confirmation will be on the Thursday before Confirmation in the evening.
- All Confirmandi and their sponsor are required to attend. Parents are welcome to attend as well.

Confirmation Attire

Clothing - As you determine your clothes for this special day, please refer to these notes:

Ladies:

Dress in a modest skirt and blouse or dress or nice pants suit and dress shoes. Dresses and skirts should be no shorter than above the knee, shoulders covered and the top must be modest regarding tightness and cut; no open backs, see through shirts or low-cut necklines (wear a shawl or sweater if needed).

Gentlemen:

Wear slacks or dress pants, a tucked in button down long sleeve shirt (with or without a blazer) or a suit, and dress shoes. No tennis/jogging shoes or jeans. Ties and jackets are encouraged, but optional.

Texts

To make sure you do not miss any special dates or announcements for your teen's sacrament year, please sign up for our text messages by texting @kc864k2 to the number 81010

Livestream

For friends and family who are not able to attend in person, all Confirmation Masses will be livestreamed and recorded at st-ann.org/watch-live and later posted on [Catholic Church of St. Ann - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC864k2).

Confirmation Schedule

	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	Confirmed	
Current 9th						Aug. 2026	grade 9
Current 8th	Year 2					Spring-27	grade 9
Current 7th	Year 1	Year 2				Spring-27	grade 8
Current 6th		Year 1	Year 2			Spring-28	grade 8
Current 5th		Year 1	Year 2			Spring-28	grade 7
Current 4th			Year 1	Year 2		Spring-29	grade 7
Current 3rd			Year 1	Year 2		Spring-29	grade 6
Current 2nd				Year 1	Year 2	Spring-30	grade 6
Current 1st				Year 1	Year 2	Spring-30	grade 6

Important Dates

July 13-16 Catch the Spirit (5:30 - 9:00pm)
 July 20-23 Catch the Spirit (9:30 - 1:00pm)
 October 10-11 Confirmation Retreat
 January 30-31, 2027 Confirmation Retreat

March 1, 2027 Service Hour Form Due
Saint/Sponsor Form Due
Sponsor Form Due
TBD Confirmation Mass 2027 (expect late April, early May)

Role of the Parents and Sponsors

Parents and sponsors of the candidates should understand the history and liturgy of the sacrament of Confirmation and its meaning for Christian living. They are the most significant witnesses of “confirmed Catholicism” in the life of a candidate. They should be involved with the candidate in preparation for the sacrament. This may take the form of discussions about topics covered at Confirmation Prep, attending Mass together, praying together, and more.

What is a sponsor?

A Confirmandi’s sponsor should be someone with whom they share their faith. It should be someone who has guided, or will help guide them, in their faith journey - both in their words and in their actions. A sponsor at Confirmation witnesses the commitment to Christ which you are making. Your sponsor presents you to the (Arch)bishop and stands with you as he anoints you with the Chrism.

Sponsor Requirements

- Your sponsor must be a Baptized and Confirmed Catholic, at least 16 years old
- Your sponsor must be registered in a parish and actively participate in the life of the Church.

If married, your sponsor’s marriage must have been witnessed in the Catholic Church by a priest or deacon. The revised code of Canon Law states that parents cannot be sponsors; however, if the sponsor is unable to travel to be at Mass, parents may stand in as a proxy so long as the parish is informed ahead of time.

Sponsor Form

We require that every Confirmation sponsor complete the [SPONSOR FORM](#) **by March 1, 2027.**

If your sponsor is a parishioner at St. Ann:

The sponsor must fill out the form and sign it. They do not need the signature to be witnessed by a member of staff or receive the parish seal on the document. However, the form **MUST** have their signature. If your sponsor is an St. Ann parishioner, you may scan and email the form to us.

If your sponsor is NOT a parishioner at St. Ann:

The sponsor must fill out the form, and have it witnessed by the pastor of their parish – this requires the parish seal. This can take a while if the pastor is out of town, so it is never too early to go ahead and get this done!! We must have the original form; no electronic or scanned copies will be accepted since parish seals are typically not legible in this format. Please mail the form.

Confirmation Saint

Choosing a Confirmation Saint name is a very important part of the Confirmation process. This Saint should be someone who inspires you, someone you identify with, and most importantly, someone who can be a role model for you in your Catholic faith.

Need some inspiration? First, pray about it and then check out the following links:

<https://lifeteen.com/blog/biggest-best-list-confirmation-saints-guys-girls/>

<http://catholicsaints.info/>

<https://shop.lifeteen.com/products/100-saints-every-catholicteen-should-know>

Service Hours

Service hours are an important component of Confirmation preparation. This sacrament is about making the faith your own, and that includes going out into the world and living it. We ask for ten hours of service.

Common FAQs About Confirmation

What if my sponsor cannot attend Mass?

We understand that many of our teens may choose sponsors who live out-of-state or even outside the United States. If a sponsor cannot attend Confirmation Mass, a parent may stand in as a “proxy”. We simply ask that we are made aware of the situation well in advance via email. Please email Matthew Barranco at mbarranco@st.ann.org

Why are parents required to attend 6 hours of faith formation?

The Archbishop asks us to adopt a family-oriented Confirmation Program to foster the partnership between parents and the parish in their child’s faith formation. These sessions will allow us to include parents in the preparation of this once-in-a-lifetime sacrament.

Why is there a service requirement?

Service hours are a component of Confirmation preparation. This sacrament is about making the faith your own, and that includes going out into the world and living it.

My Confirmation Sponsor lives in another country. Do I have to have an original Sponsor Form, or can I email it to St. Ann?

Sorry, no electronic copies of the Sponsor Form will be accepted. We must have an original so be sure to get the form to your sponsor as soon as possible so they can have it filled out and mailed back! Questions about the form should be directed to Matthew Barranco at mbarranco@st.ann.org

How will I receive information about Confirmation Preparation?

We will create an email list and use Remind texting to communicate with all parents. Please make sure any email addresses listed are ones that are checked regularly.

Contact Information

Any questions about Confirmation paperwork, requirements, Confirmation Mass, or retreat should be directed to:

Matthew Barranco
Middle School/Confirmation Youth Minister
mbarranco@st-ann.org
770.552.6400 ext. 6036

Jill Orban
Director Youth Ministry
jorban@st-ann.org
770.552.6400 ext. 6035