

**CONFIRMATION AT A GLANCE – see more detailed sheets at the end of this
handout**

Sponsors' contact info due January 7, 2019

**Orientation for students and sponsors: January 27, 2019 6:30-7:30PM in the
CHURCH HALL FOR ALL STUDENTS AND SPONSORS**

**Remaining classes will be held from 9-10:45AM AND POSSIBLY A 6-7:45pm
CLASS ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:**

Sunday February 3rd

Sunday February 10th (off 2/17)

Sunday February 24th (off 3/3)

Sunday March 10th (off 3/17)

Sunday March 24th

Sunday March 31st

We would like to offer a 6PM evening class but need catechists. If anyone is cleared and willing to help, please contact Kat at smm youth@smmchurch.org

Makeup classes will be a packet that will need to be completed by both the student and the sponsor or parent.

Requirements: ***REGISTRATION SHEET AND ATTENDANCE POLICY**

******* Sponsor name & contact info ALL DUE 1/7/19**

Class attendance/makeup work – MANDATORY (see policy)

Baptismal DUE 4/1/19

Prep fee of \$130 2/3/19

Confirmation interview – done at retreat

**One parish retreat from the choices WE WILL LET YOU
KNOW IF IT IS OUR FINAL OPTION!!! DO NOT WAIT!!!**

Letter to Bishop Malooly DUE 9/16/19

Sponsor eligibility form (if not SMM) DUE 10/1/19

**Choice of Confirmation name if not Baptismal DUE
10/1/19**

One service to the parish DUE 10/15/19

Two youth & family social DUE 10/15/19

Rehearsal for sacrament THURSDAY OCTOBER 24TH

WHAT TO EXPECT THIS YEAR:

Our Confirmation candidates are asked to respond to the Office of Religious Education with the **name, address and e-mail of their sponsors**. This information is critical to implementing follow-up steps in the year's events and we ask your help in responding in a timely manner. Please review sponsor requirements before asking someone to be your sponsor!

The **first formal gathering of the Confirmandi** with their teachers occurs on Sunday evening, January 27, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. for both **SPONSORS** and **STUDENTS** in the **CHURCH HALL**. At this time, sponsors are introduced to their role, and offered tools to aid them in fully supporting the youth. Students will meet the Catechists who will be acting as their teachers for the remaining classes in the fall, and with their sponsors will have their first class experience that evening. The evening ends with a prayer service for both groups together. The class runs approximately one hour.

NOTE: Parents are asked to step in and attend initial sponsor class and rehearsal if the sponsors themselves are unable to attend.

Remaining classes will run on Sundays from 9-10:45AM on February 3, 10, 24, March 10, 24, 31, and the retreat choices will all be over the summer. This instruction is specific to the sacrament of Confirmation and only enhances any formal religious instruction received by the student in school. There are other requirements listed on a separate sheet, including the choice of various Confirmation retreats. Students are asked to bring their letter of intent directed to Bishop Malooly By September 16th. The letter should simply introduce them, give a little personal information about school, sports, other interests, etc., then say why they want to be Confirmed and what effect they expect the sacrament to have on them – **about 3 paragraphs. That's paragraphs, not sentences!** I am required to send the Bishop's office a list with their ages, where they attend school, etc.

Each Confirmation student is asked to meet for a personal interview with either the Youth Minister or the Director of Religious Education. This meeting gives our candidates an opportunity to solidify their understanding of the sacrament and to ask any questions about the sacrament or celebration. Interviews will take place during the retreat, along with an opportunity to receive Reconciliation. The dates for the retreats are all in the packet. **PLEASE SIGN UP FOR A RETREAT RIGHT AWAY IF YOU KNOW YOU HAVE DATE CONSTRAINTS OVER THE SUMMER. SPACE IS LIMITED EACH TIME.**

All students are expected to attend the **Confirmation REHEARSAL** –OCTOBER 24TH 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Church Hall for initial lineup, then practice in the Church.

The celebration of CONFIRMATION is scheduled for **Saturday, October 26th** at 11:00 a.m. in the Church. Students and Sponsors are asked to arrive at the Church Hall **by 10:00 a.m.** – our Bishop likes to see them prior to the sacrament! A Reception in the Church Hall will follow Confirmation Mass.

Confirmation Eligibility Requirements

Students must get "Requirement Completion Form" signed at each event by the adult supervisor – NOT YOU

Each student must complete the following to be eligible for Confirmation:

1. Attend ALL classes
2. Attend TWO family social events (that means student and family)
3. Complete ONE service to the Parish (that means at SMM see green box next page)
4. Attend ONE Confirmation Retreat
5. Complete a letter to the Bishop

It is recommended that you begin this list when it is received. Waiting until the start of freshman year will provide less opportunities and a more demanding schedule for new high school students. There are multiple opportunities every month so you can easily be done by June!

Detailed Breakdown of Requirements

Family Socials

Each student and family must attend two family socials.

•Diocesan Pilgrimage- March 24th

Bishop Malooly's Pilgrimage is an event for the whole family to experience community, adoration, blessings, and stations of the cross while walking through the diocese as witnesses of the Catholic faith. The day will end with Palm Saturday vigil mass. Pre-registration required, SIGNUP FORM ON YOUTH MINISTRY PAGE

•Youth and Family Mass Dinners

First Saturday of each month. The dinner that follows the mass is the social, mass is a weekly obligation and does not count on its own.

•Soup and Stations- March 22nd - Lenten dinner of soup, bread and salad, followed by Stations of the Cross. Youth ministry provides the bread and salad, we ask you to bring soup.

•Family BBQ Socials

One Sunday a month during the summer we will have BBQ dinners on the Rectory lawn. Dates TBA

Confirmation Class Attendance Policy

Please understand that Confirmation classes are cumulative and discussion based; it is of utmost importance that your child attends class. If your child fails to abide by the below attendance policy, he/she may become *ineligible* to receive the sacrament of Confirmation with his/her class. By providing you with these dates now, it should enable you to work around your family schedule!

February 3rd
February 10th
February 24th
March 10th
March 24th
March 31st

The retreats will all include their interview and the opportunity for the sacrament of Reconciliation.

• If your child cannot attend his/her scheduled Confirmation class time, please contact Kat Busdfield-Birch about making up the work. **Makeup classes will be in the form of a packet that will need to be completed by both the student and the sponsor or a parent!!!**

Service Opportunities

Students must complete one service TO THE PARISH. There is no hour minimum but school run events that are not open to the whole parish do not count. CYM IS open to the parish, so CYM events (including 3v3) can be used!

- **Set up and Clean-up for Youth and Family Dinner Socials**
- **Fall Harvest Food Drive** Contact Ronni O'Connor vsdnjt@comcast.net for info.
- **Altar Server/Usher at Mass**
- **Help Decorate the Church** – each liturgical season requires help decorating the church! Please contact Richard Heiss at gaynorheiss@Comcast.net - currently needs help **SATURDAY DECEMBER 1ST** to set up for Advent at 11AM in the church!
- **Lector at Mass** contact Kat for info
- **Cross Holder at Good Friday Service:** contact Kat for details
- **Catholic Heart Work Camp:** Contact Kat for info about this week long service and retreat opportunity
- **Vacation Bible School Counselor:** contact Mrs. Yasik about this week long service and social opportunity
- **Walk to Easter Counselor- Good Friday:** contact Mrs. Yasik for details
- **Religious Ed. Catechist Aide:** to help as an aide in the Religious Ed. Classes each Sunday starting in September, contact Mrs. Yasik.

Retreat Options

Each student must complete a retreat. Please choose the date that best fits your family's schedule and sign up online. There is limited space of 25 for each retreat - don't delay. Those who fail to sign up will be placed at the final retreat. Check sports, rehearsal, and family schedules and plan accordingly.

**Sign up for your retreat choice
June 26th, July 17th or July 31st
at**

[Summer retreat signup](#)

**Catholic Heart Work Camp-
Week of July 7th -12th in Hartford, CT**
This is a week-long overnight service camp comprised of daily service and nightly prayer, music, and socials opportunities. This counts as one social due to its extended time frame, retreat, and service. Visit <https://smmchurch.org/catholicheart> for details.

Requirements completion form – return by October 16th

-also – it should be common sense that you do not ask someone to sign the form until you fill out what you want them to sign for- and parents cannot sign the form or just give blank info with no supervisor. Don't send me an email saying you did them, that is not a signed form by a supervisor!!!

Service requirement (no hour amount – just to parish!)

DATE COMPLETED	DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE COMPLETED	SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISING ADULT
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Social requirement (2 family events)

DATE COMPLETED	EVENT/PROGRAM ATTENDED	SIGNATURE OF SUPERVISING ADULT
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(NOTE – IF THE PROGRAM REQUIRED A PERMISSION SLIP, WE WILL NOT NEED A SIGNATURE – WE CHECK THE SLIPS AFTER EVENTS.)

CONFIRMATION NAME: _____

IN ADDITION YOU MUST ATTEND ALL CLASSES AND LECTURES, AND HAND IN YOUR LETTER FOR INTERVIEW.

*******PLEASE DO NOT LOSE THIS! YOU WILL FIND IT HELPFUL WHEN YOU ARE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT YOU STILL NEED TO DO COME NEXT FALL, AND OFTEN IF YOU COMPLETED YOUR REQUIREMENT IN FEBRUARY AND ARE TRYING TO CHECK IN SEPTEMBER YOUR SUPERVISING ADULT WON'T REMEMBER!**

YOUR NAME: _____

How to choose a Confirmation name

Confirmation names are tied in to our Baptism. When you are Baptized, you “become new,” and in the early church, that meant you were given a new name. Names in those days referred to your occupation; many early Christians were slaves, so they took the names of saints, or people in the church that they respected. Since then they received Baptism and Confirmation together (along with Eucharist), they took one new name. Today, since the sacraments are separated from each other, the custom still remains that a new name can be taken at the time of the sacrament.

As a result, for Confirmation you can either choose to use your Baptismal name (whether it is a saint’s name or not), or you can choose a saint’s name to use. If you do choose another name, it must be a saint’s name. If you have a name in mind and aren’t sure if it is a saint’s, you can go to catholiconline.com and check the saints index. It’s alphabetical and has literally thousands of names. If your name is a family name and is in another language, as long as the name in English is on the list, you can use it. If you have no idea of what name to pick, you can also check their list of patron saints (for example, if you like music, Cecilia is the patron saint of musicians). If none of that interests you, you can also go to the saints whose feast is on your birthday, and see if any of those are what you would like to use. We have many books available, which you are welcome to borrow, that you can use to search for names as well.

St. Mary Magdalen Parish
Sponsor ELIGIBILITY form
-for use by non-parishioners

Dear Sponsor:

_____ has chosen you to be present to sponsor him/her for Confirmation. We will be happy to welcome all those who are not members of the parish. Your presence will be a blessing for us.

Confirmation will be celebrated on Saturday, October 26, 2019, at 11:00 AM.

All Confirmandi and their sponsors are expected to meet in the Church Hall by 10:00 AM to meet the Bishop and for final instructions and lineup.

Please complete this form and have your pastor sign it. Please return this form to us as soon as possible but **no later than October 1, 2019**. Thank you for your willingness to help these young people as they begin their faith journey.

_____ signature of YOUR Pastor (REMEMBER THIS IS ONLY NEEDED IF YOU ARE NOT AN SMM PARISHIONER)

Name of sponsor's parish: _____

Address of sponsor's parish: _____

Please answer the following questions. (yes or no)

_____ I accept and am aware of the role of Confirmation sponsor.

_____ I am a practicing Catholic who attends Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation.

_____ I have received Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, and Reconciliation.

_____ I know I must attend the Confirmation on Saturday, October 26, 2019.

_____ I know that either I or a responsible adult substitute must be at the rehearsal on Thursday, October 24th at 7:00 PM.

_____ Sponsor (print name)
signature

Mail to SMM, attn. Karen Yasik, 7 Sharpley Road, Wilmington DE 19803

St. Mary Magdalen Parish
Wilmington, DE

The Role of the Sponsor

**The sponsor helps the confirmed person in the
unfolding of the gift of the Holy Spirit.**

***One sponsor* accompanies each person being confirmed.**

***Adult Confirmed Catholics*, who strive to have a
strong and long-lasting influence**

on the person being confirmed, should be chosen.

**In our diocese, it is required that the sponsor be at least 16 years of age in addition to
already being Confirmed themselves.**

**The baptismal godparent is a good choice, to symbolize
the relationship between Baptism and Confirmation**

A parent may not be his or her child's sponsor.

***Before Confirmation*, the sponsor helps the candidate
*prepare for Confirmation.***

***At Confirmation*, the sponsor presents the candidate for anointing.**

***Afterwards*, through example and advice, the sponsor helps guide
the confirmed in a life of Christian commitment.**

**CONFIRMATION OCTOBER 2019
SPONSOR CONTACT INFO FORM**

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

STUDENT'S PHONE: _____

SPONSOR NAME: _____

SPONSOR ADDRESS (WITH ZIP CODE!)

SPONSOR PHONE: _____

SPONSOR E-MAIL: _____

RETURN THIS FORM TO
OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
7 SHARPLEY ROAD
WILMINGTON DE 19803

FORM DUE JANUARY 7, 2019

**(SO THAT WE CAN MAIL OR EMAIL YOUR SPONSOR INFO FOR
APRIL MEETING)**

**Remember sponsors must be active, practicing Catholics in
good standing. If they are not REGISTERED members of this
parish, they will need to fill out the sponsor eligibility form and
have it signed by their pastors!**

WE WILL EMAIL THE ELIGIBILITY FORM TO THEM!

Confirmation Class Attendance Policy – this information is also on the back of your requirements sheet so that you have it for reference!

Please understand that Confirmation classes are cumulative and discussion based; it is of utmost importance that your child attends class. If your child fails to abide by the below attendance policy, he/she may become **ineligible** to receive the sacrament of Confirmation with his/her class. By providing you with these dates well in advance, it should enable you to work around your family schedule!

- If your child cannot attend his/her scheduled Confirmation class time, please contact Kat Busfield-Birch at smyyouth@smmchurch.org to receive the packet that must be completed by **both the student and their sponsor or parent!!!**

Failure to complete all requirements may result in your child being ineligible to receive the sacrament in the fall.

I, _____ (Parent/Guardian) have read and understand the attendance
(Please Print Name)
policy for the Confirmation Process at St. Mary Magdalen.

I, _____ (Student Name) have read and understand the attendance
(Please Print Name)
policy for the Confirmation Process at St. Mary Magdalen.

Parent Signature _____

Date _____

Student Signature _____

Date _____

**Confirmation Student Registration
Confirmation 2019.**

Student Name: _____

Student age: _____

Home address: _____

Parent phone: _____

Parent (s) email(s): _____

Materials to be turned in ASAP (first page lists LATEST POSSIBLE DATES):

- Sponsor Contact Information form**
- Sponsor eligibility form (for sponsors from other parishes)**
- Baptismal (check with Mrs. Yasik- we have many of them from Communion)**
- Prep fee**
- Choice of Confirmation name**
- Completed requirements form**
- Letter to the bishop**

In addition, students are required to attend one of the retreat choices, where they will have an interview, and complete the service and social requirements listed on the paperwork.