



St. Stephen the Martyr  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
*Encounter, Know, Proclaim*

## Confirmation Requirements 2026-2027

The sacrament of Confirmation is going to be a key moment in your personal faith journey. In a few months, you will be standing at the altar and at the foot of the cross before the archbishop. In that moment, you will have the opportunity to say “YES” to God, “YES” to your family and your parish, and most importantly, “YES” to yourself that you are confirming what you couldn’t personally say at your baptism. Your “YES” means that this is what you want, that this is what you believe, and that this is what you are doing to show to all that you are now an active traveler in your faith journey.

In order to help prepare you to say “YES” in this very significant moment, you are being asked to complete several tasks or challenges. These are required and expected formation pieces. You will help yourself and your Church if you complete these with an open mind, spirit, and heart, and to hear the message God is providing you. Please don’t look at this as a checklist to complete. There is something to be learned and embraced by each of these tasks. It now falls on you to think about what that is and why it is important to you. If after careful thought you aren’t sure what you think or feel, please open a conversation with one of the program leaders!

### Online Forms

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Each candidate (not parent) must fill out three online forms found on our parish website <https://stephen.org> under “Sacraments” to show completion of the following Confirmation Requirements:

- **Pick Your Sponsor (due by October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026)**: We encourage you and your parents to really think about this. Who in your life can be a “spiritual advisor?” Whom do you have a strong relationship with (aside from Mom and Dad)? Pray about it! Once you have made a decision and have received a “yes” from the sponsor, fill out the Confirmation Sponsor Form found at: <https://stephen.org/confirmation/>
- **Pick Your Saint (due by November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026)**: Do some research by starting here: <https://lifeteen.com/find-your-saint>. Then pray about it. Once you have chosen a saint, fill out the Confirmation Saint Form found online at: <https://stephen.org/confirmation/>
- **Serve others (due by April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2027)**: God calls us to serve others. You will learn about the many, many, many opportunities where you can do so. While the minimum is ten hours, we encourage you to do more! You must fill out an online Service Hours Form **every time you volunteer**, found at: <https://stephen.org/confirmation/>

## Baptismal Certificate

Due Oct 21<sup>st</sup>, 2026

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- We will need a copy of every child's Baptismal Certificate, even if your child was baptized at St Stephen's. Please bring or send it to the Religious Education Office and we will make a copy OR scan and email it to Christie Hinton at [cahinton@stephen.org](mailto:cahinton@stephen.org)
- Don't have your child's Baptismal Certificate? Contact the parish where your child was baptized and request that they send the Baptismal Certificate to Christie Hinton at [cahinton@stephen.org](mailto:cahinton@stephen.org) For questions about SSM baptisms, contact Melissa in the SSM Parish Office at 402-896-9675 or email at [mdpayne@stephen.org](mailto:mdpayne@stephen.org)

## Confirmation Sponsor Encounter

Nov 13<sup>th</sup> or Nov 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026

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Friday, November 13th from 6:30-8:00pm -OR- Saturday, November 14th from 10:00-11:30am

Confirmation students and their sponsors are invited to attend a "**Confirmation Sponsor Encounter**," a short mini-retreat filled with snacks and fun activities, as well as a little one-on-one time to explore your faith together. This opportunity will be offered twice; choose which time best fits your schedule. If a sponsor is unable to attend, the student should invite a parent or another adult to accompany them. Please note that this encounter does not replace the mandatory Confirmation Retreat, for students only, which will be held in March.

## Confirmation Student Retreats

Mar 19<sup>th</sup> or Mar 20<sup>th</sup>, 2027

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Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup> (for SSM School Students @ Pro Sanctity) 8:00 am – 2:30 pm

-OR-

Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup> (for SSM Rel Ed Students @ Saint Stephen's Church) 8:00 am – 2:30 pm

All students are required to attend a one-day Confirmation retreat. The **One Heart-One Fire Ministry** will provide candidates with an opportunity to encounter the Holy Spirit through prayer, reflection, and fun activities with fellow classmates. Please watch for sign-up opportunities as many parents and young adults will be needed to volunteer to help at these special retreats!

## Letter to the Archbishop

Due Mar 31<sup>st</sup>, 2027

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Once you feel that you understand the Sacrament of Confirmation, and you have decided that you wish to accept this great gift from God, it is time to express this decision by asking to be confirmed. Each of you will write and sign a personal letter to the Archbishop, requesting that you be confirmed. Additional details and a tutorial will be provided in January. The letter should clearly express:

1. That receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation is your decision.
2. That you have prepared for the sacrament through study, service, and prayer.
3. That you have accepted the responsibility of living a more mature Christian life by being of service to the community.

## SSM Confirmation 2026-2027

### Mass Assignments

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|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Tuesday Confirmation Mass:<br/>May 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm</b><br><br>Required Rehearsal on<br>Thursday, May 6 <sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm   | <b>School:</b> 8A (Harvey)<br><br><b>Rel Ed:</b> 8AT4 (Hanafan/Johnson),<br>8BT4 (Reece/Snowden), &<br>8AW5 (Shaner/Turner) |
| <b>Wednesday Confirmation Mass:<br/>May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm</b><br><br>Required Rehearsal on<br>Thursday, May 6 <sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm | <b>School:</b> 8B (Koubsky)<br><br><b>Rel Ed:</b> 8AW4 (Witt/Moffett) &<br>8BW4 (Bogue/Nolan)                               |
| <b>Thursday Confirmation Mass:<br/>May 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm</b><br><br>Required Rehearsal on<br>Friday, May 7 <sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm    | <b>School:</b> 8C (Codina)<br><br><b>Rel Ed:</b> 8CW4 (Pearson) &<br>8AW7 (Rohrbach/Meyer)                                  |

All students and their sponsors (a parent may fill in if a sponsor is unavailable) are expected to attend their assigned rehearsal date/time to prepare for the Confirmation Mass. If you have scheduling conflicts for your assigned dates, please reach out to Christie Hinton no later than April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2027! It brings us great joy to walk alongside you and your child on this journey towards Confirmation!

*Peace and Blessings!*

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