

# CONFIRMATION HANDBOOK

**Ave Maria Catholic Parish  
2022-2023**

"Be who you were created to be, and you will  
set the world on fire."  
-St. Catherine of Siena

## **Are you Registered?**

**Registration Deadline is October 15, 2022**

If you have not already registered

1. Complete the Sacrament Registration - it is only available online; no hard copies available\*\*\*
2. You must also be registered in Faith Formation classes or attend a Catholic School
3. Submit a signed copy of Handbook to Cassie Coyle [ccoyle@avemaria.church](mailto:ccoyle@avemaria.church) or return to the Parish Office.

\*\*\*visit [www.avemaria.church](http://www.avemaria.church) under Children's Faith Formation to access the Sacrament Registration

# IMPORTANT DATES

## **Faith Formation Classes**

### **Start:**

Week of September 11th

### **Registration Due:**

October 30th

### **Sponsor Meeting:**

Spring time near confirmation dates

## **Confirmation Retreat Dates:**

December 2-4

or

March 24-26

### **Parent Preps:**

February 15th or 25th

**and**

April 1st or 5th

# REQUIREMENTS

Enrolled in Faith Formation

Parent Sessions

Sponsor Meeting

Saint Project

Confirmation Retreat

# PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Parents are reminded in their child's Baptism that, "In asking for Baptism for your child(ren), you are undertaking the responsibility of raising him(her) in the faith, so that, keeping God's commandments, he(she) may love the Lord and his (her) neighbor as Christ has taught us." (Order of Baptism of Children)

## Parent Sacrament Classes

Preferably both parents (but at least one parent) are required to attend both parent meetings. One is in the fall semester and one is in the spring semester.

Goals of the parent sessions:

- Review their role as models in the faith development of their child
- Deepen their own faith lives
- Strengthen their family relationships so all may grow in relationship with God.

Dates:  
February 15th or 25th  
and  
April 1st or 5th

\*You will attend one in February and one in April\*  
All classes are from 10am-1pm

## SPONSORS

**Candidates must choose a suitable sponsor who will accompany them and meet the follow criterion:**

- Have been chosen by the candidate personally and have a significant relationship with the candidate
  - Have attained the age of sixteen (16) unless special circumstances are approved by the clergy
  - Be a fully initiated, confirmed, practicing Catholic that participates in Sunday liturgy weekly, leads a life of strong moral character and faith and is not bound by any canonical penalty
  - Is not the mother or father of the candidate
- \*\*\*Canon law states that it is preferable that the Confirmation sponsor be the baptismal sponsor so the link between Baptism and Confirmation is clearly defined

**Requirements for Sponsors**

- Sponsor Form (attached at end of packet) – to be completed by the sponsor and signed by the sponsor's parish.
- \*\*If the sponsor is a parishioner at Ave Maria, please have a sponsor read and sign their portion and return to the youth office for parish signature.
- Pray for your confirmandi
  - Meet with your confirmandi at a minimum once a month
  - Utilize the Sponsor Packet as a guide for your meetings with confirmandi
  - Attend Confirmation Rehearsal and the Confirmation Mass
  - Adhere to the dress code policy set forth by the Bishop's office

**SPONSOR TRAINING : TBD will be early spring**

If the sponsor is out of town or cannot make it, a parent may take the place and provide materials to the sponsor.

# OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

## CONFIRMATION RETREAT:

All confirmandi are required to attend one retreat. Both retreats will take place at Ponderosa Retreat Center in Larkspur, CO, and transportation is on your own. The retreat begins Friday evening and concludes Sunday early afternoon. Attendance is required for the entire duration of the retreat.

**Dates: December 2-4 OR March 25-27**

## SAINT PROJECT:

During preparation, the candidates will be choosing a Saint whose life inspires them, and whose life the confirmandi desires in some ways to imitate. In confirmation this Saint becomes spiritually bonded with the confirmandi and in essence becomes a Heavenly patron. More information on this will be provided by Catechist and School Teachers during classes.

## CONFIRMATION DATES:

Dates for confirmation are given to us from the Diocese since the rite of confirmation is reserved for the Bishop. You will typically have two dates to choose from. They will be available by late winter.

## PAPERWORK:

Required paperwork for confirmation includes:

- Child's Baptismal Certificate
- Signed Handbook
- Signed sponsor form
- Saint Report
- If you are not a parishioner of Ave Maria you will need a signed permission from your pastor to receive Confirmation here.

\*All Paperwork should be submitted to Molly Sacha (Faith Formation Assistant) at [msacha@avemaria.church](mailto:msacha@avemaria.church)\*

# ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT

**By signing this Acknowledgement of Receipt, you are demonstrating your understanding and commitment to fulfilling the requirements as they are outlined in the Confirmation Handbook.**

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**NAME OF CONFIRMANDI (PRINT)**

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**CONFIRMANDI  
SIGNATURE**

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**NAME OF PARENT (PRINT)**

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**PARENT  
SIGNATURE**