

ST. CLEMENT CHURCH

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September 23, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Sacrament of Confirmation forms an important moment in the life of young Catholics. At a time of physical and emotional change, with its uncertainties and confusions, our young people need to be reassured of God's unconditional love for them. In this Sacrament, God comes to them with confidence and love, offering them the self-assurance, strength, and wisdom to deepen their bonds of friendship with Him and their neighbour. Each candidate, in turn, responds in faith to the fundamental truths of our faith in front of the celebrant and the entire assembled community.

When during the Confirmation ceremony your son/daughter commits to these beliefs, they commit themselves to living a Catholic, Christian life. This implies they want to experience God more deeply in Jesus Christ. Therefore, they must be open to continuing and developing a daily personal prayer life, anchored in their regular attendance at one of our parish Sunday Masses. Growth in the likeness of Christ through prayer and the Sacraments will enable them to be of real Christian service to the community.

At least one parent is required to attend the Registration Meeting with their child. At this meeting, we will pray for the candidates, learn about the Sacrament and the liturgy of Confirmation, and better understand our role in preparing for this great celebration.

In advance of the registration meeting, I would ask the candidate to choose a confirmation sponsor. In choosing their sponsor, they should keep in mind that this person acts as a role model for the candidate to show what it means to be a full and active member of the church. Please consult the attached sheet entitled *"Choosing your Confirmation Sponsor"* to assist you with this important decision.

Your son/daughter needs to register as a candidate and prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the following ways:

Schedule of Meetings and Events

1. Registration & Information Meeting in the PARISH HALL (one parent & candidate)
Thursday October 16, 2025 Registration 6:30 p.m. and Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

You will need to provide:

1. Your completed Registration Form (see attached)

2. A copy of your child's baptismal certificate (even if they were baptized here)
3. \$100 registration fee (includes book, resources and Confirmation gown)
2. The candidate will receive the Commitment Form at the Registration meeting, which is to be filled out and brought to one of the following Enrollment masses:
Saturday November 1st, 2025 4:45 p.m. OR Sunday November 2nd, 2025 9:30 a.m.
OR Sunday November 2nd, 2025 11:30 a.m.
This symbolizes your son/daughter's willingness to regularly attend Sunday Mass in preparation to receive this great Sacrament. During the Mass, the Confirmation candidates bring forward their completed Commitment Form, receive their Confirmation crosses, and receive a special blessing by the priest at the end of mass.
3. Attendance at SEVEN Preparation Classes (preceded by 9:30am Mass) & the Confirmation Retreat in the parish hall
The dates for the seven SUNDAY MORNING MASS AND MANDATORY SESSIONS and Saturday Confirmation retreat can be found in the attached schedule. We are excited to use the book and video series *Decision Point* by Dynamic Catholic.com as part of our parish preparation program this year.
4. Participation in Lenten Tableau Presentation and availability to assist at parish events when asked/needed.
5. Sacrament of Reconciliation prior to Confirmation
This will be celebrated during Lent at St. Clement School. Those candidates not attending St. Clement School will be asked to make their confession at one of our regular Saturday afternoon 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. Confession times prior to the Confirmation Mass.
6. Confirmation Rehearsal (mandatory for one parent, candidate; and sponsor if possible)
Thursday May 21, 2026 at 7:00 pm
It is only after each of these steps have been completed that your son/daughter will be accepted as a candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation, which will take place on

Sunday May 24, 2026 at 2:00 pm

I ask you to discuss these matters with your son/daughter in advance of our upcoming Registration and Information Meeting on Thursday October 16, 2025.

May the Holy Spirit accompany each of us as together we help our young people in their preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Yours in Christ,



Fr. Timothy K. Hanley
Pastor