

Parent's Checklist for Confirmation Preparation (Year 1)

Make sure you have these items **done before leaving the orientation meeting:**

- Completed family registration as members of St. Agnes Parish.
- Completed student registration for Youth Group and Sacrament Preparation (1 form.)
- A copy of your student's Baptismal certificate with the mailing address on it.
- A copy of your student's First Holy Communion certificate.
- Pay fees. There is an annual sacrament fee of \$100 payable to St. Agnes Parish. Or make an appointment with the Director today if you need a partial or full scholarship or a payment plan.
- Pick up calendars for Youth Group and for Sacrament Preparation (2 calendars)
- Pick up a box of Children's Offertory Envelopes.
- Have your student commit to a ministry for service hours.
- Have your student regularly study the Study Guide throughout their preparation

Work with your student **to complete the following by the last Youth Group in December:**

- Regular Sunday Mass attendance using Children's Offertory envelopes.
- At least 7 youth nights attended or proof of Catholic school/homeschool provided.
- At least 7 service hours completed; log turned in.

Work with your student **to complete the following by Eastertime:**

- Continuing regular Sunday Mass attendance using Children's Offertory envelopes.
- At least 15 youth nights attended or proof of Catholic school/homeschool provided.
- At least 15 service hours completed; log turned in.
- Attend all the events on the Confirmation Year 1 calendar; if you miss an event, completed makeup work must be turned in to the faith formation office within one week of the absence.

Work with your student **to complete the following to turn in with your registration for year 2:**

- Sponsor Form
- Student Essay (My Confirmation Name, Sharing the Story of My Saint.)

Parent's Checklist for Confirmation Preparation (Year 2)

Make sure you have these items **done before leaving the orientation meeting:**

- If you did not attend Youth Group at St. Agnes last year, make sure your family is registered with St. Agnes Parish as members, turn in a letter (or report card) from the church/school your child attended religious education last school year, and complete year 1 checklist above.
- Completed student registration for Youth Group and Sacrament Preparation (1 form.)
- Pay fees. There is an annual sacrament fee of \$100 payable to St. Agnes Parish. Or make an appointment with the Director today if you need a partial or full scholarship or a payment plan.
- Pick up calendars for Youth Group and for Sacrament Preparation (2 calendars.)
- Pick up a box of Children's Offertory Envelopes.
- Have your student commit to a ministry for service hours.

Work with your student and the Sponsor to **complete the following by Eastertime:**

- Regular Sunday Mass attendance using Children's Offertory envelopes.
- At least 15 youth nights attended or proof of Catholic school/homeschool provided.
- At least 15 service hours completed.
- Attend all the events on the Confirmation Year 2 calendar; if you miss an event, completed makeup work must be turned in to the faith formation office within one week of the absence.
- Prepare for a written/oral exam using the Confirmation Study Guide.

Confirmation Appendix to the Family Handbook

The complete Family Handbook and Confirmation Appendix are available at www.stagnesnaples.org.

Diocese of Venice Policy states that for students who have already received Baptism, First Reconciliation and First Communion, Confirmation preparation consists of at least two full years of faith formation (See Family Handbook for what constitutes a full year.) Preparation usually begins in grade 9, with the celebration of Confirmation occurring at the end of grade 10. During the second year (or more), when teens have reached the maturity of at least sixteen year of age, an intense proximate preparation is provided. This is accomplished by adding an additional monthly sacramental preparation class to the regular weekly youth nights along with age-appropriate service opportunities and retreat experiences.

In summary, Confirmation preparation is a minimum of two years, as follows:

- Year 1 (9th grade & up): attend at least 15 Youth Group sessions + 15 hrs. of service + Year 1 Confirmation calendar
- Year 2 (10th grade & up): attend at least 15 Youth Group sessions + 15 hrs. of service + Year 2 Conf. calendar
- After the celebration of the sacrament, Faith Formation continues through grade 12 and beyond.

Catholic school & home school students who wish to receive their sacraments at St. Agnes Church, are not required (but are welcome) to attend youth group. Their faith formation/youth group obligation is met through their school/home religion class.)

In order to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, a Candidate must:

- Express a desire to be Confirmed—a decision which is a personal choice not based on pressure from parents, peers, parish, nor unduly influenced by culture or custom;
- Demonstrate a willingness to participate in the Confirmation process;
- Exhibit a personal commitment to the faith;
- Understand and appreciate the sacraments already received;
- Demonstrate an adequate understanding that the commitment inherent in choosing to receive the Sacrament involves a way of life based on the morality of the Catholic Church;
- Understand that faith-development is an ongoing process and is furthered by participation in the life of the parish and continued faith formation;

In addition, the Candidate will demonstrate his/her readiness by:

- Attending Sunday Mass and using the Children's Offertory envelopes. Attendance is tracked by envelopes received.
- Completing the faith formation obligation by attending 15 Youth Group sessions, Catholic School, or homeschooling.
- Attending all events on Confirmation Year 1 and Confirmation Year 2 calendars.
- Choosing a Sponsor and turning in the form.
- Choosing a Confirmation name and turning in the Confirmation Name Essay.
- Studying the Confirmation Study Guide to prepare for a written/oral exam by the last session.
- Performing at least 15 service hours at the parish, approved by the Director, in each of their two years of preparation by the last session.

Dress code for the Confirmation Celebration:

For boys, a white button-down dress shirt (short or long sleeved), dress pants and a neck/bow tie of any color. Dress shoes. A sport coat is optional.

For girls, any modest dress suitable for a special occasion is appropriate. Spaghetti straps, bare shoulders, and low necklines are not appropriate. Dresses must reach the knees. Heels must be no more than 1 inch. No full-length dresses, petticoats, pants, or gloves.

Nothing else should be carried by the candidates at Mass, such as prayer books, bibles, flowers, purses, cell phones, rosaries, or candles.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation:

“To receive Confirmation one must be in a state of grace. One should receive the Sacrament of Penance in order to be cleansed for the gift of the Holy Spirit” (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1310). Therefore we “encourage the candidates to go to individual Confession near the day on which they are to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation” (*Transformation in God's Love*).