

# Sacrament of Confirmation – Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto

The essential rite of Confirmation is the anointing of the forehead of the baptized with sacred chrism, together with the laying on of the minister's hand with the words, "Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit." The sacrament of Confirmation completes baptismal grace and fulfills the second part of Christian initiation. Every person who has been baptized but not yet confirmed can and should receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation, like Baptism, imprints a spiritual mark or indelible character on the Christian's soul and for this reason, one can receive this sacrament only once in one's life.

## IMPORTANT REMINDER

### **When can I register my child to receive his/her Confirmation.**

Official registrations typically take place at the beginning of each school year.

#### Catholic school students:

Students going into grade 7 in September and attending one of our local elementary schools (*St. Clement, St. Peter, San Marco and St. Angela Merici schools*) will receive their registration form at the end of their school year (end of grade 6). The forms will contain the necessary information to proceed to register for Confirmation.

#### Public, private and out of boundary school students:

Parents are asked to download the registration form on this website and follow the instructions provided.

**Please do not bring completed registration forms to the parish office.**

### **How often does Confirmation celebrations take place at St. Peter's church.**

Each year, grade 7 students from our local Catholic elementary schools together with students from public, private and out of boundary schools receive their Sacrament of Confirmation within the Easter season. The Sacrament of Confirmation can only take place at this time.

### **What documents are to be submitted TOGETHER with the completed registration form?**

A copy of the child's Baptismal certificate, the completed Sponsor Information Sheet, and a recently dated copy of the intended Sponsor's Confirmation certificate.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **My child has not received the Sacrament of Baptism. Can he/she receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?**

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** We ask that you make note of this on the registration form! The parish office will contact you to discuss the details and make the necessary arrangements.

### **What preparation will my child receive for his/her Confirmation?**

Catholic school students: St. Peter's church works closely with our local catholic elementary schools to ensure the students are properly catechized and understand how important this sacrament is. A six week preparation course takes place at Holy Cross Catholic Academy on Tuesday or Thursday evenings (subject to change) from 7-9pm. Attendance is mandatory.

Public, private and out of boundary school students: A preparation program is provided at St. Peter's church, in one of our in house "classrooms" and typically takes place on Thursday evenings (subject to change) from 7-8:30pm. The program runs from October to March/April, allowing the students to grasp the fundamental importance of the sacrament. Attendance is mandatory.

To culminate the preparation programs, a one day retreat takes place at St. Peter's church (in parish hall) for all students. All dates will be communicated to the families once scheduled.

### **St. Peter's church is not my home parish. Can my child receive Confirmation at St. Peter's church?**

A letter of permission to have the child receive Confirmation elsewhere **must be obtained from the Pastor of the parish where the family usually worships.**

### **What are the qualifications of a Sponsor?**

The following are the requirements for Sponsors according to Canon Law 874.

*A minimum of 16 years of age*

*Has received Baptism, First Holy Communion, Confirmation and (if married), was married in the Catholic church.*

*In good standing with the Catholic Church (eg. has not married outside of the Catholic Church and a practicing member)*

*Is not divorced and remarried.*

### **Does the Sponsor need to provide proof that he/she received the Sacrament of Confirmation?**

Yes! The Sponsor must request a **recently dated copy of his/her confirmation certificate from the church where the sacrament was received**. A Sponsor Information Sheet will be attached to the registration form requiring the Sponsor to complete in full and attach a recently dated copy of the Confirmation certificate to it. **Please note: old copies of confirmation certificates that you have at home will not be acceptable.**

If for some reason, due to distance, etc. a certificate cannot be picked up in person, most parishes will email recently dated certificates to St. Peter's church directly. Kindly ensure to have the Confirmandi's name as a reference to the email. Parishes located outside of Canada will be able to email the certificate to St. Peter's church directly. Our email address: [office@stpeterswoodbridge.com](mailto:office@stpeterswoodbridge.com)