

Our Lady of Lourdes

***300 Central Avenue
Mountainside, NJ 07092***

Confirmation Handbook 2022-2023



Rev. Jeivi M. Hercules, Administrator
Mrs. Fran Michetti, Director, Faith Formation
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Important Phone Numbers and Email Addresses

Faith Formation Office.....908-233-1777, reled@ollmountainside.org
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Fran Michetti.....fmichetti@ollmountianside.org
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Important Dates

GRADE 9 CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2022-2023 DATES **Sunday (11:30AM Mass until 1:45PM)**

****Important** There will be Confirmation parent/child meeting on Thursday, October 13 at 7:30PM in Pollard Hall.**

October 16	February 12
October 23	February 26
November 6	March 12
November 20	March 19
December 18	April 23
January 22	April 30
January 29	

Confirmation Retreat: Sunday, TBA, 11:30AM Mass-4:30PM

Confirmation Mass: TBA along with a rehearsal the week leading up to Confirmation for Sponsors and Candidates.

What is Confirmation?

According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, "Confirmation is a sacramental outpouring of the Holy Spirit that leaves a permanent imprint on the soul, completes Christian initiation, and empowers us to be witnesses to Christ."

Confirmation is not a graduation from our Faith Formation program. It is the final Sacrament of Initiation to make the candidate a full-fledged adult member of the Church. The Candidate has the opportunity now to bring his/her talents to our faith community to be more involved at Our Lady of Lourdes.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church lists 5 effects of Confirmation:

- *It affirms our identity as children of God.
- *It unites us more firmly to Christ.
- *It increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us.
- *It strengthens our bond with the Church.
- *It strengthens us to spread and defend the Faith by our words and actions as fearless witnesses to Christ.

Requirements for Confirmation

- *Attend all scheduled classes.
- *Complete 10 hours of community service and write a reflection.
- *Attend Mass weekly.
- *Choose a Confirmation name which must be a saint.
- *Attend Confirmation retreat.
- *Undergo a Confirmation interview
- *Choose a sponsor who is a practicing Catholic and belongs to a parish.
- *Attend Confirmation rehearsal with sponsor.

Sponsor Requirements

- *Must be at least 16 years old.
- *Must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation.
- *Must attend Mass weekly, receive Holy Communion and go to confession regularly.
- *Must be a registered parishioner of a parish and able to obtain a letter indicating the sponsor is a practicing Catholic.
- *Must not be a parent of the candidate.

How to Choose a Sponsor

The Confirmation sponsor has 3 primary roles: to assist the candidate in preparing for Confirmation, to present the candidate for Confirmation, and help the candidate live out a faithful Christian life. The sponsor essentially is an active member of the Church who is vouching for the candidate, telling the Church this person is ready to be a full-fledged member. The candidate should choose someone who is a role model of living the Faith, and who can fulfill all 3 roles.

Dress Code for Confirmation

- Boys:** suit with dress shirt and tie or khaki pants, jacket, dress shirt, and tie. Dress shoes are required.
- Girls:** Dress or pant suit. Shoulders must be covered so dress should have a sleeve, otherwise a sweater or shawl must be worn. Dress length should be appropriate for church. Dress shoes are required.

The Role of the Parent

It is very important that parents be committed to prayer in the house and to attending weekly Mass. Teach your child by your words and your examples the importance of participating in the Sacramental life of the Church that includes receiving Holy Communion and regularly attending the Sacrament of Reconciliation. In addition, it is important to assist your child in choosing a sponsor, choosing a saint's name as a Confirmation name, and ensuring your child attends class and completes all assignments. Together, we can all aid your child in the Sacrament preparation so he/she is truly ready for the Sacrament and freely decides to become a full-fledged member of the Church.



Our Lady of Lourdes Church Confirmation Service Log Grades 7, 8, & 9 (2022-2023)

Requirement: 10 hours of service at Our Lady of Lourdes-
all other community service must be approved by Director.

Name _____ Grade _____

<u>Description of Service</u>	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Hours</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
		<u>Total:</u> _____

Parent Signature _____

Community Service Reflection

1. Choose one of the community service activities that you completed then describe exactly what you did in detail:

2. Tell why you felt this was an important activity for you to do and if it turned out not to be important, explain why:

3. Even though you finished your community service, would you volunteer to do this activity again? Explain why or why not.

4. Describe how this community service activity made you feel?

5. Overall, why do you think it's important, to do community service for the Church, once you are Confirmed?
