



CLALLAM CATHOLIC
C **NFIRMAT** **ION**

St. Joseph's Catholic Church
Sequim, WA



COME
HOLY SPIRIT
FILL THE HEARTS
OF YOUR FAITHFUL
AND KINDLE IN THEM
THE FIRE OF YOUR LOVE.
SEND FORTH YOUR SPIRIT
AND THEY SHALL BE CREATED
AND YOU SHALL RENEW
THE FACE OF THE
EARTH.

O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, **AMEN.**

*catholic***ALLYEAR**.com

Confirmation

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. (CCC1302-1305).

Confirmation “completes” the graces we received at Baptism, when we became adopted sons and daughters of God. Confirmation *confirms* that we are part of God’s family and leads us to focus on what we have been called to do as children of God: to be living witnesses of God’s love in the world.

In Confirmation, we receive the power to take a stand for Christ and his Church, as well as special gifts to help us serve God and the Church in particular ways. Through the sacrament, we are also “sealed” for God; our bond with Him, as well as with the whole family of God, is strengthened. All these graces help us to shift our focus from interior formation to exterior proclamation, giving us the courage to witness to the Faith with our words and actions.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church lists five effects of Confirmation (CCC1303):

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

The goal of our Confirmation program is to help your child to be truly open and prepared so that he or she may experience the grace of God that the Holy Spirit releases in this powerful sacrament. Being open and prepared necessarily involves growth in understanding, a sincere acceptance of Christ and his Church, a clear conscience, and a soul in the state of grace.

Role of the Confirmandi

At this time, the Church looks to those preparing to receive Confirmation (the Confirmandi) for signs of growth and maturity which give evidence of service and witness to Christ by the way they live their private and public lives, and how they interact in the broader community of their neighborhood, school, and parish. In the Sacrament of Confirmation, they are taking on the commitment to live a fuller, more Christ-like life.

The Church asks them to demonstrate their desire to commit themselves to this sacrament and the Catholic faith through:

- Attending faith formation classes
- Attending Mass every Sunday
- Receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly
- Engaging in different forms of service
- Committing themselves to developing a personal prayer life, including a daily prayer routine with family.

This is not an easy task, and it should not be taken lightly. However, it should be an exciting, happy, and fulfilling time for the Confirmandi, their parents and their sponsors.

We, the clergy, teachers, and catechists, promise to guide the Confirmandi in their understanding and knowledge of what they are about to undertake. The community of St. Joseph's is praying for them as well.

Role of the Parents

From Baptism to first Reconciliation to first Holy Communion and now to Confirmation, the Church recognizes you as your child's *primary educator* in the life of faith. Your role is pivotal as your child prepares to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and to be fully initiated into the Catholic Church.

As the child grows in faith, the parent's role lessens in regard to decision-making and becomes one of support and witness. For the Sacrament of Confirmation, the parental role is very much one of spiritual companion and advisor, that is, both parent and child learning and growing in their understanding of Catholic Traditions and beliefs.

The Catechism calls the family "the domestic Church" (CCC 1658) because it is primarily within the family that your child will learn how to live the teachings of Jesus, which lead to eternal life. The most important ways you can help form your child in the Faith are to participate fully in the life of the Church through:

- Attending Mass every Sunday
- Going to Confession regularly
- Engaging in some form of service
- Praying persistently for an increase of God's grace in your life and the life of your family

We pray that, as a parent, you will be encouraged by the fact that God loves you and your child without limit. This limitless love—which is the core of our Catholic Faith—is very good news indeed. May the Holy Spirit inspire and encourage you as you guide your child into the fullness of the Faith.

Role of the Sponsor

The sponsor represents, in a personal way, the witness and support of the parish community. Sponsors should be mature persons of faith who are highly convinced that their faith makes a difference in their own lives. The sponsor can accompany the Confirmandi on their faith journey to Confirmation in various ways:

- Sponsor must be interviewed by the Pastor
- Be a role model of the Catholic faith in their daily life
- Attend Mass with their Confirmandi or encourage the importance of attending Mass
- Be a support to their sponsor child spiritually, as well as emotionally
- Accompany their Confirmandi in various Service Projects
- Spend time with their Confirmandi talking, listening, and sharing their own experiences
- Meet with, or talk to, your sponsor child monthly to discuss their progress
- Pray for their Confirmandi regularly

Once the youth has been fully initiated, the Sponsor's role is one of continual support of the confirmed in their faith life. The Sponsor can help lead and guide the confirmed to a deeper personal relationship with the Lord and to a more profound familiarity "with the Holy Spirit—his actions, his gifts, and his biddings—in order to be more capable of assuming the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life" (CCC 1309). The Sponsor can also offer suggestions and assistance in helping the newly confirmed to become an active member of the Church community.

Note to Parents:

This is the beginning of an exciting journey for your child, and it will be full of faith formation, fun, and hard work. There are several things you need to know as we all work together to help your son or daughter receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

- All Confirmandi are **required** to attend Mass
- All Confirmandi are **required** to attend Confirmation classes and youth groups --There will be ~ 53 sessions
- The Confirmandi are **not permitted to have more than 5 absences in the course of the program (2 years)**
- Every absence will have makeup work in a 3 page essay format
- All Confirmandi are required to learn their prayers
- All Confirmandi will write a report on a saint of their choosing
- All Confirmandi are **required** to attend a confirmation retreat
--hosted by St. Joseph's Church at the end of the year
- All Confirmandi are **required** to do **30** hours of service **each year**. More information about Service hours can be found on the *Service Hour Log Sheet* below

If a Confirmandi misses more than 5 classes, does not attend Mass, does not attend a retreat, or does not have their service hours completed, Father Maurer may postpone their Confirmation until the following year. If Confirmation does not take place prior to the completion of their 12th grade year, they are not eligible to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and must attend the OCIA program.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Deacon Dan Powers
(949) 545-8279
DDOP@OPCATHOLIC.ORG

Morgan Nolan
(360) 460-5510
SJFF@OPCATHOLIC.ORG

Service Hour Log Sheet: 30 Hours Required

Name _____

Please fill out the log sheet with all the information needed and return to Deacon Dan or Morgan Nolan before confirmation day. We will periodically check on these logs.

Mass Service Hours

Service at Mass as an altar server, lector or usher--must be trained. Service at Mass as a greeter- .5 service hours each time.

If you run out of space write on the back

Date:	Service Provided:	Supervisors Signature:	# Hrs.:

Parish/Community Service Hours

Parish and community service hours. Please refer to the "Confirmation Service Hours Opportunity List" below or check the bulletin for opportunities at church. Community service projects include helping a neighbor or other individual/group outside of the parish community in need.

Date:	Service Project:	Supervisors Signature:	# Hrs.:

Family/Sponsor Service Project

This is a project in the parish community or outside the parish community that involves your immediate family and/or sponsor. Some suggestions for this project include: helping a family member in need, making a Eucharistic Adoration hour, getting involved with St. Vincent de Paul, volunteering at the food bank, etc. Please refer to the "Confirmation Service Hours Opportunity List" below or check the bulletin for opportunities at church.

Date:	Service Project:	Supervisors Signature:	# Hrs.:

Contact Information:

Name:	Phone Number:	Email Address:
Morgan Nolan	(360) 460-5510	SJFF@opcatholic.org
Deacon Dan Powers	(949) 545-8279	DDOP@opcatholic.org

To all Confirmandi:

These projects are not given as a checklist, but serve as a reminder of what Confirmation is all about; your commitment and service to Jesus Christ and His Body, the Church. While participating in these projects, we hope you gain an understanding of your role as a vital, active part of the Church. We pray you realize how important it is to touch and serve those in need.

"Amen, I say to you, as long as you did it to one of these my least brethren, you did it to me."

Jesus Christ

Service Hour Opportunities:

Women of St. Joseph's Bazaar & Rummage sale: Help set up and/or break down the fundraisers that the Women of St. Joseph put on in the fall and the spring.

Knights of Columbus: The Knights have opportunities throughout the year where you can help serve, whether at a breakfast/luncheon or one of the many fundraisers they put on.

St. Vincent de Paul: St. Vincent de Paul has many opportunities to serve both our parish and our local community.

Stations of the Cross: Fridays during Lent in the church. If serving as candle bearer or cross bearer, this will count as Mass service hours, **no training required.**

Lenten Soup Supper: Every Friday during Lent before Stations of the Cross, there is an opportunity to help host the Lenten Soup Supper.

Coffee Hour: Host a coffee hour with your family or sponsor or help set up and clean up a coffee hour hosted by one of the many groups that puts them on.

More Opportunities: Keep your eyes on the bulletin and ask around for more opportunities to help serve. Deacon Dan and Morgan will pass along any and all chances to serve as they come up, and there will be many.