

The Sacrament of Confirmation - St. Gianna Beretta Molla Catholic Church

“Confirmation perfects Baptismal grace; it is the sacrament which gives the Holy Spirit in order to root us more deeply in the divine filiation, incorporate us more firmly into Christ, strengthen our bond with the Church, associate us more closely with her mission, and help us bear witness to the Christian faith in words accompanied by deeds.”

- Catechism of the Catholic Church

Confirmation is a free and independent desire of the Candidate. Their readiness to receive the sacrament is evident in their present and evolving commitment to the church and its family. Readiness is revealed in the candidate's openness to growing their faith, regular participation in the life of the church (Sunday worship, sacraments, prayer), formation and faithful service.

Confirmation completes baptism in that the candidates have given evidence, through their years of growing in the faith, that the conversion begun in baptism is being nourished by the individual, the family and the church community.

The candidates of Confirmation are not celebrating the beginning of their Catholic life, but rather pledging to continue their life of discipleship; a lifelong commitment to following the example and teachings of Jesus Christ.

The following request will assist us in the process of accepting candidates for the Confirmation process. Our goal and desire is to accept everyone who applies however, we realize and understand that not all are ready at this time for the kind of commitment to discipleship that we seek. If you wish to discuss your situation with our Pastor, Father Darrin Gurr, please contact us at rbanmann@stgianna.ca

We look forward to journeying with your child and family through this very special and faith-filled time.

In Christ,

Rachel Suarez-Banmann
Faith Formation Coordinator

Sacrament of Confirmation Preparation Request - 2021

Preparation for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation is open to all baptized (Catholic) parishioners from Grade 6 and up who have received the sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation.

The preparation process is comprised of 2 virtual sessions a month from March to June (Wednesday evenings). In the summer months, if regulations allow, we will participate in service opportunities in the community.

The date of celebration will be in the fall. Exact date will be announced later in the year.

Please note that this is a request only and not a registration form. Applications will be reviewed by Father, may be invited for a meeting and notified after the application process.

** Please submit your request by **Sunday, February 7, 2021****

Candidates, please complete in your own handwriting.

CANDIDATE

Name _____
 First Middle Last

Email Address: _____

PARENTS/GUARDIANS

Father's Name _____
 First Middle Last

Mother's Name _____
 First Middle Maiden Name

Phone Number _____

Email Address _____

CANDIDATE SACRAMENTS

Baptism: _____
Church Name City Province Postal Code

Date of Baptism: _____

1st Eucharist: _____
Church Name City Province Postal Code

Date of 1st Eucharist: _____

1st Reconciliation: _____
Church Name City Province Postal Code

Date of 1st Reconciliation : _____

Please include a copy of your Baptismal and 1st Eucharist (Communion) Certificate if not celebrated at St. Gianna's Parish

CONFIRMATION SPONSOR (if known, can be completed at a later time)

Name: _____

Contact Phone Number _____

Contact Email Address _____

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Have you or do you attend a Catholic School? _____

If yes, please list the grades and years below:

Have you had formal Faith Formation instruction at another parish? _____

If yes, please list location and dates below:

Tell us a little about yourself:

What role has your faith played in your life?

What kind of disciple would you like to be?

Why do you want to prepare for and receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?

*Please use the reverse for additional space.

Candidate's Promise

I wish to confirm my Baptism, and what my parents and my godparents affirmed when I was baptized. I am making this decision after careful thought and consideration. I make it of my own free will and choice, because I sincerely wish to follow Christ, to become a full member of the Catholic Church, to live a good and fruitful life, and use my gifts and talents for the upbuilding of the Church and community. I understand that in enrolling for this Confirmation process, I am expected to have an open heart and mind for Jesus, attend every preparation gathering and participate fully in each component of my preparation.

Faithful attendance at Mass each and every Sunday is a very important part of our Catholic faith. It is where God speaks to us through the Scriptures and feeds us spiritually through the Eucharist. It is where we come together as God's family. I commit myself to regular attendance of weekend liturgy (mass) and participation in the sacrament of Eucharist and Reconciliation.

As I make these promises, I ask God to give me the grace to be open to his plans for me -plans he reveals to me in prayer, in my talents and aspirations, and in the encouragement of those who know and love me. I place myself in the loving embrace of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in asking for help in fulfilling this commitment.

Candidate's Signature _____

Parent's Promise

At my child's baptism, I accepted the responsibility of bringing my child up in the practice of the faith. I understand that I am the primary teacher of my child in the ways of faith and that my involvement is important in teaching my child the richness of our Catholic faith. I commit myself to bring my child to Mass on Sundays and holy days and celebrate the Eucharist and other sacraments with my child. I will make sure that my child attends all classes and activities, in preparation of the sacrament and will be actively involved in my child's religious formation. I will be a role model and true witness of the faith to my child. I will pray for my child and with my child during this important time of preparation.

Parent(s)' Signature _____

Once accepted into the preparation process, the suggested donation is **\$65/candidate**.
Cheques may be made out to St. Gianna Beretta Molla Church.

Guidelines for Choosing your Sponsor

A Sponsor is a person who walks with the candidate on the journey of faith leading to Confirmation. A Sponsor represents the larger Church – the entire community of believers.

A Sponsor is a special kind of friend to you, with whom you can share your faith with.

Sponsors should be willing to share their own faith, knowledge, and experience of being Catholic with you. The Church, knowing the basic need of people to feel secure and welcome, require a sponsor to assist you on the final stages of the initiation process – your journey of faith.

During the Rite of Welcome and at the celebration of Confirmation, your sponsor will be your sign of readiness to receive the sacrament and present you to Archbishop Gagnon. Ideally your relationship with your sponsor will not end with the ceremony but flourish as you continue to grow in your faith. Faith growth is a life long process.

Who can be a Confirmation Sponsor?

- Someone who is chosen by the one to be confirmed.
- Be at least 16 years old.
- A sponsor must be a fully initiated **Catholic** (one who has celebrated Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist), who leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken.
- One who witnesses to their faith by participation in regular worship, the sacraments and involved in the life of their parish community.
- Lives in accordance to the Catholic faith.
- Preferably not the Candidate's parent.
- Is ideally the Candidate's baptismal Godparent but it is not required.
- A person you have a comfortable and positive relationship with which you can share your faith and everyday life experiences.
- A person willing to help you live as a follower of Christ.
- A person who will be willing to pray for you on your journey.