

## Confirmation 2026: Responsibilities of the Confirmation Sponsor

Congratulations! You have been chosen. Someone thinks you are significant. Someone sees you as a follower of Christ. Being a Confirmation Sponsor is not just a one-time thing; it is not just a ceremonial role. It is a significant, critical relationship in the life of this young person.

Candidates for Confirmation see you, and all sponsors, as friends (someone they can have a close relationship with; someone who is interested in them; someone they can freely talk with; someone they can share questions, doubts, and worries with), as witnesses (someone who has an active faith life; someone who participates in Mass and the Sacraments), and as guides (someone who will walk with them on their faith journey). *[taken from "Catholic Parent Know How: How to be a Confirmation Sponsor" published by Our Sunday Visitor, July 23, 2016]*

As a Confirmation Sponsor, we would like you to be aware of the following opportunities for you to help your candidate prepare to receive the Sacrament.

Tuesday, September 16, 2025, 6:30-8:00pm: **Confirmation Parent/Candidate/Sponsor Meeting**

Saturday, October 4, 2025: **Parish Service Day**

A chance to participate in a service experience with your candidate.

Sunday, February 1, 2026, **Confirmation Retreat**

Parents and sponsors are invited to join the group for **Mass** at 5:00pm in the church.

Sunday, May 3, 2026 at 2:00pm, **Confirmation Mass** in the church, reception to follow

Additionally, all Confirmation Candidates have been given a set of **conversational questions** they need to complete with the help of their sponsor. These questions are to be answered by the sponsor in the context of a conversation/interview with their candidate. These will be your answers, recorded by the candidate. These questions are not homework for you; they are better viewed as conversation starters for the two of you.

Confirmation Sponsors and parents are also encouraged to write a **Letter of Hope** to be given to the candidate after the final Faith Night on April 19, 2026. A Letter of Hope is a sincere and heartfelt letter that encourages the Confirmation Candidate on their faith journey. It is a chance to let the candidate know that you are proud of them, and that you appreciate the work they have done in preparation for Confirmation. It may include a prayer, or something about your own faith experience that you want to share with them.

If you have any questions concerning Confirmation, you may contact us in the Faith Formation Office, 440.238.5555, ext. 107 or 108, or via email: [lvoncheck@sjohio.org](mailto:lvoncheck@sjohio.org) or [mcohen@sjohio.org](mailto:mcohen@sjohio.org).