



CATHOLIC  
DIOCESE OF  
JEFFERSON CITY

Youth Ministry and  
Religious Education

July 28, 2021

Dear Pastoral Leaders and Partners in Ministry,

I am very excited to walk along with you in the important ministry of preparing our young people for the Sacrament of Confirmation. By now, we are halfway done with Confirmation for 2021 and it is already time to begin the scheduling and planning process for Confirmation 2022.

This year we expanded the Confirmation Preparation information we are requesting. Because I am new to this office, I am hopeful this information will let me know what others are doing and how I can best serve our parishes in confirmation preparation. Specifically, I would like to know:

- **If you have completed confirming high school students:** Most of our parishes have done the important work to transition the confirmation program to 7<sup>th</sup> grade. If you have not completed this and need assistance or guidance in how to make this happen, please reach out to the Religious Education and Youth Ministry Office. Our goal is to have all parishes confirming 7<sup>th</sup> graders (and 8<sup>th</sup> grade if doing every other year) by 2023.
- **The program or text that you are using:** This is a common question from Confirmation coordinators. I would love to know what the most popular programs are, and if others are considering a program to be able to network with others who are using it.
- **If your program includes key categories** of Academic, Spiritual, Stewardship, Service, Social/Fellowship: These are highly encouraged. Our goal is that our sacramental programs help foster lifelong participants in the Church, which is why we see value in these categories.
- **What support you need to help your program be successful:** This will help me provide the proper support, resources, and presentations both to individuals and to larger gatherings.

Just like last year, the scheduling process will take place online. **If you are not planning to have confirmation this year, please fill out the form so we know.** You will need to fill this form out for each confirmation program (not parish). If your confirmation program is combined with numerous parishes make sure to list all the parishes when asked on the form. To complete this form:

1. **Gather the following information:**
  - a. What parish(es) are you filling this form out for?
  - b. Are you planning to have Confirmation?
  - c. How many candidates do you have?
  - d. Confirmation Coordinator contact info
  - e. Where will confirmation be for your group?

Alphonse J. Schwartz

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DIOJEFFCITY.ORG



- i. Local parish
    - ii. neighboring parish that is not shared with pastor
  - f. Preferred time/information for scheduling (only if in local parish)
    - i. Fall or Spring
    - ii. Month(s)
    - iii. Day(s) of the week
    - iv. Within Mass or outside of Mass
    - v. Comments and dates to avoid
  - g. Candidate Preparation Information as listed above
- 2. Visit [www.diojeffcity.org/confirmation](http://www.diojeffcity.org/confirmation). Click the large button in the center of the page labeled, "Submit your parish confirmation schedule request."
- 3. **Complete the online form as fully as possible no later than August 31, 2021.**  
**Even if you do not plan to celebrate Confirmation in 2022, we ask you to complete this form.**

In addition, the Confirmation webpage also includes links to downloadable forms and our revised policy on the Sacrament of Confirmation. Be aware that some of the liturgy planning forms may change slightly as befits the Bishop.

In conclusion, thank you for all you do to support these young people in preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. We are here to support you! If you have questions about scheduling dates with the Bishop's office or liturgy planning please contact Fr. Joshua Duncan, Master of Ceremonies to Most Reverend W. Shawn McKnight. If you have questions about the online form, the new policy, lowering the age of Confirmation, or sacramental preparation in general, please contact Maureen Quinn.

In Him,



Maureen Quinn