

**CONFIRMATION SPRING 2024
REGISTRATION/INFORMATION
PACKET**



St. Gabriel Catholic Church
3625 Highway 75
St. Gabriel, Louisiana
225-642-8441
www.stgabrielcatholicchurch.com

ST. GABRIEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
3625 Highway 75
St. Gabriel, LA 70776
225-642-8441; fax 225-642-8491
www.stgabrielcatholicchurch.com
stgabrielcatholi@bellsouth.net



June 1, 2023

Dear Potential Candidate,

Thank you for inquiring about our Confirmation Program. We look forward to working with you as you prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in April 2024.

The following procedures are followed for our Sacramental Preparation Program for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

1. Announcements from the pulpit, in the parish bulletin and on our face book and parish website asking to contact the office if interested.
2. Those contacting the parish office will be mailed information packets. Packets will be available in the vestibule of the Church beginning June 1, 2023.
3. Potential candidates to review the packet with their parents.
4. Letter of Request and Confirmation Letter of Intent are submitted to the parish office by July 1, 2023.
5. Letter of Request is reviewed by the Confirmation Team, Director of Religious Education, and Pastor.
6. Letter of Acceptance is mailed to the candidates who are accepted in the program.
7. Candidates and parents attend the information meeting August 7, 2023
8. Sponsor information due in the parish office by August 10, 2023
9. Formation process begins.

Please be aware that if this process does not fit your schedule several other options will be available to you. The Sacrament will be offered again in the Spring of 2024. Candidates 18 years old or older may be eligible to participate in a preparation program for adults, in which you are prepared with in conjunction with other parishes of the diocese.

If you have any questions, please contact us at the parish office at 642-8441.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Charles R. Landry, Pastor

Mrs. Myra G. Tircuit, D.R.E.

ST. GABRIEL CATHOLIC CHURCH PARISH
SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION
GUIDELINES SPRING 2024

ELIGIBILITY

1. Applicant must be a baptized Catholic, whose family **is registered** in St. Gabriel Parish.
2. Applicant must be a practicing member of St. Gabriel Catholic Church. Practicing means regularly attends Mass on Sundays and Holy Days and participates in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.
3. Applicant must be 16 years old by December 31, 2023 and at least in the 11th grade level in a Religious Education Program.
4. Applicant must have participated and successfully completed a religious education program (Parish School of Religion or Catholic School) for at least ten years prior to application. Applicant **must be** participating in a Religious Education Program at the time of application, and continue in the program during preparation for the reception of the Sacrament.

PREPARATION

1. All potential candidates must submit a letter of request, information form and a copy of their baptismal certificate by noon on **JULY 1, 2023** to the parish office.
2. An informational meeting for all potential candidates and their parents will be held on **Monday, August 07, 2023** in the Parish Activity Center. Attendance is mandatory in order to participate in program.
3. Candidates must attend an evening of reflection on Sunday, **August 27, 2023** from **2:00 P.M. until 6:00 P.M.** Candidates will receive detailed information about the program.
4. Fifteen hours of service:
 - a. Community Hours 5 hours
 - b. Church Hours - 5 hours
 - c. Family Hours - 5 hours

To verify these hours, candidates are required to fill out a log sheet for each activity and present it to the service hour chairperson for recording. A completed log sheet is required for each area of service.

GUIDELINES PAGE 2 Confirmation

Catholic School students who are required to perform service hours for school will be allowed to use a maximum of three of these hours toward their service hours requirement. Two hours of community service and three hours of ministry must be completed in the local church and community. All service projects must be cleared through the DRE or Jamie Thatcher

5. Instructional sessions of 1 ½ – 2 hours in length, which will include small group discussions. There will be approximately 6 sessions. Any absences could result in the deferment of the candidate to be confirmed. We will also attend mass together as a group on the assigned session dates.
6. There will be one afternoon of Reflection on Sunday, August 27, 2023. We will not be able to have our annual Confirmation Retreat at Angola this year, however we will incorporate the Angola Retreat team into a Day of Reflection on Sunday, January 21, 2024.
7. The only acceptable excuses for a missed activity will be personal illness, death of an immediate family member, or a serious conflict, which will review by the team and DRE. It will be necessary to inform the **DRE PRIOR** to the session. No excuses will be accepted for absences if not notified prior to the absence.
8. Parental involvement includes:
 - a. One informational meeting with the candidate
 - b. Providing support for the program and candidate as requested by the Confirmation Team.
9. Sponsor involvement includes:
 - A. The sponsor's role and qualifications for sponsor will be outlined at the first meeting. The role of sponsors for Confirmation has been redefined. Sponsors will have an active role in your faith journey **please try to find someone from the local community or someone who will be able to participate in the schedule activities for you and your sponsors.**
 - B. A sponsor is someone who is:
 1. A practicing, faith-filled Roman Catholic Adult
 2. Able to relate in friendship to a young person
 3. Willing and able to participate in the Confirmation process.
 4. A good listener.
 5. Willing to share his/her own experience of faith.

CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

QUALIFICATIONS FOR A CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

A Sponsor must:

- Be chosen by the person who will be confirmed, or by the parents;
- Be 19 years old by December 31 before participating in sacrament in Spring;
- Be a confirmed Catholic, regularly participating in the Eucharist;
- Lead a faith-filled life and be a Catholic in good standing;
- Not be the parent or step-parent of the one to be confirmed.
- The Sponsors need not be the same gender as the candidate.

If the sponsor worships in a parish other than St. Gabriel, their pastor must sign the *Confirmation Sponsor Eligibility Certificate* (the form is included in this packet). After the form is signed, it can be mailed to: **St. Gabriel Catholic Church, 3625 Highway 75, St. Gabriel Louisiana 70776, and Attn: Myra Tircuit. Due by August 10, 2023.**

REQUIREMENTS OF THE SPONSOR

- Attend part of the afternoon of reflection on August 27, 2023
- Attend part of session on November 12, 2023 and Rite of Enrollment
- Attend part of session on March 17, 2024
- Attend Confirmation Practice and Sacrament of Confirmation – April 20, 2024

ROLE OF THE SPONSOR

The candidate must choose a sponsor to help them journey through the time of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. This person should be a trusted adult to provide an example of how to live the Christian faith. The sponsor should help the candidate to know the gospel, and model how to live, pray and worship in the Christian faith.

The sponsor is asked to be involved in the entire Confirmation preparation process. In addition to the above mentioned the sponsor in addition to the following:

- Prayer – your candidate needs spiritual strength. Your prayers are important to them. Do your best to attend mass together. Ask your candidate which Mass he/she usually attends and try to be there.
- Be generous with your time. Take a few minutes to call your candidate. Let them know you are thinking of and praying for them. Encourage them to complete their service hours. You want to do a service project together. Ask about the saint they have chosen for their Confirmation name. Encourage them to complete the written saint report. Discuss your own Confirmation experience.
- Offer a gift – everyone enjoys receiving gifts. Give a gift of spiritual significance.
- Be responsible – follow the calendar of important gatherings for you and your candidate.

DRESS CODE FOR SPONSORS

Please remember that you will sponsor a candidate who will receive the Spirit of God in a very special Holy Sacrament. On the days we have rites/celebration in church and especially the Confirmation celebration, please dress with care.

LADIES

- A dress, skirt and blouse, or pants suites with dress shoes is acceptable
- Your top must have enough material that all your “parts” are covered and we can attach a name tag to the clothing. If necessary, wear a jacket or sweater. Your skirt/dress length needs to be a least mid-thigh.

GENTLEMEN

- Dress shirt, tie, dress pants, and dress shoes. A suite or sports coat is preferable but not required.

Clothing should be wrinkled free and hair groomed.

ST. GABRIEL CONFIRMATION 2023- 2024 PREPARATION

LETTER OF INTENT

I, _____, intend to be a part of the Confirmation process in my parish of St. Gabriel during the coming year. I have seriously considered this, I will do what is necessary to prepare for Confirmation during the coming year. I desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in the spring of 2024.

Candidate's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please complete the following information for our records. Print all information.

FULL NAME OF CANDIDATE: _____

NICKNAME OR NAME YOU GO BY: _____

ADDRESS: _____ ZIP: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ SCHOOL ATTENDING IN FALL: _____

FATHER'S FULL NAME: _____

MOTHER'S FULL NAME (including maiden): _____

BIRTHDAY: _____ AGE: _____ GRADE: _____

YOUR PLACE OF WORK _____

Is your family registered as parishioners at St. Gabriel: ____ Yes ____ No
(If you intend to be confirmed at St. Gabriel your family must be registered parishioners)

I was baptized at St. Gabriel the Archangel ____ Yes ____ No
(If you were not baptized at St. Gabriel, you must submit a copy of your Baptismal Certificate with this form)

Confirmation Fee: \$30.00 (to cover cost of materials, retreats, etc) Please contact DRE if this fee is a financial hardship.

Please submit this completed form, your Letter of Request, your Confirmation fee and Baptismal certificate to the parish office by NOON on **JULY 1, 2023**

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

YEAR 2023 – 2024

LETTER OF REQUEST BY CANDIDATE

The Candidates Letter of Request must include the following:

1. The letter is to be addressed to the pastor, DRE and Confirmation team. If letter is handwritten, please write clearly
2. Include “Why I want to be confirmed.....” “My reasons are.....”
3. Include “Why I am eligible to be confirmed...”
4. Through my experience of Confirmation I hope to receive.....

(Remember to answer the questions in complete sentences)

5. Submit this letter along with your letter of intent form, Confirmation Fee, and Baptismal Certificate to the parish office by **noon on July 1, 2023** - NO EXCEPTIONS TO THIS DEADLINE
6. This information may be part of an interview in April 2024.
7. There are **NO** extensions or exceptions to this deadline.

CONFIRMATION SPONSOR ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATE

Sponsors, please complete and return this form to St. Gabriel Catholic Church, 3625 Highway 75, St. Gabriel, Louisiana 70776, and Attn: Myra Tircuit by **AUGUST 10, 2023**.

Candidate's Name: _____

Sponsor's Name: _____

Sponsor's Address: _____

Sponsor's Phone: _____ Sponsor's e-mail _____

1. As a sponsor for _____, I declare that I am a **baptized and confirmed Catholic** and (if married) **married in the Catholic Church** and that I am a **registered member** of _____ church parish in the city of _____.

2. **I believe all** that the Catholic Church believes and teaches and truly make a serious effort to **live a good moral life worthy of imitation**.

3. As a practicing Catholic, **I participate at Mass** on Sundays and Holy Days and **I receive the Sacraments** of Eucharist and Reconciliation **regularly**.

4. I realize that **I assume a great responsibility before God and the Church** in becoming a sponsor. I intend to encourage and support my candidate in the practice of the Catholic faith by word and example.

I, _____, have read the above, understand the role which I am undertaking, and promise to live a life worthy of this call.

_____,
Signature of Sponsor

_____,
Signature of Pastor (Not required if registered at St. Gabriel)



SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION – APRIL 20, 2024



TENATIVE
ST. GABRIEL CATHOLIC CHURCH
CONFIRMATION SPRING 2024

May 2023	Begin announcements for those interested in this program to contact the parish office.
June 01, 2023	Information Packets available
July 1, 2023	Letter of Intent Due by 12:00 P.M. - Noon
August 7, 2023 August 27, 2023	Parent/Candidate Meeting @ 6:30 P.M. Retreat – afternoon of reflection Sponsors to join us at 5:00 P.M. 2:00 – 6:00 P.M.
September 17, 2023	Session @ 8:30 A.M. /Mass at 10:00 A.M.
October 22, 2023	Session @ 8:30 A.M. /Mass at 10:00 A.M.
November 12, 2023	Session @ 8:30 A.M. Sponsors to join us at @ 9:15 A.M. Rite of Enrollment @ 10:00 Mass A.M.
January 21, 2024	Day of Reflection – Works of Mercy – Angola Team/Mass Time to be Announced 10:00 – 3:00 Or 11:00 – 4:00 P.M.
February 25, 2024 March 17, 2024	Session @ 8:30 A.M./Mass @ 10:00 Session @ 8:30 A.M./Mass @ 10:00 Sponsors to join us @ 9:15 A.M. Mass at 10:00 A.M.
April 13, 2024	Confirmation Interviews – 9:00 A.M.
April 20, 2024	Celebration of Confirmation @ 4:00 P.M. Candidates will report at 3:00 P.M. Sponsors to report at 3:15 P.M.