

# CONFIRMATION REQUIREMENTS

## *St. Therese Confirmation, 2023-2024*

### Prerequisites

- All candidates should have completed one year of catechesis immediately before their Confirmation year — for example, a Faith Formation class at St. Therese or another parish, or attendance at a Catholic school.
- All candidates should already be committed to practicing the Catholic faith, which includes mandatory Mass attendance every weekend and holy day of obligation. Failure to do so without a just reason is a mortal sin.

### Confirmation Preparation

- Candidates are required to participate in all **11 Sunday Confirmation sessions**, which will run from 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm. Please see the *St. Therese 2023-2024 Confirmation Schedule* document for the dates.
  - *It is critically important that candidates are present at these sessions. These are where candidates will meet with their small groups, which will provide them support and accountability as they grow in their Christian life. It is also where we will review key catechetical information needed for the sacrament.*
  - *Because regular attendance at these sessions is vital to preparing for the Sacrament, we ask that families do everything in their power to ensure that their candidates are present.*
- Candidates are also required to attend **2 half-day retreats**, which will be held at St. Therese.
  - *The dates for these retreats are Sunday, November 19th and Sunday, March 10th. Both retreats will start at 12:00 noon and will conclude with Sunday Mass beginning at 5:00 pm.*
- In between sessions, candidates will be asked to **practice prayer on a regular basis**. At each session, candidates will check in with their small groups, share their process, and set goals for future growth.
- Candidates are required to complete **six hours of Adoration** during the preparation year: **three and a half hours before Confirmation** and **two and a half hours after**. Candidates will keep a log of their pre-Confirmation hours (due **February 1st**) and their post-Confirmation hours (due **April 28th**).
  - If one attends all of our optional adoration slots, which take place after the Confirmation sessions that are not followed by evening Mass, as well as the adoration time during our retreats, he or she will have completed five of the six required hours. Therefore, he or she will only need to complete one hour on his or her own. What is more, adoration after our Confirmation sessions will be guided by the Faith Formation team. Joining us in adoration is a great opportunity to learn how to pray.
- Candidates are also asked to complete a **Parish Ministry** by selecting one of the four options on the "Parish Ministry" handout.
  - *Candidates should inform us of their selection by **October 1st**.*

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## **Additional Documents & Requirements**

- Candidates should **select a sponsor** as soon as possible. Please see the “Sponsor Requirements” document for more information.
  - *Candidates should report the name of their sponsor by **October 29th** & ask their sponsors to complete the Sponsor Form ASAP.*
  - *Candidates and Sponsors will also be asked to complete **4 “check-in” activities** in November, January, March, and April, so that candidates can share their progress with their sponsors. Candidates will be given instructions for these activities at the start of the month and will be asked to submit a brief (1-paragraph) summary by the end of each month.*
- **If a candidate has NOT been baptized at St. Therese**, please contact the parish of baptism to request a newly issued Baptismal Certificate to be sent directly to St. Therese at
  - Church of St. Therese
  - ATTN: James Gilbert
  - 18323 Minnetonka Blvd.
  - Deephaven, MN 55391
  - *Please ask to have a new certificate sent **even if you previously did so for First Communion/Reconciliation**. The archdiocese asks us to obtain a new certificate for each Sacrament.*
  - *If your candidate **was** baptized at St. Therese, you do not need to do anything. We will confirm their records ourselves.*
- Candidates will **research and choose a Confirmation Saint**, and should submit the “Confirmation Saint Form” by **December 3rd**.
- Candidates will write a **Letter of Intent to Fr. Andrie** stating their wish to be Confirmed and discussing their readiness to receive the Sacrament. This must be turned in by **January 21st**.
- Candidates will engage in a brief (roughly 15 minutes) **interview with Fr. Andrie** or another member of the Faith Formation staff. These interviews will be held on Tuesday, January 9th; candidates will sign up for time slots at a later date.

**James Gilbert is the first point of contact for any questions.** You may reach him at [jgilbert@st-therese.org](mailto:jgilbert@st-therese.org) or (952) 261-0566.