
ST. JAMES CHURCH

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December 9, 2022

Re: Sacrament of Confirmation

Dear parents and guardians:

For those preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, St. James Parish is pleased to offer the choice to do sacramental prep either in-person or online.

For candidates electing to do in-person sacramental prep, classes will take place on Saturday mornings from 9:30 am to 11:30 am on the following dates: Feb. 11, 18, 25; Mar. 4, 11, 25; and Apr. 1 and 15, 2023. *Classes will be held at St. James School (7332 St. James Lane, Tottenham), instead of the parish itself.*

Attached to this correspondence, please find a list of Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQ"), a Confirmation Registration Form and a Parish Registration Form. The FAQ will explain the entire process with regards to registration and sacramental prep.

The Sacrament of Confirmation is being celebrated this year with Bishop John A. Boissonneau and is being offered on two different dates:

- (a) **Sun. Apr. 23, 2023 at 2:00 pm** (rehearsal on Fri. Apr. 21 at 7:30 pm); and
- (b) **Sun. Apr. 30, 2023 at 2:00 pm** (rehearsal on Fri. Apr. 28 at 7:30 pm).

Both the rehearsals and the actual Confirmation ceremonies will take place at St. James Parish.

The registration deadline is **Fri. Feb. 3, 2023.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the parish office at stjamesco@archtoronto.org or 905-936-4266.

Yours in Christ,

(Rev.) Eric Mah

Confirmation – Frequently Asked Questions

When are the dates for Confirmation?

Candidates will be able to choose one of two possible dates to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Here are the following dates with their corresponding rehearsal times/dates:

- (a) Sun. Apr. 23, 2023 at 2:00 pm (rehearsal on Fri. Apr. 21 at 7:30 pm); or
- (b) Sun. Apr. 30, 2023 at 2:00 pm (rehearsal on Fri. Apr. 28 at 7:30 pm).

Both the rehearsals and the actual Confirmation ceremonies will take place at St. James Church in Colgan and will be presided by Bishop John A. Boissonneau.

Please note that the rehearsals on Apr. 21 and 28 are at 7:30 pm instead of 7:00 pm because we have a recurring Monday evening Mass at St. James at 7:00 pm.

Are Confirmation dates assigned to specific schools?

For those wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation with their classmates, we are proposing Apr. 23 for candidates from Msgr. Ronan, and Apr. 30 for candidates from St. James and Father F.X. O'Reilly. That said, candidates are free to be confirmed at whichever date is most convenient for them and their families.

Candidates who attend schools other than Msgr. Ronan, St. James and F.X. O'Reilly are welcome to attend either Mass.

Will there be a Confirmation retreat?

There will not be a retreat for Confirmation.

How do I choose my Confirmation name?

Your confirmation name must be a Christian name. The easiest way to see if your choice is a Christian name is simply to do an Internet search to see if there is a saint with that name.

What are the requirements for being a Confirmation sponsor?

Your sponsor must be at least 16 years old and fully initiated into the Catholic Church. A person has been fully initiated in the Church when he or she been baptized and received both First Communion and Confirmation.

Your sponsor is not allowed to be one of your parents.

You are not required to submit a baptismal certificate on behalf of your sponsor.

Who is required to attend the rehearsals besides the actual candidate?

Sponsors are strongly recommended to attend the rehearsals, but their attendance is not absolutely required.

How do I register to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?

To register for the Sacrament of Confirmation, please do the following:

- (a) complete either the in-person or online sacramental prep program (see later);
- (b) complete and submit the Confirmation Registration Form to the parish office;
- (c) submit a copy of the candidate's baptismal certificate;
- (d) submit a Parish Registration Form, if necessary (see later); and
- (e) pay the registration fee (see later).

If you were baptized at St. James, St. Mary's or St. Francis Xavier, please advise the parish office as to when approximately you were baptized to assist us in looking up your information in our parish records.

How will sacramental prep be done this year?

This year, we are offering two options to prepare for Confirmation. Please indicate on the Confirmation Registration Form which sacramental prep program you wish to choose.

(a) OPTION #1: IN-PERSON CLASSES

If you elect for in-person classes, the course will consist of eight sessions which will be held at St. James School (7332 St. James Lane, Tottenham) on Saturday mornings from 9:30 am to 11:30 am on the following dates: Feb. 11, 18, 25; Mar. 4, 11, 25; and Apr. 1 and 15, 2023. Candidates must attend all eight sessions in this case.

(b) OPTION #2: ONLINE CLASSES

Instead of the in-person classes, candidates can choose an online program called "Chosen" offered by Ascension Press which consists of twenty-four videos: each of which is approximately 15 to 20 minutes long.

To register for the online course, please visit the following link:

<https://ascensionpress.com/products/chosen-your-journey-to-confirmation-online-course>.

Once the candidate has completed the online course, a certificate of completion will be provided at the end of the program, which will then need to be submitted to the parish office.

What is the fee for registering for the Sacrament of Confirmation?

The fee for in-person classes is \$40 payable to the parish office.

For candidates electing to do the online course, there is a fee of \$18.95 USD payable directly online via credit card to Ascension Press in addition to a \$20 registration fee payable to the parish office.

What if I miss one of the in-person sessions for sacramental prep?

If you are unable to attend a particular session, please inform the person teaching the course to arrange for the material to be made up in some way.

What is the registration deadline?

The registration deadline is Fri. Feb. 3, 2023.

How do I pay the registration and/or gown fees?

Payments to the parish office may be made via cash or cheques payable to "St. James Parish." Unfortunately, there is no option to pay the parish online or via credit card.

You can leave the money or cheque in a sealed envelope with your full name and what it is for in the drop box located on the side of the parish office at St. James. You can also drop off your payment in person during office hours (Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 2 pm to 5 pm).

If you cannot afford the registration fee, please contact the parish office.

If I regularly attend another parish besides St. James, St. Mary's or St. Francis Xavier, can I still receive the Sacrament of Confirmation here?

Yes. You only need to complete a Parish Registration Form and return it to the parish office. You will not need a letter of permission from the parish that you attend.

There is no need to complete the Parish Registration Form if St. James, St. Mary's or St. Francis Xavier is your closest parish.

If I don't attend any of the elementary schools attached to the parish, can I still receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at the parish?

Yes. However, if St. James, St. Mary's or St. Francis Xavier is not your closest parish, you will need to complete a Parish Registration Form.

Is there a limit to the number of people who can attend the Confirmation ceremony?

There is no limit to the number of attendees you can bring, although please note that the capacity of the church is approximately 550 people and the Confirmation Masses are being held in the context of a regular Sunday Mass.

Will there be reserved seating?

There will be designated seating only for those being confirmed and their sponsors.

What should I wear to my Confirmation?

There is no set requirement for a specific dress code. You will be given a gown to wear over your clothes before the actual ceremony.

What time should the candidates arrive on the date of their Confirmation?

Candidates should arrive at least 30 minutes before the start time of the Confirmation Mass in the parish hall at St. James to be fitted for their gowns.

What if I have further questions or concerns?

If you have further questions or concerns, please contact the parish office at stjamesco@archtoronto.org or 905-936-4266.

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CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION FORM (REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRI. FEB. 3, 2023)

PART ONE: PARISH INFORMATION

Name of Parish: _____ City: _____

- ☐ I currently live within the territorial bounds of the parish.
☐ I currently **do not** live within the territorial boundaries of the parish.

(If you do not live within the territorial boundaries of the parish, please complete the Parish Registration form included in the Confirmation package.)

PART TWO: CANDIDATE'S INFORMATION

Full legal name:

First Name	Middle Name(s)	Last Name
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☐ Male ☐ Female

Date of Birth: _____

Date of Baptism: _____

Church of Baptism: _____

City of Baptism Church: _____

Church of First Communion: _____

City of First Communion Church: _____

School: ☐ St. James ☐ Monsignor Ronan ☐ Father F.X. O'Reilly ☐ St. Thomas Aquinas

☐ Other: _____

Confirmation preparation preference: ☐ in-person ☐ online

Confirmation date preference: ☐ Sunday, April 23, 2023 ☐ Sunday, April 30, 2023

Confirmation name (must be a saint name): _____

Height (because Confirmation gowns are based on height):

- ☐ 4'5" – 4'8"
- ☐ 4'9" – 5'0"
- ☐ 5'1" – 5'4"
- ☐ 5'5" – 5'8"
- ☐ 5'9" – 6'0"
- ☐ 6'1" – 6'4"
- ☐ 6'5" and up

PART THREE: MOTHER'S INFORMATION

Full legal name and maiden name:

First Name	Middle Name(s)	Last Name	Maiden Name
<hr/>			
Religion: <input type="checkbox"/> Roman Catholic <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> None			
Present address: _____			
Street	City	Postal Code	
<hr/>			
Phone: _____		Email: _____	

PART FOUR: FATHER'S INFORMATION

Full legal name:

First Name	Middle Name(s)	Last Name
<hr/>		
Religion: <input type="checkbox"/> Roman Catholic <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> None		
Present address: <input type="checkbox"/> Same as mother's		
<hr/>		
Street	City	Postal Code
<hr/>		
Phone: _____		Email: _____

PART FIVE: SPONSOR INFORMATION

Eligibility:

Canon 892 Insofar as possible, there is to be a godparent for the person to be confirmed; the godparent is to take care that the confirmed person behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations inherent in this sacrament.

Canon 893 §1. To perform the function of godparent, a person must fulfill the conditions mentioned in canon 874 §1 (*see below*).

The following are the requirements in order for a Catholic to be a godparent (canon 874 §1):

- at least 16 years of age
- he/she has been fully initiated in the Catholic Church (received Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation)
- in good standing with the Catholic Church: live a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken; not under canonical penalty
- not the father or mother of the one to be confirmed

Sponsor full legal name:

First Name Middle Name(s) Last Name Age: _____

Current Parish: _____ City: _____

Present address: _____
Street City Postal Code

Phone: _____ Email: _____

PART SIX: DECLARATION AND FURTHER INFORMATION

Would you like to receive email notifications about future parish events and programs?

☐ Yes ☐ No

I, the undersigned, declare that the information on this form is true and accurate.

Name (please print): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____