

## Expectations and Guidelines for Candidates

*Based on our understanding of Church and God's relationship with us, the following are some expectations for those wishing to fully participate in the life of Christ focused and celebrated in the Sacrament of Confirmation.*

1. Ongoing experiences in the life of the church community that enable one to be sensitive to the internal and external nature of Church (including, but not limited to: religious education– *Good Shepherd* classes, retreats, prayer, liturgy, Sacraments and ministry).
2. A letter of “recommendation” from the candidate’s parent(s).
3. An ability to reflect upon your on-going experiences of Church and on one’s faith relationship with God.
4. Participation in this process demonstrates a personal choice to be Confirmed
5. Baptism is required. A copy of your Baptismal certificate should be submitted to the parish office by our 2nd large group gathering (November 5<sup>th</sup>).

## Selecting a Sponsor and Mentor

A sponsor for Confirmation must be ...

- ◇ an adult member of the Church
- ◇ fully initiated through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation & Eucharist
- ◇ a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church

A sponsor may be male or female but can NOT be the parent of the candidate.

**All sponsors not from St Ladislav parish must secure from their home parish a “sponsor's certificate” and submit it to our parish office at the earliest convenience.**

Finally, if a sponsor is unable to meet with the candidate as the schedule suggests (about once each month) the candidate may select a “mentor” who will journey with them throughout this process, but not act as the sacramental sponsor on the day of Confirmation. If the candidate can not locate a mentor to assist in the process, the parish can help in this matter.

Your sponsor is expected to attend a Sponsors’ orientation session held Oct 8<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM OR Oct 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM. **If the sponsor is unable to attend, a parent must attend.**

DATE	* (S) means Sponsors are invited.	LARGE GROUP Meeting	Time & Place (if applicable)	INDIVIDUAL assignment
September	8	Orientation meeting	7:30 PM (PC)	Journal assignment
	11	Orientation (make up)	7:00 PM (PC)	“
	20	Orientation (make up)	7:30 PM (PC)	“
October	1	Vigil Mass LG: “Journey of Faith”	5 PM (Church) 6:00 PM (PC)	Journal assignment
	8(S)	Sponsor’s Meeting	6 PM (PC)	N/A
	9(S)	Sponsor’s Meeting	7 PM (PC)	N/A
November	5(S)	Vigil Mass “ <b>Handing on the Faith</b> ”	5 PM (Church) 6 PM (PC)	Journal assignment Service Project Assignment
November	Group A :	Sat Nov 12 & Dec 3	<u>Saturday groups</u>	<u>Sunday groups</u>
	Group B	Sun Nov 13 & Dec 4	4:30 PM (PC)	10:30 AM (PC)
December	Group C	Sat Nov 19 & Dec 10	5 PM (Mass)	11 Mass
	Group D	Sun Nov 20 & Dec 11	6 PM (PC)	12 noon (PC)
January	7	Vigil Mass LG Meeting: “Growing in Faith”	5 PM (Church) 6 PM (PC)	Journal assignment
February	11	LG: “Ministry Experience” <b>Special: Parent night</b>	5 PM (Church) 6 PM (PC) -t NOTE: ‘til 7:15	Ministry Experiences
March	4(S)	<b>Rite of Election</b> Mass attendance mandatory LG: “Sent to Serve”	5 PM Mass ) 6 PM	Personal Faith Statements
April	1	Spirit Day of Prayer	12:30— 6 PM	Service Reports
	13-16	Holy Week Triduum		
	29	Large group w/Fr Don	6-7 PM	Special Invitation
May	18(s)	<b>Rehearsal</b> (Sponsors too)	7:15 PM (Church)	Confirmation name sheet
	19(s)	Confirmation Day	7 PM	<i>w/Bishop Gries</i>
May	27	Final Gathering evaluation	6 PM (PC)	Evaluation form Stewardship card

## Special Notes

### The Preparation process has three basic components...

- (a) Things we will do as a **large group**, including our monthly meetings, Rite of Election, Prayer Day
- (b) Things that you will do as a **small group** including the Mass preparation experience, working with your sponsor and the ministry experience
- (c) Things that you do primarily **on your own** including your personal Faith statement, service project, reflection journal.

### Some special features in the process that should be highlighted...

*Handing on the Faith* - a prayerful setting celebrating the faith sharing between Christians, particularly between the sponsor and candidate.

*Christian Witnesses* – each large group gathering will feature a personal faith sharing from fellow parishioners, the sponsors and even the candidates themselves.

*Rite of Election* – Each candidate will be presented to the parish community to celebrate their call of Faith and election by God. This is a wonderful moment of affirmation from the community.

*Parish Ministry*—Each candidate will invited to “shadow” a church ministry in either liturgy, outreach or formation.

*Mass Preparation*— because Mass is the single most Catholic experience, we will experience special weekly gatherings to focus our participation in Mass. Each candidate will be assigned to one small group for this preparation experience.

*Family Support*—There will be one gathering for the parents of the candidates to explore resources to aid in building and supporting the Confirmation experience.

*Prayer Day*— All candidates will be invited to attend a “spirit day” of prayer just prior to the reception of the Sacrament.

*Meeting with the Pastor* – During the confirmation process, the pastor will offer a special invitation to each candidate.

**Fee:** There is NO FEE charged to the participants. As an Initiation Sacrament, the costs incurred in the preparation process are underwritten by the general Parish funds.

### Materials that will be needed...

- ◇ Each candidate will receive a packet containing the outline of all assignments and gatherings, description pages for the service and reflection project, and this brochure.
- ◇ Each candidate may wish to acquire a small binder or notebook that will serve as their journal book. You’ll need about 20 sheets of paper in the journal.
- ◇ Access to a Bible will be helpful in completing some Journal assignments.



**C**onfirmation is an initiation Sacrament of the Church celebrating the empowering presence of God’s Holy Spirit enabling the Church to be God’s instrument in the world to ...

TEACH	PRAY
CARE	SERVE

# Confirmation Process

## St. Ladislav Church