

# 2021 Confirmation FAQ's

## **1) When is Confirmation?**

The Bishop's Office has assigned us Saturday, October 30, 2021 as our Confirmation date. There will be two Masses: 10 am and 1:30 pm. Mass assignments TBD. Archbishop Broglio will be the confirming prelate.

## **2) When do we rehearse for Confirmation?**

Confirmation rehearsal will be announced later. Sponsors are asked to attend the rehearsal; however, if the sponsor is unable to attend, a parent must accompany the Confirmandi to the rehearsal.

## **3) Why should I receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Confirmation?**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is strongly encouraged to take place (and must take place if one has any mortal sin on one's heart) before receiving other Sacraments, such as Confirmation. It is important to have nothing standing in between you and God so that you will be able to enjoy fully the graces of the Holy Spirit. It's like a friendship. If you had an argument with your friend, you'd need to make up before you could truly enjoy celebrating that person's birthday. You want to be there for the celebration, trust me! The Confirmandi will have the opportunity to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation in the weeks leading up to Confirmation.

## **4) Do the Confirmandi wear robes?**

To uphold the understanding that Confirmation is not graduation from the faith and with the approval of Bishop Burbidge, we will not be renting robes. **Confirmandi are to dress in appropriate, modest Sunday best attire.** Gentleman may wear suits, sports coats, khakis, button downs, dress shoes, etc. Ladies may wear modest dresses (no strapless, spaghetti straps, bare shoulders, low cut, or revealing dresses) that go at least past the fingertips in length or nice slacks and a blouse. If your dress is sleeveless, wear a cardigan with it. Cardigans, shrugs, etc. are always a great choice to pair with your dress. If you will be wearing heels, it is always a good idea to practice walking in the shoes that you will be wearing. No specific color of clothing is required. For more ideas of what to wear to Confirmation this year please view the following videos:

OLGC Dress Code for Guys: <https://youtu.be/mmNG3soeflo>

OLGC Confirmation Attire for Girls: <https://youtu.be/uU6Vobx4ZPw>

## **5) Are tickets required for Confirmation?**

We will most likely need to limit attendance at Confirmation Masses. We will need to assess seating capacity in the Church closer to the time of Confirmation, considering what our COVID-19 restrictions will be this Fall. Please do not invite guests until you know how many tickets you will have access to.

## **6) Is there a sacramental preparation fee required?**

Yes. We ask that you contribute \$50 for each child celebrating a sacrament. We collect this at the same time as you pay your tuition for OLGC School or for CCF. This fee helps pay for the additional cost of sacramental preparation. Thank you for your assistance.

## **7) When do the Large Group Sessions take place?**

Large Group sessions are currently on hold for Spring 2021. We hope to be able to host Large Group Sessions during their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year.

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## **8) Is a retreat required for Confirmation?**

Yes, we do require a retreat before the Sacrament of Confirmation is received. OLGc will offer two dates OR a virtual option depending on COVID regulations. The Confirmandi must attend one of these dates. If both dates conflict, then you will need to attend another Church's Confirmation retreat and will need to submit proof of attendance before the Sacrament of Confirmation is received.

## **9) What are the qualifications for my sponsor?**

- At least 16 years old
- Not the Confirmation candidate's parent
- Has received the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist)
- Committed and active Roman Catholic (living his or her life in accord with Catholic Church Teaching and Tradition and fully participates in the sacramental life of the Church)
- If married, someone whose marriage is recognized by the Catholic Church.
- Has submitted a Sponsor Eligibility form/ Letter of Good Standing

## **10) What is a Sponsor Eligibility Form/ Letter of Good Standing?**

This is a form or letter that usually contains the seal of the parish from your sponsor's parish that states that the person you have asked to serve as your sponsor meets the qualifications listed in #9.

## **11) When is my Sponsor Eligibility Form/ Sponsor's Letter of Good Standing due?**

August 1, 2021. These take some time to acquire. Please have your sponsor request this document once you have asked this person to be your sponsor. At the very least, please have this requested a month before the due date. Please have this form sent to the CCF Office at 8601 Wolftrap Rd, Vienna, VA 22182. **This form is required to be Confirmed.**

## **12) Are other sacraments required prior to Confirmation?**

Yes. Baptism is required to receive the sacrament of Confirmation since Confirmation completes what was started at Baptism. Once Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist have all been received, one is fully initiated into the Body of Christ/Catholic Church. **If your child was not baptized at OLGc, we will need to have a newly issued copy of the candidate's Baptismal certificate with notations on file for Confirmation to take place.** If your child has not received 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist or was baptized in a different faith tradition, please email Amy W. de Bernardo at [dre@olgcva.org](mailto:dre@olgcva.org).

## **13) What if I (the candidate) have already received Confirmation?**

Like Baptism, Confirmation is only received once. For those already confirmed, we will have a special role for them during Confirmation. Please email Amy W. de Bernardo at [dre@olgcva.org](mailto:dre@olgcva.org) if you have already been confirmed.

## **14) Wait, I have more questions!**

Please contact Amy W. de Bernardo at 703.896.7414 or [dre@olgcva.org](mailto:dre@olgcva.org).

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