

Archdiocese of Santa Fe
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OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

January 24, 2024

Dear Pastor or Administrator,

Thank you very much for all you do to prepare your parishioners for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Enclosed is a letter (English and Spanish) that I ask you to give to each 2024 Confirmandi in your parish. It will explain the importance of choosing a sponsor, the importance of participating fully in the sacramental preparation that the parish is providing, and the importance of choosing a Saint's name.

- Please make sure that each Confirmandi has selected an appropriate Saint's name- not a nickname.
- Please make sure that all Confirmandi are in High School (9th- 12th grade) and have received two years of formation. Although some teenagers are of "high school age", **if they are 7th or 8th grade they should wait until they are in high school to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.**
- As you can see from my letter to the Confirmandi, I ask them to reflect upon three questions. I ask that these be discussed in either their formation classes or during their retreat. I also want to see a summary of these discussions- without specific names of Confirmandi- of what was discussed. It would be best for the Pastor or Priest Administrator of the Parish to prepare this summary on the attached form- Summary Form of Upcoming Confirmation. This form can be sent along with the Liturgy Form two (2) weeks prior to the scheduled confirmation.
- Please ensure that there is only one (1) sponsor per Confirmandi; the only exception to have two sponsors is if they are the original baptismal sponsors.

If you have questions regarding the date or time of Confirmation, please contact the Archbishop's Office at 505-831-8120. If you have any questions regarding the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, please call the Office of Worship directly at 505-831-8128.

You need to decide if you want the adult confirmandi to join the Confirmation scheduled for your parish or if you want them to participate at the 2024 Archdiocesan-wide Adult Confirmations which is preferred.

I am grateful for all the efforts that you and your team dedicate into making the Sacrament of Confirmation a special occasion for the Confirmandi, their families and the parish community. May God bless you and the teachers who provide the spiritual nourishment to the young people who are preparing to receive the Holy Spirit.

Sincerely yours in the Risen Lord,

Most Reverend John C. Wester
Archbishop of Santa Fe

Enclosures