Saint Matthew Catholic Parish

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation
2020/2021 Academic and Pastoral Year

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Thank you for presenting your child for the celebration of Confirmation this year. Our programme of preparation is open to all students beginning Grade 7 this September. While much of the academic and pastoral year will seem different due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the pastoral team at St. Matthew Parish is committed to facilitating both adequate preparation and a joyous celebration for your family, all the while protecting your health and that of our community.

Here are some key steps to mark along the way:

- **STEP 1: Register Your Child**
  Registration is being done primarily via Google Forms. If you haven't already, visit our parish website (saintmatthew.ca) or use the link below to complete and submit the form. There is an option to submit a scanned copy or photo of your child's baptismal certificate. You may also choose to drop this off at the *parish office* during office hours or in one of the outdoor deposit boxes located near the entrances of the Church. *If you must use a paper form to register your child, you will find one on the back of the list of Confirmation Dates*.

  https://tinyurl.com/SaintMatthewConfirmation2021

- **STEP 2: Attend or Participate in One of our Initial Information Meetings**
  Because the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is unpredictable, and because some families are choosing to exercise caution around public gatherings, the parish has scheduled three Initial Information Meetings, open to parents and caregivers of any student registered to participate in sacramental preparation this year. *Attendance or online participation at one of these meetings in mandatory.* Those attending in person are required to register in advance for the appropriate meeting at:

  www.saintmatthew.eventbrite.ca

  If you are more comfortable participating from home (via Zoom), please follow the instructions on our parish website or use one of the links below to register:

Wednesday, October 14, 2020:	https://tinyurl.com/confirmationoct14
Thursday, October 15, 2020:	https://tinyurl.com/confirmationoct15
Friday, October 16, 2020	https://tinyurl.com/confirmationoct16

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- **STEP 3: Select and Register to Attend a Celebration of Confirmation**
  In this package, you will find a list of dates for the celebration of Confirmation in early 2021. These celebrations are allocated by school, and each will include a *maximum of 15 Confirmandi*. Scheduling liturgies in this way allows the parish to permit each family to attend the church in a *party of up to ten individuals (including your child)*. Information about how to register for these celebrations will be distributed at the Initial Information Meeting, and families will be able to confirm their respective dates early in the preparation process to facilitate planning.

- **STEP 4: Participate in Proximate Preparation/Rehearsal**
  Proximate preparation (rehearsal) for the celebration of Confirmation will be accomplished this year via video link. It is our endeavour to connect live with all classrooms and students available to participate, but a recording of this important action will also be made available to all.

- **STEP 6: Celebrate Confirmation**
  The celebration of Confirmation is always a joyous occasion in the life of a child and his/her family. *Because photography before, during, and after the liturgy will not be permitted (due to public health restrictions on the use of the worship space), the parish will offer livestreaming of all Confirmation liturgies*. Further information will be made available at the Initial Information Meetings.

Please know that the Pastoral Team at St. Matthew Parish is always available to you and your family if further assistance or clarification is needed. ***All questions and inquiries regarding this sacrament are properly directed to the parish office, not your child's school. Please do not submit any forms or requests to your child's teacher.*** To guarantee access to the most up-to-date information, check our parish website (saintmatthew.ca) regularly. May God bless your family with an abundance of his grace during this special time.

Rev. Allen Varlaki
Pastor

Rev. Paul Edmondstone
Associate Pastor

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St. Matthew Parish
Confirmation Celebrations 2021

St. Matthew School

Wednesday, January 13, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Thursday, January 14, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Friday, January 15, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Saturday, January 16, 2021 – 10:00 PM

St. Mary School

Monday, January 18, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Wednesday, January 20, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Thursday, January 21, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Friday, January 22, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Saturday, January 23, 2021 – 10:00 AM
Saturday, January 23, 2021 – 1:00 PM

St. Joan of Arc School

Wednesday, January 27, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Thursday, January 28, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Friday, January 29, 2021 – 7:00 PM

St. John Paul II School

Monday, February 8, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Wednesday, February 10, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Thursday, February 11, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Friday, February 12, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Saturday, February 13, 2021 – 9:00 AM
Saturday, February 13, 2021 – 11:30 AM

Public & Private Schools

Thursday, February 18, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Saturday, February 20, 2021 – 10:00 AM
Saturday, February 20, 2021 – 1:00 PM

St. Bernadette School

Wednesday, February 24, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Thursday, February 25, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Saturday, February 27, 2021 – 10:00 AM
Saturday, February 27, 2021 – 1:00 PM

St. Teresa of Calcutta School

Wednesday, March 3, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Thursday, March 4, 2021 – 7:00 PM
Saturday, March 6, 2021 – 10:00 AM
Saturday, March 6, 2021 – 1:00 PM

Saint Matthew Catholic Parish

CONFIRMATION REGISTGRATION FORM

CANDIDATE'S INFORMATION

Name

Surname (Family Name) Given Name(s)

Address

Unit/Apt.# Street Town/City Postal Code

Parent/Caregiver Phone	**Parent/Caregiver Email**

Catholic Elementary School:

☐ St. Matthew ☐ St. Bernadette ☐ St. Teresa of Calcutta

☐ St. John Paul II ☐ St. Joan of Arc ☐ St. Mary

Other School:

PARENT INFORMATION

Father's Name

Surname (Family Name) Given Name(s)

Father's Religious Affiliation

☐ Roman Catholic ☐ Eastern-Rite Catholic ☐ Orthodox Christian

☐ Non-Catholic Christian ☐ Non-Christian

Mother's (Maiden) Name

Surname (Family Name) Given Name(s)

Mother's Religious Affiliation

☐ Roman Catholic ☐ Eastern-Rite Catholic ☐ Orthodox Christian

☐ Non-Catholic Christian ☐ Non-Christian

BAPTISMAL INFORMATION (Include copy of certificate if child **not** baptized at St. Matthew Parish)

Date of Baptism	**Date of Birth**
DD MM YYYY	DD MM YYYY

Church of Baptism

Name Street Address

City Province Country Postal Code

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Choosing a Confirmation Sponsor

The role of the Confirmation Sponsor has its origins in the earliest days of our Christian faith, and is an important one. The Church teaches that a sponsor's duty is to see that the person being confirmed acts as a true witness to Christ and faithfully fulfills the duty of preparing to celebrate the Sacrament.

There is a long-standing practice of choosing one's baptismal godparent to serve also in this role—and this is, in fact, the preference of the Church—but another person may be nominated for this role, at the discretion of the young person and his/her family.

Requirements of a Confirmation Sponsor

In order to serve as a confirmation sponsor, a person must meet the following requirements:

- Full initiation in the Catholic faith (having received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation)
- At least 16 years of age
- Leading a life of faith in harmony with the Gospel
- Not a parent of the child being confirmed

Registering Your Choice for Confirmation Sponsor

Parents and young people are invited to reflect carefully on the importance of the role of Confirmation Sponsor and on the requirements to serve in this role. Once a sponsor is chosen, please complete the Confirmation Sponsor Registration Form, which can be accessed on our parish website (saintmatthew.ca) or using the following link:

https://tinyurl.com/confirmationsponsor2021

If you must use a paper registration form, one can be found on the back of this page. It must be submitted to the *parish office* prior to January 1, 2021.

Important Information Serving as a Confirmation Sponsor

- Please give the Confirmation Sponsor the *Catholic Parent Know How: How to be a Confirmation Sponsor* magazine included in this package.
- If the person selected to serve as Confirmation Sponsor is *unable to attend* the Confirmation liturgy, another adult may serve as proxy.

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CONFIRMATION SPONSOR REGISTRATION FORM

CANDIDATE'S INFORMATION

Name Surname (Family Name) Given Name(s)	
Parent/Caregiver Phone	**Parent/Caregiver Email**
Catholic Elementary School: ☐ St. Matthew ☐ St. Bernadette ☐ St. Teresa of Calcutta ☐ St. John Paul II ☐ St. Joan of Arc ☐ St. Mary	
Other School:	

SPONSOR INFORMATION

Sponsor's Name Surname (Family Name) Given Name(s)
Sponsor Requirements I attest that the person nominated to serve as Confirmation Sponsor meets ALL of the following requirements: ☐ Is a fully-initiated Catholic (having received Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation) ☐ Is at least 16 years of age ☐ Is living a life in harmony with the Gospel ☐ Is not the parent of the person being confirmed.

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