



Our Divine Savior Catholic Church

Youth Confirmation Preparation

What is Confirmation?

Confirmation: A sacrament of initiation which completes Baptism. In it the gift of the Holy Spirit is bestowed upon us. Anyone who freely decides to live a life as God's child and asks for God's Spirit under the signs of the imposition of hands and anointing with Chrism receives the strength to witness to God's love and might in word and deed. He/she is now a full-fledged, responsible member of the Catholic Church. (YOUCAT 203)

When is my child ready to prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation?

Students, who are baptized in the Catholic faith, have received their first Reconciliation and first Eucharist, and who have reached the 7th grade are eligible to begin preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation. Sacrament preparation is a 2 year journey. Candidates will be Confirmed in 8th grade or older.

Where should my child prepare for sacraments?

Children should prepare for sacraments within the parish community in which they worship. Families of Confirmation candidates should be registered and actively participating members of Our Divine Savior Catholic Church. You can register your family by completing a **parish registration form** found in the gathering space of the church or from the receptionist in the parish office. Families from other parishes may participate in our program with **permission from their pastor**.

How do I register my child for the Our Divine Savior Catholic Church Confirmation Program?

Complete the 1) **Online Confirmation Registration Form** and the 2) **Sponsor Eligibility Form**. 3) **Schedule an interview** with the Director of Religious Education.

Registration forms for Confirmation are due by September 6, 2023.

A copy of your child's baptismal certificate must be attached to the registration form even if they were baptized at Our Divine Savior parish. The sponsor selection form should be attached as well.



What can I expect from the sacrament preparation process?

The Eucharist is the source and summit of our Catholic faith. **Families are expected to attend regular weekend Mass.**

A parent/guardian orientation meeting providing a full explanation of the sacrament preparation process and a schedule of events will be held on September 6, 2023 at 7:00pm. Your attendance, **along with your student** at the parent orientation meeting completes the registration process.

All candidates are asked to select a sponsor. Guidelines for selecting a sponsor can be found on the **Sponsor Eligibility Form**. Sponsors should attend the orientation as well and therefore should be identified by September 6th.

All candidates complete sponsor conversations with their sponsor.
Sponsor Conversations are due to class in October and January.

All candidates complete a series of classes. These Confirmation preparation classes are offered on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30pm September-May in the social hall for Junior High. Classes meet Sunday mornings from 8:30-9:45am September-May for High School.

Class meetings are limited. Therefore, unless a student is ill enough to miss school, attendance is expected at all class meetings. Contact the DRE to discuss extenuating circumstances. Students often have to miss an occasional practice or other event during their year 2 sacrament preparation.

Year 1 candidates attend the Fired Up Confirmation Conference held in Red Bluff on Sunday, November 5th.

Year 2 Jr High candidates attend a retreat held at Our Divine Savior Church and Social Hall Date TBD.

All candidates select a patron saint and complete a Saint Discovery Report. Candidates will be called by their selected saint's name at their Confirmation.

All candidates participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

All candidates participate in service to the parish. There will be various opportunities through the year. Our main service event is the Parish Harvest Festival on October 28, 2023. Parents and sponsors are encouraged to serve with their student however some service should also be done individually.



Parents and Sponsors attend some meetings or events with or without students. (See the calendar for details)

Your Confirmation Team is looking forward to a great year. Thank you to Suzanne Hauser, Antonio Leon, Dan Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, and Miguel Rosso for journeying with our families again this year.

Confirmation Fees:

Students will not be turned away or miss any part of the sacrament preparation if they have not or are unable to contribute financially. It is a costly program, but we only ask for help to cover the extra expenses of study materials, retreat, and conference. You are welcome to contribute above the amount requested. It is our prayer that the Holy Spirit will guide families to contribute regularly during the normal Mass collection which helps to cover the cost of Religious Education expenses. Thank you in advance for your contribution.

Confirmation Fees

Suggested Confirmation donation is \$75/student

Make checks out to Our Divine Savior or ODS. Please write "Confirmation" in the memo.

Mail checks to:

Our Divine Savior Catholic Church
566 E. Lassen Avenue
Chico, CA 95973

You can also use our Online Giving found on the website to make a payment. Go to www.ourdivinesavior.org and click on Online Giving. Choose "Confirmation Fees" on the Fund Dropdown menu option.

Questions:

For questions regarding sacrament preparation, please contact Jennifer Forward, DRE at odsreligious@yahoo.com or 345-6201. Details are also available on the Parish website at www.ourdivinesavior.org.