



# Corpus Christi Catholic Church Confirmation Program 2023-2024

<https://www.corpuschristicatholic.org/Confirmation> | [youth@corpuschristicatholic.org](mailto:youth@corpuschristicatholic.org) | 619-482-3954 ext 2003

Please contact **Sophie Aipa** for questions.

## Program Requirements – General Information

The Confirmation program is a two year program purposed for the spiritual and personal enrichment of high school students as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Students will receive this final Sacrament of Initiation upon successful completion of the two-year program and the students personal request to be Confirmed in the Catholic Church.

In order to be eligible to enter into the program, teens must be in high school. Most teens tend to begin their Confirmation preparation at the start of 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

**THE CONFIRMATION PROGRAM AT CORPUS CHRISTI IS ONLY OPEN TO REGISTERED PARISHIONERS AT THIS TIME.** *If you are NOT local to Corpus Christi and are registered with a different parish, please visit your local parish where you normally attend for classes.*

\* Your Parish ID number will be required at the time of registration.

**THE STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT ONLINE FORM WILL BE SENT VIA EMAIL & WILL BE POSTED PRIOR TO THE START OF CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

**\*\*\*Teens will be required to complete this form during their first week\*\*\***

**Confirmation Payment:** Cost is **\$150** for Confirmation classes for the first child and **\$80** for each **additional child** - Payment is **due** at the time of **online registration**

✿ **Registration closes on August 31, 2023** ✿

**Baptismal/First Communion certificate copies:** Please submit a **COPY** of your child's **Baptism & First Communion Certificate** If your child received their sacraments at Corpus Christi, please still submit a copy. We can look up your family's information but this will ease the records process. If your child has NOT received one or both of these prior sacraments, **please note** so in the registration form & **contact Sophie for additional steps.**

If you have more than one child registered in the program, please submit 2 separate forms in the link below.

\*If you submitted your certificates last year, please submit them again via this link

CLICK THIS LINK TO SUBMIT CERTIFICATES: <https://forms.gle/27RjdB5UxiYb2kM36>

**High school seniors CONTACT SOPHIE BEFORE REGISTRATION!!!**

**Transfer students** must turn in a letter from their previous parish/Confirmation coordinator or Director of Catechetical Ministry certifying the completion of one full year of Confirmation preparation. This letter must have a seal from the parish.

**Class Sessions** are every other Sunday from 2:00-3:45PM

**Class time / Check-in / Arrival & Dismissal:** Check-in for teens will start at 1:45PM and **class will begin right at 2:00PM**. Please drop off your child no later than 1:55PM so that they are checked in on time otherwise they will be marked as **LATE**. **Class sessions have a strict starting time at 2:00PM**. For **safe environment** purposes, all outer doors will be **LOCKED by 2:10PM**.

Parents **MUST PARK** when dropping off kids at ALL in-person events. Cars **cannot** pull up the Hall and block traffic, as this can lead to accidents and inconvenience towards other families/cars.

During the first few weeks, teens may have a hard time finding their classes. There will be tables set up for **Check-in** with name tags that will have a small group number and teens must find their group. After the first few classes, confirmation teens must do their best to remember their small group number and who their teacher is. There will be volunteers helping direct any teens to their groups if name tags get lost.

**Classes will start concluding their session/discussions at approximately 3:30PM** and will end officially at 3:45PM. Parents can plan to arrive between 3:30-3:45PM to pick up your kids. Please do not pick up your teens earlier than the class end time.

**Parents MUST PARK** and can contact teens on where they are parked or they may come to the outside of the Parish Hall to pick up their kids. Again, cars cannot pull up the Hall and block traffic, as this can lead to accidents and inconvenience towards other families/cars.

**Small groups & materials** Teens will be assigned to designated small groups and will have a 1-2 Teachers and a Young Apostle volunteer. Teachers are responsible for the catechetical preparation of your teen and are given a curriculum and class guides of the program that I provide. Teens may have a book and Bible that will be used in class. **Please have teens bring their Bible, designated Confirmation book, and a binder to every class.** Teens should set aside a special Binder just for Confirmation passport, information, handouts, and homework.

**Homework Assignments** Homework assignments are assigned within small groups and may vary from group to group. These assignments will vary and may include watching assigned video material, written assignments, written reflections, and readings of the Bible. Some teachers are also allowed to do the homework with their teens within class time if that is part of their specific teaching style/lesson. Homework assignments are not intended to overwhelm or bring the students down, but simply to assist students in maintaining a consistent relationship with God and going deeper in their faith-life as well as to see that they are participating online. With the right attitude, most students will find the homework enjoyable and edifying.

\*Please note that all teachers are given the same material, curriculum, and outlines put together by me and are instructed to teach the assigned material to their small groups. They are allowed to add their own challenges and assigned work so long as it is relevant and faith nurturing.

**The Young Apostle Team** Young Apostles will be assisting the Confirmation program. The Young Apostle Team is composed of high school students who have completed the Confirmation program, are confirmed, and have chosen to come back and share their gifts with the program. They help with small groups, retreats, youth events, and share their stories and experiences of their faith with the Confirmation teens.

## Confirmation Class & Youth Event Dress Code:

Yes, there is a dress code for Confirmation/Youth Events! Formal wear is not necessary, but teens should be dressed nice, as most teens should attend mass earlier in their day.

**Tops:** T-shirts with big logos and designs are NOT allowed. Teens cannot wear tube tops, crop tops, or tops that over expose their chest, back, or midriff. If a top has a strap or is like a tank top then a jacket, cardigan, kimono open top can be worn to cover shoulders. Blouses, nice tops and shirts are okay. Polos, henleys, appropriate short sleeve shirts are okay if they are not too casual, long sleeve shirts, button up shirts are all okay.

**Bottoms:** **No blue denim jeans are permitted.** Teens MUST adhere to this dress code and parents and families need to enforce these guidelines for their kids. This is because when blue denim has been permitted, teens always tend to wear jeans that have holes in them and we are unable to permit them. Workout gear (aka tight leggings, leggings with cutouts, sweats, yoga pants) are not permitted. PJs and Shorts are not allowed. Dress pants, corduroy, and black/white pants/jeans are OK as long as they are not super washed out, ripped, or torn. Any other pants so long as they are appropriate for church are allowed.

Dresses, skirts, rompers, pantsuits are OK but they must be an appropriate length. To test if they are an okay length, have a teen stand up straight and place their hands flat on each side. The length of the clothing should meet/pass their fingertips.

**Footwear:** No Flip flops. White tennis shoes are okay. Shoes do not have to be dressy, but should be appropriate.

Please don't argue the dress code. This dress code has been in place for almost a decade in the Confirmation program. Many adjustments have already been made to it and have made it much easier for the teens to have clothing and wear that complies with it. While there are restrictions to what teens can wear, these restrictions all exist for a reason and help to have our teens in the Confirmation program ready for church and looking their "Sunday's best".

**The above rules also apply to Youth Night/in-person events with these exceptions:**

Teens may wear more casual clothes such as jeans to youth nights so long as they do not have giant rips and holes in them. Teens may wear casual shirts so long as there are no inappropriate words or logos on them. All tennis shoes/casual shoes are okay.

**Please send me an email for any questions regarding the above dress code guidelines.**

**Books and Confirmation Passport/Package** Students will receive material/books for Confirmation classes to aid them in their preparation and are **expected to keep these materials through the entire 2 years.**

Students will also receive a "Confirmation Passport" via email—a packet that they will be required to keep in a binder (binder provided by student, filling provided by church) that contains additional resources, prayers, & standard Catholic teachings for reference throughout the two-year Confirmation Prep Program.

**This Confirmation Passport will be sent via email and teens are expected to PRINT and put in a binder.** Should a teen be unable to print their own Passport, limited copies will be made available for pickup with their books at the Youth Office.

## Youth Ministry Events Youth ministry events happening!

I highly encourage teens to attend at least 1 youth event a month because they enhance the Confirmation program and truly make a much better experience for Confirmation teens. At these youth events, we get to have more social interaction, build relationships in prayer and fellowship, and learn more about our faith! **See our Confirmation Calendar for the schedule for youth events.**

## Yearly Retreat

### Confirmation 1:

October 28 OR November 4, 2024 - **COST: \$30**

We are bringing back our annual Confirmation 1 Retreat on October 28 and November 4, 2024, here in our Parish Hall! They only need to attend one, please do not sign up for both. More information to come later.

### Confirmation 2:

(UNOFFICIAL DATE, WILL CONFIRM) January 26-28, 2024 - **COST: \$325**

- **\$75 non-refundable deposit & “paperwork” due October 30**
- **Full/Remaining payment due by December 1**

We are planning to have our annual Confirmation 2 Retreat on January 26-28, 2024 at Whispering Winds in Julian, CA. This will be a three day retreat event, with all safety guidelines in place according to our state and diocese guidelines. The retreat fee of \$325 will cover lodge and boarding for three days and two nights, meals, a retreat shirt, and transportation.

This retreat is required for Confirmation 2 teens only. We will give options for those who are unable to attend the full three day weekend experience.

For any questions or concerns, contact Sophie!

**Parent’s Responsibilities:** As parents are the primary catechists of their children, we give great deference to parental involvement in the faith-education of their children.

I send out emails regularly, and like to send out reminders to parents as much as possible. **It is the parent/guardian responsibility to check emails at least ONCE a week to stay up to date.** The “primary email”/“additional email”/“student email” provided at the time of online registration will be the emails I send out reminders to. Please ensure you input your email correctly or else you may miss out on important email correspondences. Parents must also refer to our Confirmation calendar. This calendar is subject to change but I will always notify families ahead of time so please refer to it for the year schedule and events.

- We will also be using “Flocknote”, an emailing platform to distribute information. Please always double check your spam folder for any of my emails.

A parent meeting will be held prior to the start of Confirmation classes. Information regarding these meetings will be emailed shortly.

## Absence or Missed Assignments

To notify of absences OR of legitimate reasons for late or missed assignments, a parent/guardian must *send an email explaining the reason for absence/missed assignment*. **More than two unexcused absences may result in a repeat of the preparation year.** (for ex. valid reasons for absence/missed assignments: family emergency or illness, etc.)

*Please direct emails to [youth@corpuschristicatholic.org](mailto:youth@corpuschristicatholic.org)*

- In the event that the student has a valid excuse to be absent from class or has missed the deadline for an assignment, the student will still need to **complete the prescribed make-up work** for the work that was missed, in order that they do not fall behind. **If this work is not completed, the assignment will not be excused.** Make-up work will be given to those who notify of absences. Make-up work as well as the regularly assigned homework will be due. There will be some classes where make-up can be completed with the attendance of extra youth event opportunities. **Youth night alone does not excuse an absence.**

## Weekly Mass Attendance and Mass Logs

Students are expected to attend Sunday (or Saturday vigil mass) virtually or in-person throughout the Confirmation year. The Bishop reinstated the obligation to attend Sunday mass on July 1st of 2021. Confirmation teens are expected to set aside time to prioritize virtual or in-person mass as part of their Confirmation curriculum. (Teens/families that are affected by at-risk factors, both physically and mentally, or who are sick are exempt from this obligation)

Mass is the source and summit of the Christian life. As future Confirmandi, we expect teens to appreciate and uphold the privilege to honor and worship God with the responsibility and dedication that He deserves. Experiencing the mass is the greatest form of worship we have as Catholics. While physically attending mass and taking the Eucharist is not always feasible depending on the household, Confirmation students have the convenience of viewing mass virtually at their own pace.

- To help students have a proper resource for “where” to view virtual mass (if families do not feel comfortable attending in person), a list of mass sources will be provided regularly. You may also watch masses with Corpus Christi on Youtube. (Just search “Corpus Christi Bonita” and it will come up. Our masses are posted within the hour after each mass.
- In order to better enter into the Mass and listen to the Lord, students are asked to **record the “one thing” God spoke to them at Mass OR something they found interesting at attended masses in a provided MASS LOG THAT IS INCLUDED IN THEIR “CONFIRMATION PASSPORT”**. Students should write this down immediately following Mass attendance so they do not forget. The “one-thing” will be reviewed by the teachers during classes (to the teachers’ discretion) and are required to be turned in at the end of the Confirmation year via their MASS LOG SHEET.

## Personal Statement Paper/Exit Interview

During the second semester of the second year of preparation, students **may** be required to **complete an individual interview** with the youth minister, Sophie Aipa. Should in-person interviews be unavailable at that time, due to health and social distancing guidelines, teens may be asked to prepare for a comparable alternative (i.e. Google Meets).

Students will share about their faith journey, how they will practice their faith after Confirmation, and why they would like to be Confirmed in the Catholic Church.

Students may also be asked to **write a Personal Statement** to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, which will be due at the time of the interview (further instructions will be given closer to interview date) or at a given date at the end of their Confirmation 2 year.

**I WILL EMAIL PARENTS AHEAD OF TIME IF THE ABOVE WILL BE REQUIRED.**

## Confirmation Mass Date 2024

**CONFIRMATION MASS DATE/TIMES ARE TBA AS WE WAIT APPROVAL FROM THE DIOCESE ON OUR DATES. FAMILIES WILL BE NOTIFIED ASAP IN JANUARY/FEBRUARY OF 2024**

**For High School Seniors:** **First-time registered** Senior Confirmation teens are **REQUIRED to attend BOTH Confirmation 1 and 2 class**. They are expected to complete the requirements listed prior to this page. Seniors can refer to the above information for their Exit Interview. *Please see Sophie for additional questions.*