

VISITATION OF OUR LADY Confraternity of Christian Doctrine

CONFIRMATION

HOW TO REGISTER:

Students attending either CCD or Catholic high schools must attend Confirmation preparation classes. The Archdiocese of New Orleans requires a minimum of 6 hours of instruction on the sacrament of Confirmation.

- **Completely fill out the 2017/18 Confirmation Registration Form**
- **Return form and the registration fee of \$50.00 (or \$25.00 for currently registered VOL CCD students) – the fee covers all necessary books, supplies, and refreshments for classes, retreat, and the Confirmation Mass.**
- **Provide, in person, the original birth and baptismal certificates unless the student has received the sacraments of Baptism or First Holy Communion at Visitation of Our Lady Church.**

Registration forms and fees can be mailed to or dropped off at the VOL Pastoral Center any time of the day or night. If you are dropping it off after hours, a mail slot is located on the front door of the Pastoral Center for your convenience. Please put the registration form and fee in an envelope marked Confirmation. Registration forms can also be emailed to jdoskey@vol.org, or faxed to (504) 347-2223. **Registration fees are due no later than September 27, 2017 for Session I or January 10, 2018 for Session II of the sacramental preparation classes.**

All information regarding Confirmation Preparation is posted on the website of our Church at www.vol.org under the Faith Formation heading. The documents in the information packet can be downloaded. **Be sure to make note of the due dates for all of the forms.**

Please note: **You must live within the parish boundaries or be a registered parishioner to celebrate Confirmation at Visitation of Our Lady Church.** Anyone residing in, or registered in, another parish must contact that parish for information on its Confirmation requirements.

Contact the Office of Religious Education at **(504) 341-8477** with any further questions or concerns regarding Confirmation.

Peace and blessings,

Mrs. Jenny Doskey
Director of Religious Education

<u>Place of Confirmation:</u>	Visitation of Our Lady Church
<u>Date of Confirmation:</u>	Thursday, April 12, 2018
<u>Time of Confirmation:</u>	7:00 pm
<u>Celebrant:</u>	Bishop Fernand Cheri
<u>Registration Fee:</u>	\$50.00 (\$25.00 for currently registered VOL CCD students)

No individual photography (still or video) allowed per Archdiocese of New Orleans

REQUIREMENTS FOR CONFIRMATION:

<u>Formal Faith Formation:</u>	must have attended a Catholic high school for 9 th through 11 th grade, or attended a CCD Program for 9 th through 11 th grade
<u>Sacramental Prep Classes:</u>	<p>minimum of 6 hours of Confirmation instruction required Class times: 9:00 am until 12:30 pm Visitation of Our Lady School: Room 105 (Choose one of the two sessions)</p> <p><u>Session One</u>*: October 14 & October 21, 2017 (*Deadline to register and pay fee is September 27, 2017)</p> <p><u>Session Two</u>*: January 27 & February 3, 2018 (*Deadline to register and pay fee is January 10, 2018)</p>
<u>Confirmation Seminar:</u>	Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 7:00 pm in Church – Mandatory for the Confirmation student, the Sponsor (proxy if needed), and at least one parent (or an adult representative).
<u>Saint Information Sheet:</u>	Read the “What’s in a Name” document. Choose and research the name of the saint you will take at Confirmation. <u>Submit the completed sheet by February 21, 2018.</u>
<u>Mass Pledge Form:</u>	pledge to attend Mass faithfully and follow the Precepts of the Catholic Church; <u>submit the signed sheet by February 21, 2018</u>
<u>Service Hours Form:</u>	require 16 hours of service to a church, school or charitable organization; <u>form due by April 7, 2018</u>
<u>Confirmation Retreat:</u>	Saturday, April 7, 2018 – report to Padre Hall II gym for 9:00 am; ends at the conclusion of the 5:00 pm Vigil Mass at VOL
<u>Sponsor Form:</u>	must be completed and signed by your sponsor; <u>submit the completed form by February 21, 2018</u>
<u>Rehearsal for Confirmation:</u>	Wednesday, April 11, 2018, at 7:00 pm in VOL Church; Confirmation student and Sponsor must attend (If sponsor is unable attend, a parent or proxy must stand in their place.)

“WHAT’S IN A NAME”

(Read thoroughly before choosing your Confirmation Saint name.)

Your name gives you an identity: it tells others who you are. When you were baptized, your parents chose your name. If you do not know your parent’s reasons for choosing your name, ask them about it. Now, you are about to be confirmed. It is time for you to choose the name you will take as a sign of your spiritual identity and reflection of your faith.

The tradition of taking on a new name to show a new role can be traced back to the Old Testament. When Abram was called to lead his people to believe in the one God, his name was changed from Abram, meaning “father of many”, to Abraham, meaning “father of many nations.” Again, in the New Testament, we find Simon’s name changed to Peter, meaning “rock” because he was to become the rock upon which Jesus founded His Church.

The choosing of a name symbolizes power or dominion, as in Genesis where God gave man the power to name and have dominion over each of the animals on the earth. In conjunction with this power is responsibility... the responsibility of taking care of whatever is named. God entrusts each of us with this responsibility as well as the power.

Your Confirmation name should reflect your new role as a mature Christian – a symbol of what your Confirmation means to you. It should not be taken lightly and should not be chosen for frivolous reasons (*“it looks nice with my first name”* or *“it sounds pretty”*). Perhaps you would like to take the name of a person whom you admire. Many Confirmation candidates, recognizing the growing bond of love with their parents or a deepened relationship with aunts, uncles or godparents, will take one of their names. A candidate may even occasionally choose his or her own baptismal name, or the name of a saint honored as a patron of their family.

After deciding on your name, try to recognize the particular qualities or virtues that make this person unique or special. How can you imitate or acquire these qualities or virtues and make them part of your life? How can you become a better Christian? The only limit that is placed on your choice of names is that it must be a saint’s name or a familiar derivative of a saint’s name.

Confirmation - Mass Pledge

(Due February 21, 2018)

On the day of my Baptism, I was given the name of “Christian,” and God made His home in my soul. In the Sacrament of Holy Communion, Christ, with His own Body and Blood, nourished me. Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, my merciful Father welcomes me home, when I confess my sins and resolve not to sin again. These sacraments of God’s grace have touched me through the holy Catholic Church, which our Lord Jesus Christ founded on the rock of Peter’s faith and upon His Apostles.

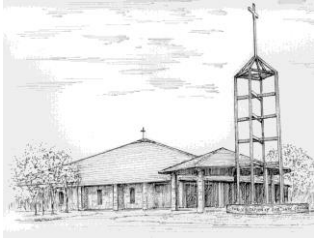
Today, I am old enough to make a commitment of my own. I ask to be accepted as a candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation. In doing so, I fully realize that I take on the solemn responsibility to be firm in the practice of my Catholic faith in spite of all difficulties. Further, I pledge to be an example of Christianity wherever I go and in whatever I do.

I now call upon the Holy Spirit to witness my pledge and I ask Him for the grace of His seven-fold gifts to help me to be faithful.

In signing this Confirmation pledge, I am confirming that I will participate in Mass each week and on Holy Days of Obligation. I will say “Yes” to my faith by fully practicing it and by following the Precepts of the Catholic Church.

Confirmand’s signature

Confirmand’s printed name



Visitation of Our Lady Catholic Church Marrero, Louisiana

CONFIRMATION SPONSOR FORM

Please **PRINT NEATLY** – Form due by **February 21, 2018**

The Sponsor's role is to assist the person in Christian Initiation. Together with the parent, the Sponsor presents the student for the Sacrament and helps to guide the student to live a life of holiness as a baptized Catholic. Being a sponsor is not just an honor given to a good friend or relative. **Sponsorship implies a real appreciation of our Catholic Faith, a lifestyle that proclaims the truth, and sense of responsibility toward the young person being confirmed.**

Student's Full Name _____

Sponsor's Full Name _____

If your sponsor cannot attend the Confirmation Mass for any reason, please give the name of the **proxy**, or substitute who will stand in their place (can be a parent): _____

*****MUST BE FILLED OUT BY THE SPONSOR: Please read the requirements for sponsorship before signing*****

Canon 874 and 892 of the Code of Canon Law requirements for the valid and lawful sponsorship in Confirmation are:

- A sponsor must be mature enough to undertake this responsibility.** Are you prepared to guide the Confirmation student to live a life of holiness as a baptized Catholic? _____
- A sponsor must be fully initiated into the Catholic faith.** Where did you receive the three Sacraments of Initiation:
Baptism Church _____ City & State _____
First Eucharist Church _____ City & State _____
Confirmation Church _____ City & State _____
- A sponsor must be at least 16 years of age.** Are you 16 or older? _____
- A sponsor must know the fundamental truths of the Faith and be a practicing Catholic who attends Mass on Sunday and receives the sacraments of Holy Communion and Reconciliation regularly.**
Based on these guidelines, are you in good standing with the Church? _____
Also, if married, a sponsor must be in sacramental marriage celebrated by a Catholic priest or deacon.
Are you married? _____ If yes, based on this guideline, are you in good standing with the Church? _____
- A sponsor must not be the father or mother of the one to be confirmed.** What is your relationship to the Confirmation student (ex: grandparent, aunt, friend, etc.)? _____

I solemnly declare, by my signature on this form, that I truly fulfill the requirements to be a sponsor and that I am a member of the parish listed below.

Sponsor's Signature _____ **Print Full Name** _____

Sponsor's Address _____

Best way to contact sponsor (phone # or email address): _____

Sponsor is a VOL Parishioner: **YES** (If yes, turn in form completed to this point.) **NO** (Complete below.)

Name of Sponsor's Church Parish _____

City and State _____ **Phone Number** _____



VISITATION OF OUR LADY

Service Hour Form

Student's Name: _____

Date(s) of project: _____

Number of hours earned: _____

Service provided for:

- _____ VOL Church or Parish
_____ Community Organization
_____ School

Description of service project: _____

To be filled out and signed by person for whom service was provided:

Was the above named student helpful to you? _____ Yes _____ No

Was the above named student paid any money for the job performed? _____ Yes _____ No

(Optional)

Additional comments: _____

Signature, title, and phone number of person for whom service was provided:

Organization: _____

Signature of Supervisor

Title

Printed Name

Phone number

A total of 16 service hours must be provided to a church, a school, or a service organization during the time period from April 1, 2017 through April 6, 2018. The form is due Saturday, April 7, 2018. Students with service hour requirements for their school may use the same service hours to fulfill their Confirmation requirement IF the service was performed during the given time period. Please contact the Office of Religious Education at (504) 341-8477 or idoskey@vol.org with any further questions about service projects.

CONFIRMATION SEMINAR

Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2018

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Visitation of Our Lady Church

Please remember to sign-in when you arrive. Sign-in sheets and information packets will be in the vestibule of the church.

The attendance of all Confirmation students and their sponsors (or proxy) is mandatory.

Both parents are invited to attend. However, at least one parent's attendance is mandatory.

If a parent cannot attend the meeting due to an unforeseen emergency, a relative (for example: grandparent or other adult relative) may attend to represent them.

Please call (504) 341-8477 or email, jdoskey@vol.org if you have any questions.



VISITATION OF OUR LADY PARISH

CONFIRMATION RETREAT

- Place:** Visitation of Our Lady
Padre Hall II Gym
- Date:** Saturday, April 7, 2018
- Presenters:** Katie Prejean McGrady and Tommy McGrady
- Time:** 9:00 am until the end of 5:00 pm Vigil Mass
Students are asked to sit together for the Mass.
Parents and Sponsors are welcome join us at Mass!
There will be some reserved seating – please RSVP with the number of family members who will attend by April 4, 2018.



Come prepared to have fun while strengthening your commitment to your faith. This retreat is *mandatory* for all students receiving the sacrament of Confirmation and is a vital part of the Confirmation sacramental preparation.

Casual, comfortable, but appropriate, attire for the day. Jeans or pants (*no shorts allowed!*) can be worn, and shirts or blouses *must* have sleeves. *Remember we will be attending 5:00 pm Mass.*

Cell phones must be turned off during retreat time and Mass. No texting allowed during retreat times. Students will be allowed to use cell phones at break times.

Snacks (morning and afternoon), lunch, and drinks will be provided. **Please notify us of any food allergies or special dietary restrictions/requirements.**

Visitation of Our Lady Parish
Office of Religious Education
3500 Ames Boulevard
Marrero, LA 70072
Phone: (504) 341-8477 Fax: (504) 347-2223
jdoskey@vol.org

VISITATION OF OUR LADY CHURCH

CANDIDATE AND SPONSOR DRESS CODE FOR CONFIRMATION

Make sure your sponsor has a copy of the dress code.

A sponsor presents the Confirmation candidate to the Bishop to be anointed for the sacrament of Confirmation. Sponsor and candidate will process in and sit together for the celebration of the Mass. It is an honor to be a sponsor. Each participant is expected to wear “Sunday best” for this special occasion. One should dress appropriately, and with modesty, reflecting the purity of Jesus and Mary. **All candidates will wear red robes provided by Visitation Church over their clothing for the celebration and return the robe at the reception in the cafeteria following the Mass.**

Gentlemen, please wear the following:

Dark dress pants with a belt

Dress shoes with dark socks

Collared, button-down dress shirt – any solid color, long or short sleeve, tucked in

Necktie or bowtie of any color (no inappropriate designs or sayings)

Jacket or Suits (optional)

NO TUXEDOS, T-SHIRTS, JEANS, SNEAKERS, SANDALS, OR FLIP FLOPS

Ladies, please wear the following:

Modest dress, or modest skirt and blouse for Confirmation candidates - TOPS/DRESSES MUST COVER SHOULDERS AND YOUR SKIRT MUST BE TO YOUR KNEE OR LONGER WHEN STANDING/SEATED - NO strapless, spaghetti or tank style, or halter top

Nice pants suit can also be worn by **SPONSORS ONLY**

Dress shoes with modest heels (no flip flops)

NO purses (leave it with family/friend) or flowers

NO low or plunging neck lines, bare backs (below bra-line) or bare midriffs, or overly tight clothing, NO leggings or formal dresses

NO T-SHIRTS, JEANS, SNEAKERS, SANDALS OR FLIP FLOPS

A Good Rule: **If in doubt, don't wear it!**

NO visible tattoos, NO multiple piercings, and NO visible body piercings
THANK YOU!

Call the Office of Religious Education at (504) 341-8477, or email at jdoskey@vol.org if you have any questions.