ST. JAMES CHURCH

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October 4, 2024

Re: Confirmation

Dear parents and guardians:

For those preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, St. James Parish is pleased to offer the choice to do sacramental prep either in-person or online.

For candidates electing to do in-person sacramental prep, classes will take place on Saturday mornings from 9:30am to 11:30am on the following dates: Feb. 1st, 8th, 22nd; March 1st; April 5th, 12th, 26th; May 3rd, 2025. Classes will be held at St. James Church in the parish hall.

Here are the available dates for the Confirmation retreat:

Date	Time	Location	Event
Sat. March 22, 2025	1:30pm - 6:30pm	St. James	Confirmation Retreat
Sat. March 29, 2025	1:30pm – 6:30pm	St. James	Confirmation Retreat

Attached to this correspondence, please find <u>important information</u> regarding your child's Confirmation, a Confirmation Registration Form and a Parish Registration Form.

The Sacrament of Confirmation is being celebrated this year with Fr. Eric Mah and is being offered on three different dates:

Date	Time	Location	Event
Sun. June 8, 2025	2 pm	St. James Church	Confirmation Mass
Sun. June 15, 2025	2 pm	St. James Church	Confirmation Mass
Sun. June 22, 2025	2 pm	St. James Church	Confirmation Mass

The registration deadline is **Fri. Jan. 17**, **2025**.

If you have any questions of concerns, please contact the parish office at stjamesco@archtoronto.org or 905-936-4266.

Yours in Christ.

(Rev.) Eric Mah

Confirmation – **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

When are the dates for Confirmation?

Candidates will be able to choose one of three possible dates to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Date	Time	Location	Event	Rehearsal (7:30pm)
Sun. June 8,	2 pm	St. James Church	Confirmation	Friday, May 23, 2025
2025			Mass	OR
				Friday May 30, 2025
Sun. June	2 pm	St. James Church	Confirmation	Friday, May 23, 2025
15, 2025			Mass	OR
				Friday May 30, 2025
Sun. June	2 pm	St. James Church	Confirmation	Friday, May 23, 2025
22, 2025			Mass	OR
				Friday May 30, 2025

You can indicate your choice on the registration form.

Please note: there is a maximum number of 32 Confirmandi per date. The dates will fill up on a first-come, first-serve basis. The date you choose will be secured once the registration paperwork and registration fee are provided to the parish office (see later).

Both the rehearsals and the actual Confirmation ceremonies will take place at St. James Church in Colgan and will be presided by Fr. Eric Mah.

Please note that the rehearsals will take place at 7:30pm following the 7pm mass.

Are Confirmation dates assigned to specific schools?

For those wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation with their classmates, we are proposing June 8th and June 15th for candidates from Msgr. Ronan, and June 22nd for candidates from St. James and Father F.X. O'Reilly. That said, candidates are free to be confirmed at whichever date is most convenient for them and their families.

Candidates who attend schools other than Msgr. Ronan, St. James and F.X. O'Reilly are welcome to attend either Mass.

Will there be a Confirmation retreat?

Yes. Candidates are required to choose <u>one</u> of the two dates to attend the retreat. The retreat will run half day from 1:30pm to 6:30pm. Candidates will finish the retreat with mass at 5:30pm at St. James. The dates to choose from are:

Date	Time	Location	Event
Sat. March 22, 2025	1:30pm - 6:30pm	St. James	Confirmation Retreat
Sat. March 29, 2025	1:30pm - 6:30pm	St. James	Confirmation Retreat

Retreats will be capped at 40 candidates per retreat on a first come first serve basis.

How do I choose my Confirmation name?

Your confirmation name must be a Christian name. The easiest way to see if your choice is a Christian name is simply to do an Internet search to see if there is a saint with that name.

What are the requirements for being a Confirmation sponsor?

Your sponsor must be at least 16 years old and fully initiated into the Catholic Church. A person has been fully initiated in the Church when he or she been baptized and received both First Communion and Confirmation.

Your sponsor is not allowed to be one of your parents.

You are not required to submit a baptismal certificate on behalf of your sponsor.

Who is required to attend the rehearsals besides the actual candidate?

Sponsors are strongly recommended to attend the rehearsals, but their attendance is not absolutely required.

How do I register to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?

To register for the Sacrament of Confirmation, please do the following:

- (a) complete either the in-person or online sacramental prep program;
- (b) complete and submit the Confirmation Registration Form to the parish office;
- (c) submit a copy of the candidate's baptismal certificate;
- (d) submit a Parish Registration Form, if necessary; and
- (e) pay the registration fee.

How will sacramental prep be done this year?

This year, we are offering two options to prepare for Confirmation. Please indicate on the Confirmation Registration Form which sacramental prep program you wish to choose.

(a) OPTION #1: IN-PERSON CLASSES

If you elect for in-person classes, the course will consist of eight sessions which will be held at St. James Church on Saturday mornings from 9:30am to 11:30am on the following dates:

Date	Time	Location	Event
Sat. February 1, 2025	9:30am – 11:30am	St. James Church	Session 1
Sat. February 8, 2025	9:30am – 11:30am	St. James Church	Session 2
Sat. February 22, 2025	9:30am - 11:30am	St. James Church	Session 3
Sat. March 1, 2025	9:30am - 11:30am	St. James Church	Session 4
Sat. April 5, 2025	9:30am – 11:30am	St. James Church	Session 5
Sat. April 12, 2025	9:30am - 11:30am	St. James Church	Session 6
Sat. April 26, 2025	9:30am - 11:30am	St. James Church	Session 7
Sat. May 3, 2025	9:30am - 11:30am	St. James Church	Session 8

Candidates must attend all eight sessions in this case.

(b) OPTION #2: ONLINE CLASSES

Instead of the in-person classes, candidates can choose an online program called "Chosen" offered by Ascension Press which consists of twenty-four videos: each of which is approximately 15 to 20 minutes long.

To register for the online course, please visit the following link: https://ascensionpress.com/products/chosen-your-journey-to-confirmation-online-course.

Once the candidate has completed the online course, a certificate of completion will be provided, which will then need to be submitted to the parish office.

What if I miss one of the in-person sessions for sacramental prep?

If you are unable to attend a particular session, please inform the person teaching the course to arrange for the material to be made up in some way.

What is the fee for registering for the Sacrament of Confirmation?

The fee for in-person classes is \$40 payable to the parish office.

For candidates electing to do the online course, there is a fee of \$18.95 USD payable online via credit card to Ascension Press. There is also a \$20 registration fee payable to the parish office.

How do I pay the registration and/or gown fees?

Payments to the parish office may be made via cash or cheques payable to "St. James Parish." Debit/Credit payments can be made in person at the office or over the phone.

You can leave the money or cheque in a sealed envelope with your full name in the drop box located on the side of the parish office at St. James. Please also indicate on the envelope that the payment is for Confirmation registration.

You can also drop off your payment in person during office hours (Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 2 pm to 5 pm).

If you cannot afford the registration fee, please contact the parish office.

What is the registration deadline?

The registration deadline is Fri. Jan. 17, 2025.

If I regularly attend another parish besides St. James, St. Mary's, or St. Francis Xavier, can I still receive the Sacrament of Confirmation here?

Yes. You will need to complete a Parish Registration Form and return it to the parish office. You will not need a letter of permission from the parish that you attend.

There is no need to complete the Parish Registration Form if St. James, St. Mary's, or St. Francis Xavier is your closest parish.

If I don't attend any of the elementary schools attached to the parish, can I still receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at the parish?

Yes. However, if St. James, St. Mary's, or St. Francis Xavier is not your closest parish, you will need to complete a Parish Registration Form.

Is there a limit to the number of people who can attend the Confirmation ceremony?

There is a limit on the number of attendees at the Confirmation ceremony. There will be 32 Confirmandi on each of the provided dates, so due to the capacity of the Church, we will need to cap the number of attendees. Each Confirmandi is allowed to invite 10 people (the Confirmandi is not included in those who are invited - so in total, 11 people from each family can attend). If you have a family member with mobility issues that requires a seat, we invite you to please come early since seating in the main congregation will be on a first-come-first-serve basis. Please be aware that due to limited capacity in the main congregation, family members may be directed to the choir loft or overflow seating in the Church hall.

Will there be reserved seating?

There will be designated seating only for those being confirmed and their sponsors.

What should I wear to my Confirmation?

There is no set requirement for a specific dress code. Before the ceremony, you will be given a gown to wear over your clothes.

What time should the candidates arrive on the date of their Confirmation?

Candidates should arrive at least 30 minutes before the start time of the Confirmation Mass in the parish hall at St. James to be fitted for their gowns.

What if I have further questions or concerns?

If you have further questions or concerns, please contact the parish office at stjamesco@archtoronto.org or 905-936-4266.

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CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION FORM (REGISTRATION DEADLINE: **FRI. JAN. 17, 2025**)

PART ONE: PARISH INFORMATION		
Name of Parish:		City:
□ I currently live within the territorial bou	unds of the parish.	
□ I currently do not live within the territor	orial boundaries of the pa	rish.
(If you do not live within the territorial borness Registration form included in the Confirmation form included in the Confirmation for		lease complete the Parish
PART TWO: CANDIDATE'S INFORMA	ATION	
Full legal name:		
First Name	Middle Name(s)	Last Name
□ Male □ Female		
Date of Birth:		
Date of Baptism:		
Church of Baptism:		
City of Baptism Church:		
Church of First Communion:		
City of First Communion Church:		
School: St. James Monsignor Ron	nan □ Father F.X. O'Reil	ly □ St. Thomas Aquinas
□ Other:		

Confirmation preparation preference: □ in-person □ online

Please note: there is a maximum number of 40 Confirmandi per date. The dates will fill up on a first-come, first-serve basis. The date you choose will be secured once the registration form, Baptism certificate, and registration fee are provided to the parish office.
□ Saturday, March 22, 2025
□ Saturday, March 29, 2025
Confirmation mass date preference (please check one):
Please note: there is a maximum number of 32 Confirmandi per date. The dates will fill up on a first-come, first-serve basis. The date you choose will be secured once the registration form, Baptism certificate, and registration fee are provided to the parish office.
□ Sunday, June 8, 2025
□ Sunday, June 15, 2025
□ Sunday, June 22, 2025
Confirmation rehearsal date (please check which one you will be attending):
Please note: Rehearsals will be held at 7:30pm following the regularly schedule 7pm mass.
□ Friday, May 23, 2025
□ Friday, May 30, 2025
Confirmation name (must be a saint name):
Height (because Confirmation gown sizes are based on height):
□ 4'5" − 4'8"
□ 4'9" − 5'0"
□ 5'1" – 5'4"
□ 5'5" – 5'8"
□ 5'9" − 6'0"
□ 6'1" − 6'4"
□ 6'5" and up

Confirmation retreat preference (please check one):

PART THREE: MOTHER'S INFORMATION

Full legal name and maiden name:

First Name	Midd	le Name(s)	Last Name	Maiden Name
Religion: 🗆 Rom	an Catholic	□ Other:		□ None
Present address:				
	Street		City	Postal Code
Phone:		Email:		
NADT FOUD. FA		MATION		
PART FOUR: FA	HER'S INFOR	MATION		
Full legal name:				
First Name		Middle Na	me(s)	Last Name
Religion: 🗆 Rom	an Catholic	□ Other:		□ None
Present address:	□ Same as mot	her's		
	Street		City	Postal Code
Phone:		Email:		
PART FIVE: SPO	NSOR INFORM	MATION		
Eligibility:				
g.~ty.				

Canon 892 Insofar as possible, there is to be a godparent for the person to be confirmed; the godparent is to take care that the confirmed person behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations inherent in this sacrament.

Canon 893 §1. To perform the function of godparent, a person must fulfill the conditions mentioned in canon 874 §1 (see below).

The following are the requirements in order for a Catholic to be a godparent (canon 874 §1):

- at least 16 years of age
- he/she has been fully initiated in the Catholic Church (received Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation)
- in good standing with the Catholic Church: live a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken; not under canonical penalty
- not the father or mother of the one to be confirmed

Sponsor full legal nam	ne:		
			Age:
First Name	Middle Name(s)	Last Name	- -
Current Parish:		City:	
Present address:	Street		
	Street	City	Postal Code
Phone:	Ema	ail:	
PART SIX: DECLAR	ATION AND FURTHER IN	FORMATION	
Would you like to rece	eive email notifications abo	ut future parish events a	nd programs?
□ Yes □ No			
Would you like to rece	eive email notifications abo	ut future parish Youth Mi	nistry events?
□ Yes □ No			
I, the undersigned, de	clare that the information o	on this form is true and ac	ccurate.
Name (please print): _			
Signature:		Date:	