

# The Roman Catholic Parishes of North Bay Regional Confirmation Preparation 2026

**WHO CAN REGISTER?** Students in Grade 7, 8, 9, 10 or older who have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation are invited to register. Candidates should have already received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation and First Communion. If this is not the case, please contact your parish priest.



## WHO HAS TO ATTEND THE PREPARATION SESSIONS?

Our preparation sessions take place on Thursday evenings at Holy Name of Jesus Church. Each evening is designed to inspire, have fun, deepen faith and build new friendships. *Each Session and Retreat Day must be attended by all Candidates for Confirmation. Those who are absent from our preparation sessions may be asked to postpone until the following year. Those who miss the Confirmation Retreat on October 3 will not be permitted to continue in the preparation program.*

*\*Parents of the Candidate are required to attend Session 1 and Session 4 during the Preparation Period. If Sponsors have already been chosen by this point, they also should attend.*

**CHOOSING A SPONSOR** Every Candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation is asked to choose a “Sponsor” to journey with them in this process. Your sponsor should be a good example of someone who is actively living and practicing the Catholic Faith, attending Sunday Mass regularly, and involved in their parish community. This way, they can be the best example and support to you at this important time of your own faith journey. Before you choose a sponsor, there are some qualifications that are required to choose a legitimate sponsor. Your sponsor **MUST BE: 1) at least 16 years of age; 2) has received the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation** for themselves; **3) in good standing** with the Catholic Church; and **4) has to provide proof** of their Sacraments to the parish by requesting a recent record (within six months) of their Sacraments from the parish of their Baptism, that shows the date of their Baptism and date of their Confirmation.



**CHOOSING A CONFIRMATION SAINT** The long tradition of choosing a Confirmation Saint is to be able to choose a Saint that the Candidate feels a connection to, and asks for guidance from Heaven during this journey through the Sacrament of Confirmation. You can choose a Saint you relate to and admire, and ask them in your prayers to pray for you during this time. More direction on choosing a Saint name will be given during the Preparation Program.

**SUBMITTING NECESSARY DOCUMENTS FOR REGISTRATION** To register for the Sacrament of Confirmation, the following is necessary: **1) complete the Registration Form - available online only - at [www.holynametalphonusus.com/confirmation](http://www.holynametalphonusus.com/confirmation); 2) a copy of the Candidate’s Baptism Certificate** (unless you were baptized in the parish where you are registering for Confirmation); **3) when you have chosen a Sponsor for Confirmation**, they too must submit proof of their Baptism and Confirmation by requesting a recent record (within six months) of their Sacraments from the parish they were Baptized that will show the date of their Baptism and the date of their Confirmation.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 23, 2026**

**ATTENDANCE AT MASS** Since you are preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, you are asked to make a renewed commitment to your life of faith, which includes attending Sunday Mass each Sunday as Catholics are required to do. Please familiarize yourself with the Sunday Mass times in your parish, and see if there are ways you can volunteer there too.

***THE CELEBRATION OF CONFIRMATION:*** *While our preparation program will be completed together as a region, the celebration of the actual Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated in your own parish church.* This means that Bishop Thomas Dowd Dowd will be present on Friday, November 6 at 7pm at Holy Name of Jesus Church; Saturday, November 7 at 10am at St. Peter the Apostle Church; and Saturday, November 7 at 1:30pm at the Pro-Cathedral. You will celebrate at the parish where you are registered.

Session	Date	Time	Location	Notes
Session #1 (Parents & Candidates to attend)*	Thursday, September 24	6:30pm - 8:30pm	Holy Name of Jesus Church	*PARENTS & SPONSORS TO ATTEND
Session #2	Thursday, October 1	6:30pm - 8:30pm	Holy Name of Jesus Church	
<b>Confirmation Retreat</b>	<b>Saturday, October 3</b>	<b>9:00am - 9:00pm</b>	<b>Holy Name of Jesus Church</b>	<b>Those who miss the Retreat, will not continue in program</b>
Session #3	Thursday, October 8	6:30pm - 8:30pm	Holy Name of Jesus Church	
Session #4 (Parents & Candidates to attend)*	Thursday, October 15	6:30pm - 8:30pm	Holy Name of Jesus Church	*PARENTS & SPONSORS TO ATTEND
Session #5	Thursday, October 22	6:30pm - 8:30pm	Holy Name of Jesus Church	
Session #6	Thursday, October 29	6:30pm - 8:30pm	Holy Name of Jesus Church	
<b>Rehearsal Night</b>	<b>Thursday, November 5</b>	<b>6:30pm - 8:30pm</b>	<b><u>**In the church you belong to**</u></b>	<b><u>Note location change</u></b>
Sacrament of Confirmation	Friday, November 6	7:00pm	Holy Name of Jesus Church	You will attend the celebration at the church you belong to. Bishop Thomas Dowd will preside at all of these celebrations.
	Saturday, November 7	10:00am	St. Peter the Apostle	
	Saturday, November 7	1:30pm	Pro-Cathedral	

# A Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit,

Give me **understanding**, so I may be gentle with others who think differently than me.

Give me **wisdom**, so I can learn from my mistakes.

Give me **courage**, so I may stand up for what is right.

Give me **knowledge**, so I may learn about my faith, my world and myself.

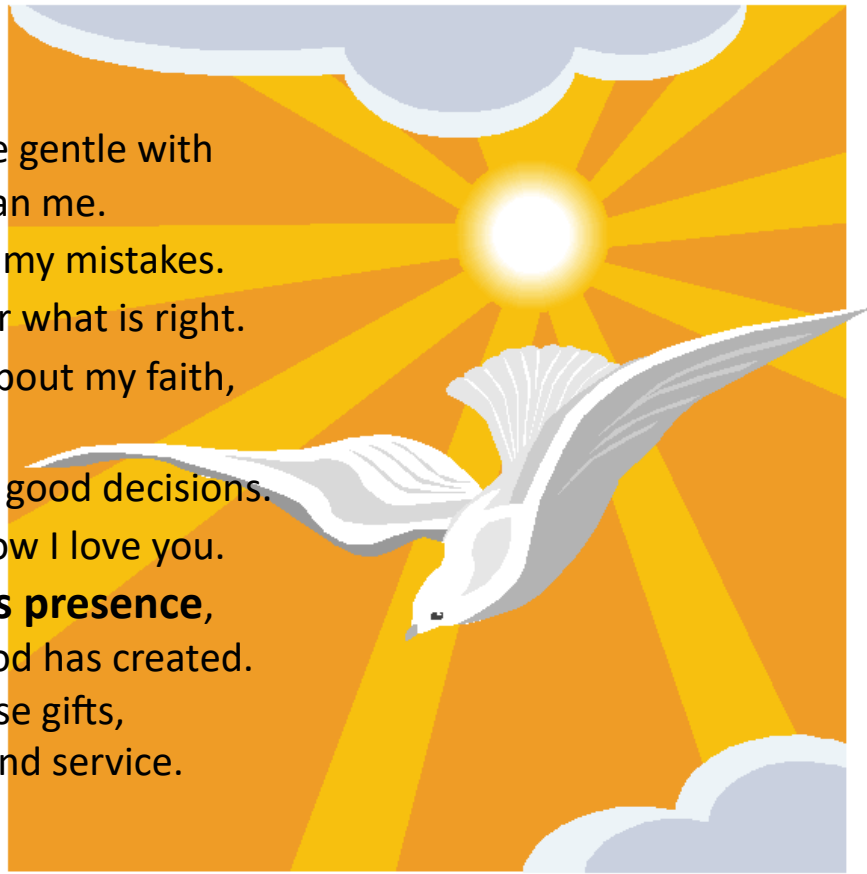
Give me **right judgment**, so I can make good decisions.

Give me **reverence**, so I may show how I love you.

Give me **wonder and awe in God's presence**, so I may discover and respect all that God has created.

Help me to use and develop these gifts, and like Jesus, be a person of love and service.

Amen.



## Questions & More Information

This is a special time in the life of your child who will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, and for your whole family as well. If you have any questions or concerns that are not addressed in this registration package, we want you to be in contact with us. Please do not hesitate to phone your parish office, your parish priest or members of the Confirmation team. We look forward to the opportunity to accompany you and your family in this time of your faith journey.

