

*Our Lady of the Woods Parish*



*Confirmation*  
**2019**

# Confirmation 2018-2019



Our Lady of the Woods Parish  
10731 West 131<sup>st</sup> Street  
Orland Park, Illinois 60462

Celebrant: Most Rev. John R. Gorman  
April 7, 2019  
2 PM

Candidate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmation Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Confirmation Candidate,

The parish staff and community of Our Lady of the Woods Parish welcome you as you complete the Sacraments of Initiation. Baptism was the first, Eucharist the next and now we continue the journey towards Confirmation.

We welcome and encourage you as you work towards Confirmation. You are in our thoughts and prayers, always, but in a special way during the process of preparing to become a confirmed member of the Catholic community. The parish is alive with the spirit of Jesus and we hope to serve as models of the Catholic faith for you.

Please remember to take time for Mass and prayer during this busy time, it is important to talk to God and to listen to Him. Remember, He is always there for you.

-The Parish Staff



Prayer is talking with the Lord and being with the Lord. It is not so much something we do— rather it is something God does in us. Prayer is a gift. It is God’s work in us. What we need to do is make ourselves available to God.

We don’t have to try and get God’s attention. The opposite is true. God is always trying to get our attention. God is always with us, always loving us, always wanting to share His own love and power with us. We are the ones who forget to be available... not God!

In prayer we do not try to change God’s mind. Rather, we try to share who we are with God, and then listen for God’s Spirit in our lives. To do this, we need to be open and honest when we pray. Prayer is not about saying the right words; prayer is about being honest with God about whatever we’re feeling and then listening to God’s spirit.

When we pray, we see ourselves as someone who is loved by God— unconditionally— no strings attached. In prayer, we come to know the abundance of God’s love for us. God began the relationship with us— we listen— we respond.

It is important that each of us becomes a prayerful person. We need to get in tune with the Spirit of God in our lives. Below are a few suggestions to help you.

**Personal Prayer:** Spend at least 5 or 10 minutes each day in private prayer. Prepare for your day. Relax. Then “let go” of any concerns by placing them in the hands of your God. Spend some time with God.

**Group Prayer:** Shared prayer will be part of your class time together. You will be invited to participate in all of the prayer events of the year; the eighth grade retreat and the evening of reflection.

## COMMUNITY PRAYER

It is expected that every person preparing for Confirmation attend Sunday Mass each week. The parish offers Mass at 5:00 PM on Saturdays and 8:00, 9:30, 11:00AM on Sunday mornings and 6:00 PM Sunday evenings. The Sunday evening liturgy in particular offers many young people an opportunity to participate by lecturing, ushering, music and as Eucharistic Ministers in our liturgies. All are welcome!

## CONFIRMATION NAMES

Your Baptismal name may serve as your Confirmation name. If you choose to pick a different name for this sacrament, it must be a saint's name or a word of Christian significance, such as Faith, Hope or Charity.

We will have you research the name you have chosen so that you can verbalize why the name is important to you. Bishops often have asked the confirmation candidates which saint they picked their name for and why. It is good to be prepared.

### IMPORTANT DATES:

**It is important to attend each of the following special events.  
We ask that you attend all class sessions unless you are ill.**

<b>Parent Meeting:</b>	Monday, September 24th or Wednesday, September 26th at 7:15 PM
<b>Confirmandi/Sponsor Event:</b>	Sunday, November 18th at 6:00-7:30PM (mass included)
<b>Confirmandi Retreat:</b>	Friday October 26, 2018 (Holy Fire)
<b>Confirmation Interviews:</b>	Tuesday February 19, 2019 (Times TBA)
<b>Confirmation PRACTICE:</b>	Thursday April 4, 2019 at 7:00PM
<b>CONFIRMATION:</b>	Sunday April 7, 2019 at 2:00PM
<b>FINAL RE SESSION:</b>	All eighth graders are to attend a special RE session on Monday, April 8th at 6:30 PM

# Choosing a Sponsor

One of the first decisions you will be faced with as you prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation is choosing your sponsor. The role of your sponsor is to accompany you on your journey towards Confirmation. Your sponsor will serve as a witness to your growing faith and at the same time promise to serve as your model for continuing growth in the Catholic faith. We ask that you spend some time thinking and praying about your choice for sponsor, do not rush the decision.

## **Requirements for a sponsor:**

- Practicing confirmed Catholic.
- 16 years of age
- Role model, someone you admire and can talk to.
- There are no gender requirements, anyone can choose either a man or a woman for your sponsor.
- By Canon law, parents cannot be the sponsor for their child.

You will need to spend time with your sponsor, so the person you choose should be someone you admire. It is a person you are comfortable talking with about your faith, who will be present in your life as a role model, and with qualities you admire and would like to develop in your own life.

## **Responsibilities of your sponsor:**

- Helping you recognize your own gifts.
- Participating in the evening of prayer and reflection
- Available to listen to your questions and concerns

**Please, we need to have your form returned to the REP office by October 5, 2016 with your sponsor and his/her address on the form. Forms can also be completed online by visiting the Religious Education page of the Parish website: [www.ourladyofthewoods.org](http://www.ourladyofthewoods.org) under the Confirmation Tab in the Religious Education Section.**

We will be sending out information to your sponsor inviting them to the special student/sponsor liturgy in November.

# Parents

Please help your son or daughter come to know that each one of us has been gifted very specially by God who loves us. There is no way we deserve the healing, nourishing love of God. It is simply a GIFT.

Therefore, the months of preparation that lay ahead will not be a process of “earning” the Sacrament of Confirmation, but of recognizing our unique gifts and responding to the graciousness of God.

May we ask for your promise of cooperation and support of your son or daughter’s confirmation teachers?

May we ask you to show an active interest in guiding your son or daughter through the assigned lessons and activities?

May we ask you to make the effort to regularly attend weekend Mass with your family if you do not already do so?

May we ask you to be supportive in your son or daughters service projects?

May we ask you to assist your son or daughter in choosing a sponsor and support and encourage that sponsor (in the light of the recommendations) of our program?

And finally, may we share out hope that this preparation period will be for our parent/parents, a time of recommitment in your own life and in the life of your family.

**Service hour sign ups  
are available on the parish website.  
Be sure to have your confirmandi  
submit your email address  
when asked so that you get a  
reminder as well.**

# Service Projects

Service coordinators will be at class on a regular basis to answer questions and guide you in logging your projects appropriately on the forms provided. Extra copies of the form will be in the Religious Ed office but you can also print your own at [www.ourladyofthewoods.org](http://www.ourladyofthewoods.org)!

Teacher Aides– Children of the Lord Program (Sunday Mornings)

\*Babysitting on Sunday mornings

\*Serving Hospitality on Sunday Mornings

Teacher Aides– R.E.P. (1-4) Monday/Wednesday afternoons

In your neighborhood: Helping the elderly especially in the following areas:

- Raking Leaves
- Shoveling Snow
- Helping carry groceries

Volunteering for additional parish events and drives– they will be posted at each class.

Church set-up/clean-up during special seasons (upon request)

Additional sites where you may want to volunteer your help:

- Casa Romero
- Peace Memorial Village
- Parish Spaghetti Dinner Fall Event (Oct. 13th)
- Orland Food Pantry

As a group: make special gifts, table favors for any of the above.

Discuss possible service projects with your parents first. If you register for projects ONLINE a parent email address should be provided to send additional information to.

The above is just a partial list of service project ideas. They are not meant to be the only ones you may wish to be involved with.

**\*\*\*Other service projects will be advertised during the year at class, on the website, and in the church bulletin.\*\*\***

***\* All Sunday morning projects do not replace Mass attendance. You must still attend mass, it is not included in your hour.***

# Confirmation Service Hour Log

We ask for **5 hours** of service in each of the following areas.

- Liturgy
- Community
- Church
- Family

A **total of 20 hours** are expected by the night of your Confirmation interview on **Tuesday, February 19, 2019.**

Please remember to fill in all the required information on the provided form. You will need a new form for each service hours. Please keep track of how many hours you have completed!

You will not receive credit for any service hours until you have all four parts of the log entry completed. Remember to have the person supervising your work sign your sheet. If you forget to bring a form to your service project, have your supervisor sign and date a note to be stapled to your form.



#### [REP Calendar](#)

Children of the Lord 4 - 5 year olds Sunday during 9:30 AM Mass	Monday Religious Education Gr. 1-4 4:30-6:00 PM Gr. 5-8 6:30-8:00 PM	Wednesday Religious Education Gr. 1-5 4:30-6:00 PM Gr. 6-8 6:30-8:00 PM
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Please report absences by calling (708) 361-9435

You can register at the parish office.

[2018/2019 REP Parent Handbook](#)  
[Confirmation Information](#)



Here is the link where you can fill out forms and sign up for service hours!

This can be found at the Religious Ed HOME page at [www.ourladyofthewoods.org](http://www.ourladyofthewoods.org)!

# Service Hour Sheet



## Our Lady of the Woods Confirmation Service Reflection Sheet

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Service Project: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Hours Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

1. I completed this week's hours in the area of Church, Community, Liturgy or Family (Please Circle which apply).

2. Please explain the service project(s) completed.

3. What did you take from this service experience? How did it prepare you for Confirmation and offer you a better understanding of your faith?

(1 Project per Sheet)

**This is an EXAMPLE of a service hour sheet.  
Extra sheets will be available in the REP office  
or online!**

# Confirmation Information Sheet

A link to the **FULL FORM\*** can be found in the Confirmation Information section of the Religious Education Website.

\*This image is just an example of what the form will look like.

## Confirmation Information Sheet 2018-2019

This form is due to Our Lady of the Woods by October 5th 2016. Submissions after that date will not be accepted. You will need to meet with Brittney in the Religious Education offices if your form is not submitted by its due date. Call the REP offices if you have any questions at (708) 361-9435. Thank you!

\* Required

**Confirmandi Last Name \***

**Confirmandi First Name \***

**Date of Birth \***

Example: 05/01/1900

**Home/Parent Cell Number \***

Best phone number to reach if we have a question for your family.

**Father's Name (First Middle and Last) \***

First, Middle and Last

**Mother's Name (First, Middle, Maiden, and Last) \***

First, Middle, Maiden (last name before she was married), and Last

# Due: October 5th 2018!