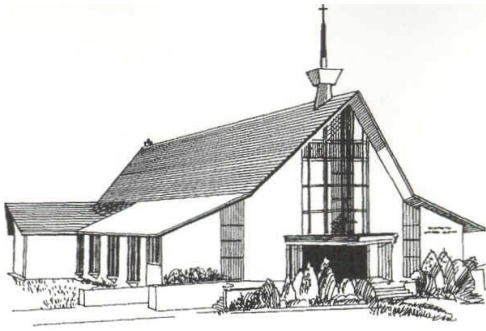


Sacrament of Confirmation

2017 - 2018



Saint Aloysius Parish
Kitchener, Ontario



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St. Aloysius Parish

The Sacrament of Confirmation 2017 - 2018

Thursday, March 8, 2018 at 7:00 pm

The Sacrament of Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation is the final sacrament of initiation and it is an excellent opportunity for a young Catholic to grow in faith. If the candidate and his/her family are practicing members of the Catholic community then the celebration of Confirmation will be a significant step in the lifelong journey of faith. If you do not practice your Catholic faith, then perhaps you should see this time as an invitation to renew your Catholic commitment. If you are not practicing your Catholic faith and do not foresee that you will be practicing it, you should not be getting Confirmed at this time. Candidates should consider their decision seriously, and parents should help them to make a choice that is sincere and appropriate. At St. Aloysius Parish those Catholics who are in grade seven or older, are invited to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you have any questions, or are in need of any assistance, please do not hesitate to speak to Fr. Roshan D'Souza at the parish office.

The following are some guidelines meant to assist parents and the candidates themselves in preparation for this sacrament.

Preparation:

In preparing your child for this important sacrament, the respective teachers in the school (St. Aloysius, St. Kateri and St. Timothy) will conduct classes especially during the Religion Hour. These classes will be based on the resources provided by the parish. There will be a Preparatory Mass for the Candidates and their parents in the parish. We will end our preparations with a rehearsal in the parish.

Public Schools: Public School Children can receive an application package from the church office, or on our parish website. We will have four classes in the Parish for those children attending **Public Schools**. These Sacramental preparation classes will be on **November 21st, December 5th, 12th and 19th** 2017 from **7:30pm to 9:00pm**. Please give the applications to the Parish office by **November 10, 2017**.

Confirmation Information Sheet and Baptism Certificate:

All prospective candidates for Confirmation will receive an "Application Package" through the Catholic Schools, or at the church office, or it is also available on our parish website. The registration form should be returned *to the parish* no later than **Friday, December 8, 2017**, with a **Baptism Certificate attached, and a fee of \$25 for the gown rental and for lesson materials**. (Those baptized at St. Aloysius do not need to attach a certificate). We are obliged to notify the parish of Baptism that Confirmation has taken place: we can only do that if we have complete information, including the address of the church.

Candidates from other Parishes:

The Bishop has set these norms regarding the place of Confirmation: “Ordinarily, a candidate for Confirmation should be confirmed in his/her own parish. For a serious reason, the candidate, with the permission of one’s proper Pastor, may be Confirmed in another parish.” If a candidate attends a parish other than this one, we ask him or her to obtain permission from the proper pastor for their child to be Confirmed at St. Aloysius.

Sacrament of Reconciliation for Confirmation Candidates:

Spiritual preparation for any sacrament should include an opportunity for self-reflection and repentance and confession of our sins. We will offer an opportunity to our Confirmation candidates for the Sacrament of Reconciliation during the season of Lent in their schools. If a candidate does not attend one of our Catholic schools, he/she should come to confession during regular confession times – Saturday 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm or Tuesday 6:00 pm to 6:45 pm or by appointment. Parents are encouraged to benefit from these regular times in the parish to make their confessions on this special occasion of the Confirmation of your children.

Sponsors:

The Confirmation sponsor must be a practicing Catholic of at least sixteen years of age, who has already been Confirmed. He or she should be a person who is able to give good Christian example and encouragement to the candidate. Parents may not sponsor their own children. It is considered particularly appropriate for one of the Baptismal godparents to act as sponsor, since they will continue in their role of spiritual leadership with the young person.

Name:

Candidates traditionally choose a saint’s name for Confirmation, someone who can be a model of faith and virtue for them, and someone to whom they can pray for help and guidance. It is appropriate for the candidates to select their baptismal name (provided that it is a saint’s name) since this highlights the connection between Baptism and Confirmation.

Parents Information Meeting:

All the necessary information regarding the Sacramental Preparation will be given in this meeting. It will be on **Thursday, November 2nd 2017 at 7:30pm.**

Preparatory Mass:

As an immediate preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, there will be a Preparatory Mass on **Thursday, March 1st 2018 at 7:00 pm** in our Parish. It will be a Teaching Mass as well. Parents and Sponsors are encouraged to attend this Mass.

Rehearsal:

- At the church – **Monday, March 5th 2018 at 7:00 pm.**
(Candidates must be present – sponsors are invited but it is not mandatory they be present)
- Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation on **Thursday March 8th 2018 at 7:00 pm.**

Dress:

Proper dress for Confirmation is “Sunday Best”. This means that clothes should be neat, clean, modest, and appropriate for church. New, elaborate, and expensive clothes are not necessary. Gowns will be provided for all candidates.

Promptness and Seating:

All candidates and their sponsors should assemble in the church **45 minutes prior to the actual time of the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation**. There will be no reserved seating except for candidates and sponsors. We do not issue tickets, but ask you to be prudent in the number of guests you invite, so that we do not exceed the capacity of the church.

Photographs and Videos:

In order to maintain a reverent atmosphere, no photographs or videos will be allowed during the ceremony. Please comply with this and instruct your family and friends to do likewise. Following the ceremony there will be an opportunity for a group picture in the church proper and afterwards, individual pictures with the Bishop in the Parish Centre.

This is a grace-filled time for candidates and family members alike. The best spiritual preparation for the candidates and the best example by the parents involves faithful Catholic practice. God bless you as you continue on your journey of faith. If we can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at the parish office (519.893.1220) or by e-mail.

Rev. Jerome Mascarenhas OCD
Pastor

Rev. Roshan D'Souza OCD
Associate Pastor

Robert Borys
Co-Ordinator