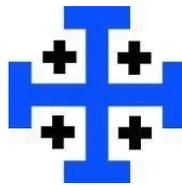


**2019/20 CONFIRMATION**

**INFORMATION FOR PARENTS**

**AND SPONSORS**



**St Gabriel Catholic Church**

3016 Providence Road, Charlotte, NC 28211-2796 Tel:  
(704) 362-5047 x 219 FAX: (704) 362-5049 [www.stgabrielchurch.org](http://www.stgabrielchurch.org)

**Rev. 3/25/19**

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April 1, 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the St. Gabriel Confirmation program. Your son/daughter will soon begin another step in his/her faith journey. In this beautiful sacrament, confirmands are sealed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. You have been a great influence in your child's religious education. We know that you will continue to support him/her in preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation.

**To be eligible for Confirmation:**

- Students must have completed sixth, seventh and eighth grade in religious education or Catholic school before receiving the sacrament in **NINTH** grade in 2020.
- One parent must attend a Parent Meeting
- Completed Registration form, baptismal certificate (if not baptized at St. Gabriel) and payment must be received by June 3, 2019
- Student must complete 10 hours of service and return form by September 1, 2019
- Student must attend the 6 class sessions (1 excused absence with makeup work is permissible)
- Letter in Good Standing must be obtained by sponsor (college and high school students are exempt) by November 1, 2019
- Parents and Sponsors are to submit a letter to the confirmand via Faith Formation Office by December 2, 2019
- Students are required to attend a retreat at the Church on January 3, 2020 from 7:00-8:30 PM
- Students will perform one service project in their class
- Students are required to attend one of the Clothing Drive Sessions, Nov. 22 6:30-8:00 PM or Nov. 23 10:00-11:30 AM.
- Student must attend Confirmation Mass in January (depending on class, there will be one session in the morning and one in the afternoon. You will be notified as soon as the Mass date is confirmed by the Bishop's Office.

**CONFIRMATION PACKET**

BEFORE you complete your registration form and pay the Confirmation fee, access the Confirmation Website at [www.stgabrielchurch.org/confirmation](http://www.stgabrielchurch.org/confirmation).

It contains:

1. Confirmation Learning Targets
2. Service Hours Form
3. Service Hours Suggestions
4. Clothing Drive Suggestions for the clothing drive to be held November 22 and November 23
5. Letter to sponsor

**PARENT MEETINGS**

As a parent of a Confirmation student, you are required to attend ONE of the following meetings. **PLEASE BRING YOUR SON/DAUGHTER'S BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE if they were not baptized at St. Gabriel Church.**

Sunday, April 28	1:30 pm	Parish Center Cafeteria
Wednesday, May 8	7:00 pm	Ministry Center Room A & B
Monday, May 13	7:00 pm	Ministry Center Room B & C

**You will find the registration form and payment module at [www.stgabrielchurch.org/confirmation](http://www.stgabrielchurch.org/confirmation).** If you do not have access to a computer, please call me at 704-362-5047, ext. 219, and I will mail you a registration form and packet. The \$80 fee covers the cost of materials and the retreat. If you have a financial hardship, please contact me before registering.

The form will ask you to provide:

1. Student's name, address, school name, birthdate and parent information.
2. Confirmation name (this may be your son/ daughter's baptismal name or the name of a saint). One name is sufficient (for example: Mary or John, not Mary Elizabeth Smith).
3. You **must** provide a Baptismal certificate for your child if he/she was not baptized at St. Gabriel.
4. If your child was baptized at **another** church you **must also provide** the name and address of the church. Most churches do not provide this information on their certificates.
5. Provide name of SPONSOR with an email AND address, and relationship to student. \*\*
6. Please rank class time by 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> choice.
7. If you are planning for your child to be in an In-Home Group, we require two catechists in the home study groups with a minimum of 5 students. Catechists must have Protecting God's Children (Virtus) up-to-date and complete all the Volunteer Forms. To register for the In-Home Group on the on-line form, indicate the name of the catechist on the In-Home Group Info line. If submitting a printed registration form, write the name of the catechist and In Home Group in the Class Session Information.

## SPONSORS

**\*\* SPONSOR:** A baptized, confirmed and mature practicing Catholic who is willing to share his/her faith. The sponsor may be a relative or friend but NOT the confirmand's parent. Sponsors are required to obtain a "letter in good standing" from their church (demonstrating that they are practicing Catholics). If your child's sponsor is not a member of a Catholic Parish, they would need to join now to be eligible to receive the Letter in Good Standing by November (typically you must be a member for 6 months).

Sponsors in high school or college do NOT need to obtain a letter in good standing. I will send a letter to the sponsor outlining the Confirmation program and their responsibilities as a sponsor as soon as I receive your registration form. Please have a prayerful discussion with your son/daughter as to who he/she plans to ask to be his/her sponsor.

**Failure to register and provide all required information by the parent meeting assumes that your child will NOT be confirmed this year.**

I look forward to meeting you at one of the parent meetings soon. In faith,  
Brenda Baalman, Confirmation Coordinator

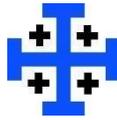
## ST. GABRIEL CHURCH – RELIGIOUS ED LEARNING TARGETS FOR CONFIRMATION

In preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation, ninth graders will understand:

- That Confirmation is one of seven sacraments
- That Confirmation is one of the three sacraments of initiation
- That Confirmation provides the strengthening and continuation of Baptismal graces
- That the sacrament of Confirmation configures us to Jesus Christ
- That, in Confirmation, the Holy Spirit provides gifts for discipleship
- That being confirmed means being transformed for fuller witness and service
- That a sponsor is a mentor providing guidance in the faith
- That Confirmation is another step in our journey to God
- That Confirmation only has meaning in relation to Baptism and Eucharist
- That Confirmation calls us to share the faith
- That the anointing in Confirmation is the seal of Baptismal grace
- That the embrace of Confirmation opens us to the gifts of the Holy Spirit
- That Confirmation is, essentially, a sacrament of call and response
- That Confirmation enables us to share the gifts of the Holy Spirit
- That Confirmation is NOT a rite of passage, a Bar Mitzvah or declaration of becoming Catholic
- That Confirmation should be celebrated in community

In preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation, ninth graders will be able:

- To explain that a sacrament is an encounter with Christ and a celebration of the presence of Jesus Christ and name the seven sacraments
- To name and explain the three sacraments of initiation
- To list and explain some of the gifts of the Holy Spirit
- To explain why the Eucharist is the heart of our religious tradition
- To name some of the fruits of the Holy Spirit
- To profess their belief in the mystery of the Trinity
- To recite basic prayers, such as the Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Apostles' Creed, Nicene Creed and Act of Contrition
- To define Confirmation as a sacrament of initiation its relationship to Baptism and the Eucharist
- To describe Confirmation as a sacrament of community
- To know who presides at the conferring of the sacrament of Confirmation
- To understand that the anointing with oil signifies the presence of the Holy Spirit and is the sign of the sacrament of Confirmation
- To explain why Confirmation cannot be separated from Baptism and the Eucharist



**St. Gabriel Catholic Church Faith Formation 3016 Providence Road Charlotte, NC 28211 704-362-5047 x 219**

Dear Confirmation Sponsor,

Congratulations and welcome to the confirmation program at St. Gabriel. You have been chosen to enrich the spiritual life of a young person in our parish by being their Sponsor in the Confirmation process.

What a great honor for you to share your faith journey with your confirmand! A sponsor is defined as a “friend for the journey,” one who attempts to put one’s own search for God, with all the moments of pain, joy, hope and despair, at the disposal of those who want to join the search but need help. Through your close relationship to the confirmand and by your faith, your active membership in the Catholic Church and your frequent reception of the sacraments, you will enable your confirmand to make the CHOICE to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.

In order to fulfill your obligation as a sponsor, please do the following:

1. Meet with your confirmand during the confirmation process to share and support the confirmand’s journey.
2. Pray for the young person you have been asked to sponsor.
3. Write a personal letter to your confirmand expressing how you feel your faith has influenced your life and the hopes you have for the confirmand. Mail your letter by **December 2, 2019**. Do not mail your letter to the confirmand, please mail it to: Brenda Baalman, St. Gabriel Catholic Church (Follow the example on the next page).
4. Request a Letter in Good Standing from your parish and return it by **November 1, 2019**. This letter is to verify that you are a practicing Catholic at your parish and it is required.
  - a. If you are a St. Gabriel parishioner, you can call Mary Lawler at 704-362-5047x204 or email her at [mlawler@stgabrielchurch.org](mailto:mlawler@stgabrielchurch.org) and request a Letter in Good Standing to be placed in Brenda Baalman’s inbox. Please make sure you also reference the name of the confirmand.
  - b. If you are a member of another parish, please provide the name of the Confirmand to your parish and ask them for a Letter in Good Standing mailed to: Brenda Baalman, St. Gabriel Catholic Church, 3016 Providence Rd., Charlotte, NC 28211. **DO NOT INCLUDE IT WITH YOUR LETTER TO THE CONFIRMAND**. If you are sending the Letter in Good Standing, please write “Letter in Good Standing” below your name in the return address area.
  - c. If you attend a church, but are not a member you need to enroll now and start turning in your contribution envelopes to be able to receive a Letter in Good Standing from your church by November 1.

5. Participate in the Confirmation Ceremony in January. Date is pending the Bishop's schedule. You will be notified as soon as the date has been confirmed. If you are unable to fulfill this requirement, one of the confirmand's parents can act as your proxy during the Confirmation Mass.

The role of sponsor is not simply an honor to bestow, but rather a rare opportunity to share your faith with the confirmand. It can and should be a wonderful faith-filled growth experience for both you and your confirmand.

If you have questions, please feel free to call or email me at the Faith Formation Office **(704) 362-5047 x 219** or at **bbaalman@stgabrielchurch.org**.

***SPONSOR LETTER: ENVELOPE FRONT***

Your Name 123 Anywhere St. City, State, Zip Sponsor Letter	St. Gabriel Catholic Church 3016 Providence Road Charlotte, NC 28211  Attn: Brenda Baalman
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***ENVELOPE BACK***

CONFIRMAND'S NAME	
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Blessings,

Brenda Baalman, Confirmation Coordinator

# **SUGGESTIONS FOR THE CONFIRMATION CLOTHING DRIVE**

**NOVEMBER 22<sup>nd</sup> OR November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2019\* - ST. GABRIEL MINISTRY CENTER**

Start collecting items now for our Confirmation Clothing Drive. PLEASE make sure that all items are in GOOD condition; no worn out or tired looking items. PLEASE, NO STAINS, TEARS, MISSING BUTTONS OR FRAYING! Students will collect clothing and bring it to the Ministry Center on one of the dates above to sort and box it for several local charities.

## **Linens/Bath Items:**

- Sheets and pillow cases (all sizes)
- Bedspreads and Blankets (all sizes)
- Towels

## **Women's and Girl's Clothing- WINTER:**

- Blouses, shirts, t-shirts
- Pants, jeans, dress/casual, sweatpants
- Shoes (gently worn)
- Purses/belts
- NEW underwear
- NEW socks

## **Men's and Boy's Clothing-WINTER:**

- Shirts and tshirts
- Pants
- Suits
- Sweatshirts
- Sweaters
- Shoes
- Belts
- Jackets
- NEW underwear
- NEW socks

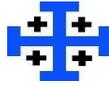
## **Toys:**

- Games
- Books
- Bikes

## **Baby Clothing, Blankets & Crib Sheets**

- Clothing
- Blankets & Crib Sheets

**\*The students will be divided into 2 groups by class. One group of students will do the clothing drive on Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> and the other group on Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup>.**



# St. Gabriel Confirmation Service Hours Form

Ph: (704) 362-5047 x 219 Fax: (704) 362-5049 Email: bbaalman@stgabrielchurch.org St. Gabriel Catholic Church, 3016 Providence Road, Charlotte, NC 28211, ATTN: Brenda Baalman  
MAIL, FAX or EMAIL Completed Form

**STUDENT NAME** \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL SERVICE HOURS** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print) (from all projects, must add up to at least 10 hours)

**DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:** # of HOURS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE OF ADULT IN CHARGE** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*\*\*\*

**DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:** # of HOURS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE OF ADULT IN CHARGE** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*\*\*\*

**DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:** # of HOURS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE OF ADULT IN CHARGE** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\*\*\*\*\*

I have followed the community service guidelines that are included on the back of this form.

**STUDENT SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT SIGNATURE** \_\_\_\_\_

**ST. GABRIEL SERVICE HOURS FORM – DUE 9/1/2019**  
**Guidelines for St. Gabriel Confirmation Service Hours**

**How do I decide what to do?**

Service to others is an integral part of our call to live out our faith. Service hours are a means to examine our gifts and serve others with those gifts. In the Gospel we are called to feed the hungry, comfort those in need, and to live a life of service to others.

Pray and reflect on ways you are living out the gospel message of Jesus. Think about your talents and ask your parents and family their perception of your talents. Decide on service projects using your unique talents.

**When can I start accumulating hours and how many hours will I need to perform?**

You can start accumulating hours now. Many organizations have limited dates available for volunteering, so start signing up NOW for those opportunities. You are required to perform 10 hours of service and turn them in by September 1, 2019. Do at least 2 different service projects. If you do more than the 3 projects listed on this form, make additional copies of the service project form.

**Where do I need to perform my service hours and in what ways?**

You may volunteer at home, in the community or at church as long as you do not collect payment for your service. IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND SERVICE HOURS. A list of suggestions is below, but you may have other ideas:

- Volunteer at Kamp Gabe (for free). Go to [kampgabe.wixsite.com/kamp](http://kampgabe.wixsite.com/kamp) to complete the volunteer application
- Volunteer at St. Gabriel Vacation Bible School, must be able to commit to the full week, June 17-21, 8:00 am – noon. Contact Cristin Ackermann at [sacker8472@aol.com](mailto:sacker8472@aol.com).
- Check out St. Gabriel volunteer opportunities at: [stgabrielchurch.org/teens](http://stgabrielchurch.org/teens)
- Do house or garden work or baby/puppy sit for a trusted neighbor in need (for free)
- Crisis Assistance, 500 Spratt St, 704-371-3000 to sort clothing
- Catholic Social Services, 1123 S. Church St., 704-370-3224 to sort food, and/or collect food and clothing
- Check out volunteer opportunities at [handsoncharlotte.org](http://handsoncharlotte.org) or [sharecharlotte.org](http://sharecharlotte.org)
- Second Harvest Food Bank, 500-B Spratt St., 704-376-1785 to sort and pack food
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Library, 704-416-0617 to help with children's programs
- Write your Congressman(woman) about a social justice issue
- Loaves & Fishes, 704-523-4333 to stock the food pantry
- Classroom Central, 2116 Wilkinson Blvd, 704-377-1740 to stock shelves with school supplies or organize a school supply drive
- Volunteer at events, such as swim meets, community festivals, dance events (for free) Tutor (for free)
- Set up a neighborhood clothing, food, toy or school supply drive
- Help a teacher pack and clean up their classroom at the end of the school year (for free)