

Holy Cross Church Requirements for Confirmation

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church:

Para. 1212 The sacraments of Christian initiation—Baptism, **Confirmation**, and the Eucharist—lay the foundations of every Christian life. By means of these sacraments of Christian initiation, they thus receive in increasing measure the treasures of the divine life and advance toward the perfection of charity.

Para. 1285: Baptism, the Eucharist, and the sacrament of **Confirmation** together constitute the "sacraments of Christian initiation," whose unity must be safeguarded. It must be explained to the faithful that the reception of the sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace. For "by the sacrament of Confirmation, [the baptized] are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed.

From the Office of Worship, Diocese of Manchester:

"In the Diocese of Manchester, candidates must have begun their sophomore year of high school to be confirmed. Their preparation must consist of a two year program of which an understanding of the basics of the Catholic faith, the responsibility of a fully initiated Catholic in the community, an organized experience of service, and an evening, day or overnight spiritual experience/retreat should be included."

Holy Cross Requirements:

The Confirmation candidate must have received the Sacraments of **Baptism, Eucharist** and **Reconciliation**, have been participating in Religious Education classes and be in at least their **sophomore** year in High School.

Confirmation candidates should **participate regularly in the weekend Mass**. The Mass has always been the basis of our faith where we hear the Word of God, listen to its interpretation by our priest and celebrate the Eucharist with our parish community.

Regular attendance (as defined by our attendance policy) to all 9th and 10th grade classes is also required of our candidates.

Candidates must have **knowledge of the basic prayers of our faith and the Mass** especially the **Apostles Creed**.

Candidates should be in a **state of grace**—having recently received the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Participation in the weekend **Confirmation Retreat** is required. Candidates who attend the Steubenville Retreat will not be required to attend the Confirmation Retreat.

Candidates are expected to **participate in service to our Church and community**.

Appropriate activities will be suggested and opportunities for participation will be provided.

Candidates will be scheduled for an **interview with the DRE** or Youth Minister.

Candidates and their sponsors are expected to **participate in all practice sessions**.

All **required paperwork** must be turned into the Religious Education Office before March 1st, including a copy of: Baptismal Certificate, Candidate Information Form, Sponsor Information Form, Called By Name, and I Believe form