



**St. Padre Pio Parish**  
**Confirmation Sacrament Preparation**  
*Registration Package*  
**2023-2024**



We are very happy that your child is preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Padre Pio Parish. Please take some time to read through the registration package and mark all dates in your calendar. Before registering for the Sacrament of Confirmation, please ensure that:

- Your child is in Grade 7 or older.
- Your child is baptized in the Roman Catholic Faith.
- If your child has not been baptized in the Roman Catholic Faith or not baptized at all, please call the parish office and speak with Fr. George as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact [stpadrepio.sacraments@gmail.com](mailto:stpadrepio.sacraments@gmail.com). Please note that this email is monitored by volunteers. If you require immediate assistance, please contact the Parish Office at (905) 893-7879. Thank you for your continued support.

## REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Attend the **Confirmation Parent Information Meeting** on Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 7:00 PM at St. Padre Pio Church.
2. Complete the **2023-2024 Confirmation Registration Form**, which can be found here: <https://bit.ly/3NlyGp7>
3. Please confirm the spelling of all entries filled out on the registration form.
4. Bring the following items to the parish office, **no later than Friday, November 10, 2023**.
  - The completed **Registration Checklist** (*found on the last page of this package*).
  - A **COPY of your child's Baptismal Certificate**. Originals will not be accepted.
  - Payment of \$50** (cash or cheque payable to St. Padre Pio Parish; Memo: 2023-2024 Confirmation - *Your Child's Name*)
5. Complete the **Promise of Enrolment Form** (*found on the second last page of this package*) and attend the **Enrolment Ceremony** on November 25, 2023 or November 26, 2023 at the 5:00, 9:15, 10:30 or 12:00 Masses.

# IMPORTANT DATES

## Confirmation Parent Information Meeting

Tuesday, September 12, 2023 at 7:00 PM

Location: St. Padre Pio Church

## Promise of Enrolment Weekend

Students are to bring their completed Enrolment Form to Mass with them on the weekend of November 25th and November 26th, 2023. Masses at St. Padre Pio Parish are celebrated at 5:00 PM on Saturdays, and 9:15 AM, 10:30 AM and 12:00 Noon on Sundays.

## Christmas Confessions

The Christmas Confessions will be held at St. Padre Pio Church.

Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 7:00 PM

*Pope Francis & St. Andrew Schools*

Thursday, December 14, 2023 at 7:00 PM

*St. Stephen & St. Padre Pio Schools*

*Students in Public and Private Schools may attend either of the Christmas Confession dates.*

## Sponsor and Confirmandi Meeting

Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at 7:30 PM

Location: St. Padre Pio Church

All Sponsors and Confirmandi must attend this meeting. **You will be sent a Sponsor Google Form to complete prior to attending the meeting.** You will receive a reminder via email and Google Classroom to submit this form electronically.

## Retreat Day for Confirmation Candidates and Sponsors

The mandatory Confirmation Retreat will be held at St. Padre Pio Church. Confirmation candidates must attend this retreat with their sponsors.

Saturday, May 11, 2024 from 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon

*Students who attended Pope Francis & St. Andrew Schools*

Saturday, May 11, 2024 from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

*Students who attended St. Stephen & St. Padre Pio Schools*

*Public and Private School Students have the option to attend either retreat.*

## CONFIRMATION PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The Archdiocese of Toronto requires that students complete a certain degree of preparation in the school, home and Parish before receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. Below are the requirements outlined and explained.

1. Students must complete the Confirmation preparation classes offered by the Parish. The dates for these classes are listed on the Calendar attached to this package.
2. Students are encouraged to take part in ministry life (Choir, Altar Servers, Youth Ministry, etc.) at the parish. Confirmation is a call to a deeper faith-life, and also to greater service.
3. Students will be required to **complete a Weekly Reflection Question, and bring the completed task with them to Mass each weekend.** There will be a box available for students to place the completed reflection.
4. Students must attend a one-day retreat offered by the Parish. The date of this retreat is listed in the Important Dates section of this package.

## CONFIRMATION PREPARATION CLASSES

**All classes will be held at St. Padre Pio Catholic Elementary School from 7:00 - 7:45 PM on the dates listed below.** Students have the **option to attend the Monday or Thursday session.** It is mandatory for students to attend one class a week. If one or more class(es) are missed, you and your child will be asked to attend a meeting with Fr. George. In the event that our YCDSB permit is cancelled due to inclement weather, students will be expected to attend virtually via Google Meet. This virtual option will only take place if school buses are cancelled at our permit location. All other classes must be attended in-person.

Session	Class Option #1	Class Option #2	Topic
1	Monday, January 15, 2024	Thursday, January 18, 2024	Why Am I Here? - Jesus and the Holy Spirit
2	Monday, January 22, 2024	Thursday, January 25, 2024	Gifts of the Holy Spirit
3	Monday, January 29, 2024	Thursday, February 1, 2024	Fruits of the Holy Spirit
4	Monday, February 5, 2024	Thursday, February 8, 2024	Confirmation and Receiving the Sacrament
5	Monday, February 12, 2024	Thursday, February 15, 2024	Sent On a Mission

## CONFIRMATION CELEBRATION DATES

The Confirmation Celebrations will be held at St. Padre Pio Church. Sponsors and Confirmandi should arrive at the church one hour before the Mass to receive their gowns, take photos, and find their seats. Seating will be reserved for the children and sponsors only. Seating will not be reserved for Parents/Guardians, extended family members and friends.

Tuesday, May 21, 2024	7:00 PM	Pope Francis School
Thursday, May 23, 2024	7:00 PM	St. Padre Pio School
Friday, May 24, 2024	7:00 PM	St. Stephen School
Tuesday, May 28, 2024	7:00 PM	St. Andrew and Public & Private Schools

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT CONFIRMATION

### WHAT IS CONFIRMATION?

Confirmation is an essential part of Christian initiation. The priest or bishop seals us with the gift of the Holy Spirit. This sacrament is intended to:

- root us more deeply as sons and daughters of God;
- incorporate us more firmly into Christ;
- strengthen our bond with the Church;
- associate us more closely with the mission of the Church; and
- strengthen us to bear witness to the Christian faith.

### WHAT IS A SPONSOR?

A model of faith for the candidate and must be a fully initiated, practicing Catholic in good standing under church laws. It is desirable that the sponsor chosen be a godparent who undertook the role at Baptism. The sponsor is to **work with the candidate for Confirmation** to ensure that he/she behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations inherent in this sacrament. The sponsor must be:

- At least 16 years of age.
- They have been fully initiated in the Catholic Church (received Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation).
- In good standing with the Church (e.g. has not married outside of the Catholic Church; not cohabiting; attends Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation) and is not the father or mother of the one to be confirmed.

## HOW TO CHOOSE A SPONSOR

- Pray to the Holy Spirit** and ask him to reveal who in your life might be able to serve as your sponsor;
- Consider your godparents**; if either of them are practicing their faith and willing, they are fantastic choices for your sponsor.
- Consider aunts, uncles, family friends who often share their faith and attend Mass regularly**, these adults who are **strong in their faith** will be able to lead you closer to God throughout your life;
- Ensure that whichever person you choose meets all the requirements listed above (is 16 years or older, is fully initiated in the Roman Catholic Church, and regularly attends Sunday Mass).
- If you and your family need help finding someone to serve as your sponsor, make sure they indicate this on the registration form and we will make sure you get one.

## WHY MUST I TAKE PART IN A PARISH-BASED PROGRAM WHEN I AM ATTENDING A CATHOLIC SCHOOL?

Sacramental preparation in the Archdiocese of Toronto is rooted in three principles:

- All sacraments are ecclesial celebrations, i.e. celebrations of the Church;
- Parents are the primary educators of their children in the ways of faith;
- Catholic schools are an integral part of ongoing Religious Education, including preparation for the sacraments.

There are two types of preparation for sacraments, initial and immediate.

1. **Initial** (ongoing Religious Education) preparation encompasses:
  - Sunday worship;
  - Prayer in the family;
  - Education in a Catholic School system (or equivalent formation in the parish in Catholic doctrine and life-style);
  - Daily living of a Catholic life-style appropriate to one's age and spiritual development
2. **Immediate** preparation is the responsibility of the parents and parish and encompasses:
  - Sunday worship;
  - Prayer in the family;
  - Specific sacramental catechesis on the sacrament being anticipated;
  - Daily living of a Catholic life-style appropriate to one's age and spiritual development.

## **WHAT HAPPENS IF I MISS A CONFIRMATION PREPARATION CLASS?**

Enrolling in the Confirmation program means **commitment to taking part in all aspects of the preparation sessions and the retreat.** If you are sick or have some other serious conflict, contact the coordinator of the program to arrange to make up the session. Absence from one or more classes will result in the candidate and his or her parents or guardians being invited to meet with Fr. George. Candidates who fail to participate without a valid reason may be required to withdraw from the program and delay receiving the sacrament of Confirmation to a later date.

# ST. PADRE PIO PARISH

5500 Major Mackenzie Drive, Kleinburg, Ontario L0J 1C0

Tel: (905) 893-7879

Fax: (905) 893-7885

1-866-436-7979

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## Promise of Enrolment Form

*(please print clearly)*

*Students are to bring their completed Enrolment Form to Mass with them on the weekend of November 25th and November 26th, 2023. Masses at St. Padre Pio Parish are celebrated at 5:00 PM on Saturdays, and 9:15 AM, 10:30 AM and 12:00 Noon on Sundays.*

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

I attend grade \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ School.

My teacher's name is \_\_\_\_\_.

My phone number is \_\_\_\_\_.

My email address is \_\_\_\_\_.

### I make the following agreement:

1. I will go to Sunday Mass each week and submit the Weekly Reflection Questions.
2. I will attend Confirmation preparation classes and I will participate in them to the best of my ability.
3. I will pray regularly and I will attempt to show love for others.
4. I will become more aware of my Christian responsibility by responding to a need in my community, parish or home through involvement in Ministries at the Church.

In keeping with the terms of these promises, I ask for the assistance of my family and friends, as well as for the help of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

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

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness by a Parent or Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_



**St. Padre Pio Parish**  
**Confirmation Sacrament Preparation**  
**Registration Checklist**



*Please detach this page and bring it with you to the Parish Office*

In order to ensure that your child is successfully registered for Sacrament Preparation at St. Padre Pio Parish, please confirm the following:

- I have completed and submitted the the **2023-2024 Confirmation Registration Form**, which is found here: <https://bit.ly/3NlyGp7>
  
- I have confirmed the spelling of all entries filled out on the digital registration form.
  
- I have brought the following to the parish office prior to **Friday, November 10, 2023:**
  - The completed **checklist** (*this page*).
  - A **COPY of your child's Baptismal Certificate**. Originals will not be accepted.
  - Payment of \$50** (cash or cheque payable to St. Padre Pio Parish; Memo: 2023-2024 Confirmation - *Your Child's Name*)

Confirmation Candidate's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_

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

Parent / Guardian Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian Phone Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent / Guardian Email Address \_\_\_\_\_