

# St. Victoria Confirmation Preparation – Year 2 Commitment

2024-25

## Confirmation Candidate Ownership

*Confirmation is a sacramental outpouring of the Holy Spirit that leaves a permanent imprint on the soul, completes Christian initiation, and empowers us to be witnesses to Christ (CCC1302-1305).* Mass attendance, service, retreats, prayer, and building community are opportunities to encounter Jesus and essential practices for an active Catholic! These practices will help you continue on your faith journey for years to come.

### **Encounter Jesus in Weekly Mass and Complete 10 Mass Reflections**

Attending weekly Mass offers a chance to physically connect with Christ through the Eucharist and to encounter Him in the scriptures, in each other, and through the priest. Mass has the power to transform us, bringing peace, healing, and joy. Teens are to journal about "What they noticed" at each Mass in their Confirmation notebooks. These notebooks are to be submitted into the "Confirmation bucket" located in the library. While taking weekly notes is expected, Confirmation journals must be submitted at **least ten times** before April 2025.

### **Commit to Daily Prayer**

Prayer enables us to get to know, trust, and recognize God. Setting aside time to connect with God enables us to live with peace, joy, love, and self-control. Encounter God's guidance when praying with scripture or journaling. Help others by praying for their needs.

### **Actively Explore Jesus in Weekly Small Group Confirmation Gatherings and Retreats**

Active engagement and dedication to your Confirmation journey are crucial. Think of Confirmation sessions as irreplaceable meetings with a friend. We encourage you to be open to Jesus and ready to share your experiences with your small group. Your contribution is vital to your group.

#### ➤ **Attend Weekly Confirmation Sessions with a seeking heart and willingness to share**

Block your calendar for Wednesday at 7:30 – 9:10pm as a date with God (and your small group). Pre-plan homework and talk to coaches about leaving early or missing practice(s). Weekly sessions are IMPORTANT! Please miss no more than 3 sessions!

#### ➤ **Retreat: NOV 16-17 (8am Saturday to 12:00pm Sunday)**

St. Victoria holds an off-site retreat for the Year 2 Confirmation group at Camp Courage, and it's always a highlight! *If not available, you have two options. First, book an alternate Archdiocesan Confirmation retreat by Oct 1 at the Net Ministries, and email Ann your date and a summary afterward. Alternatively, attend the Year 2 St. Victoria retreat in Nov 2025 and be Confirmed in 2026.*

#### ➤ **NET Retreat: Jan 18, (10am-6pm Saturday)**

St. Victoria is hosting the NET retreat led by College missionaries this year! It promises to be AMAZING. Don't miss it!

### **Serving at St. Victoria**

Service is important element of following Christ, and helps you belong to the community! Each Confirmation candidate will be part of a ministry. Do you want to be a Middle School Small group leader? How about choir, lector, or altar server? If you aren't part of these ministries, sign up to be a greeter/usher at least three times at regular or Face and Hands Masses.

### **Build Trusted Mentors AND meet at least monthly with your Confirmation Sponsor**

Having mentors and role models in our faith journey is essential! Sponsors were selected during Year 1 of Confirmation. Use the Sponsor booklet!

### **Letter to Bishop: April 9** - We'll create drafts letters during a weekly session. Afterward, finalize and turn it in on April 13.

## Parent Leadership

Parents play a unique role as the primary catechists of their children. While the staff and small group leaders at St. Victoria provide support, it is the parents who have an unmatched capacity to manifest God's love. To bring faith to life, it is crucial for teens to have their parents join them for weekly Mass and to engage in weekly faith discussions. Additionally, parents can assist by communicating with coaches and managing homework conflicts that may interfere with Confirmation commitments.

### **Initiate Weekly Discussions with your son/daughter** – See weekly email from Ann with topics and prompts.

### **Clear Calendar and Sign up for Year 2 Retreat on Nov 16-17 and for Confirmation Group Retreat on Jan 18.**

### **Attend Monthly Face and Hands Youth Masses/Events with your teen.** (Oct 13, Nov 10, Dec 8, Jan 12, April 13.) **Please invite sponsor to attend "Confirmation Sending Mass" on April 13<sup>th</sup> date.** Ensure Mass Reflections turned in for these dates.

### **Baptism Certificate: DEC 15**

If your child was baptized at St. Victoria, email Ann the month/year. If baptized elsewhere, request a NEW baptism certificate from the baptizing parish after Oct 30<sup>th</sup>. Request it be sent to St. Victoria, c/o Ann Esping, 8228 Victoria Drive, Victoria 55386. No copies.

### **Attend Student/Sponsor/Parent Prayer Confirmation Prep Retreat: March 5 (7:45 – 9pm)**

We'll reflect on our journey, prayerfully prepare for the sacrament, and talk about how to embrace our call to serve Christ.

### **Confirmation on April 24, 2025 at 7pm at the Basilica of St. Mary in Minneapolis (arrive by 6:15pm.)**

CANDIDATE NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

CANDIDATE SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Questions? Contact Ann Esping ([aesping@stvictoria.org](mailto:aesping@stvictoria.org)) 952-443-2661.

# St. Victoria Confirmation Preparation Commitment

## 2024-2025

We have read and understand St. Victoria's Confirmation Preparation expectations and are excited about this journey. We commit to attending Mass weekly, engaging in service activities, participating in retreats, and incorporating prayer into our daily lives. Our goal is to deepen our connection with Christ so we can live life with joy!

I, \_\_\_\_\_(Confirmation candidate), acknowledge my crucial role in my St. Victoria Confirmation small group. I understand the importance of my presence at each session. I will arrive prepared every week to explore my relationship with Christ, learn more about the Catholic Church, and share my experiences. I am committed to supporting and serving my small group peers and am eager to extend my service to the wider community.

We, both the Confirmation candidate and parent(s), are \_\_\_\_\_(excited/anxious/indifferent/etc.) about embarking on this Confirmation journey. We are ready to fully engage and prioritize this experience, knowing that only by fully participating can we discover how great it can be.

**STUDENT NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **PARENT NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **PARENT SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_