



St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston
527 S. Houston Ave.
Humble, Texas 77338
281-446-8211 (fax) 281-446-8213

ADULT CONFIRMATION

CLASS SCHEDULE FOR 2018-2019

TO BE DETERMINED

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PREPARING FOR ADULT CONFIRMATION,
PLEASE COMPLETE THE ENCLOSED REGISTRATION FORM AND RETURN IT TO:

RICHARD GREBENC, DIRECTOR OF ADULT FAITH FORMATION

ST. MARY MAGDALENE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

527 S. HOUSTON AVENUE

HUMBLE, TX 77338

rgrebenc@st-mm.com

281-446-8211 x246



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ADULT CONFIRMATION

Guidelines and Information for Candidates

Who is eligible for Adult Confirmation?

- 1. You must be a baptized Catholic who has received Holy Eucharist (Communion) and Reconciliation/Confession.** If you have not been baptized, or have *only* received the Sacrament of Baptism (you have *not* received Eucharist/Communion or Reconciliation), then you need to participate in the RCIA process as a Catholic candidate for Eucharist, Confirmation and Reconciliation. This is a different program. An information sheet is included in this packet explaining RCIA, and if you need additional details please contact the Director of Adult Faith Formation.
- 2. You must be at least 18 years of age.**
- 3. You must have graduated from high school or completed your secondary education.**
- 4. If you are married, your must have celebrated the ceremony in the Catholic Church, with a priest or deacon officiating and with two Catholic witnesses.**
 - a. If you were married in a civil ceremony, you will work with a priest to arrange for a convalidation ceremony in the Catholic Church, which needs to happen before your Confirmation.
 - b. If you were divorced and remarried, you will work with a Priest to resolve any marriage issues before preparing for Confirmation.
 - c. If you are cohabitating (living together) without marriage, you need to consult with a priest or deacon before preparing for Confirmation.

When will Confirmation be celebrated?

For the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston Adult Confirmation is celebrated on or near Pentecost at a parish selected for the celebration. The Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston also has Adult Confirmation celebrations at various parishes in January of each year. It may be possible for you to complete your preparation at another parish and attend the January Sacrament. We will work with you to facilitate this if possible.

What must I do to prepare for Confirmation?

- 1. Preliminary Preparation**

If you were not enrolled in a CCE program during high school, and have not regularly attended Mass, you will begin Confirmation preparation with ten Foundational Formation sessions. If you were previously catechized and attend Mass weekly, we will assess your current level of knowledge and understanding during our interview process and determine which sessions you need to attend.
- 2. A One-Day Retreat**

Our Archdiocese requires that all Adult Confirmation candidates must attend a retreat designed specifically just for candidates in this Program.
- 3. Immediate Preparation**

These sessions are mandatory for all Adult Confirmation candidates, per our archdiocese. St. Mary Magdalene usually partners with St. Martha Catholic Church in Kingwood to offer Immediate Preparation sessions for Confirmation. These are the most important sessions for you and they are held during a six-week period prior to Pentecost.



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ADULT CONFIRMATION Guidelines and Information for Candidates (cont.)

What else do I need to do?

1. **Your first and most important obligation is to be attending Sunday Mass each week.** Preparing for Sacraments means that you are committed to making Sunday worship and discipleship an important part of your life.
2. **Please read your Welcome Packet carefully.** If you have any questions or need assistance, contact the Director of Adult Faith Formation.
3. **Meet with a Formation Leader for a personal interview.** Schedule your Interview as soon as possible once you complete the Registration Form.
4. **Bring a copy of your Baptism Certificate AND your Birth Certificate to your interview.** Canon Law (Church law) states that the Sacrament of Confirmation will not be conferred without a copy of your Baptism Certificate on file. If you can't find your Certificate, contact the parish of your Baptism to request a Certificate with the parish seal on it. Do not wait until the last minute to do this! We cannot register you for the Sacrament celebration without your Certificate
5. **Choose a sponsor.** This Packet includes a Sponsor Commitment Form containing all the requirements for your Sponsor. Have your sponsor complete this form and submit it to us as soon as possible. Invite your sponsor to attend Mass and your preparation sessions with you during this special journey.
6. **Make an appointment with the pastor IMMEDIATELY if you have marriage issues to be discussed and resolved prior to your Confirmation preparation.**
7. **Make a serious effort to arrange your calendar, work schedule, and family priorities so you are free to attend all of your sessions.** Absences should be rare and unavoidable. Complete any reading assignment before each session. If you must miss a class or have an emergency, please contact the Director of Adult Faith Formation, to let this staff member know of your absence and make arrangements for make-up work.
8. **Complete a Service Day or Service Project.** Use the Service Project guidelines included in the Packet for information. We will also discuss Service during your preparation sessions.
9. **Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Penance/Confession) before your celebration of Confirmation.** We will help you with this during our preparation.
10. **Choose a saint name (optional).** This has been a popular practice in the history of the Church, though it is no longer required. This name represents your new identity in Christ, as you receive full initiation into His body. You may already have the name of an officially recognized saint as your first or middle name, or from your Baptism Sacrament. It is your decision whether you wish to choose a new saint name for Confirmation. Please let us know if you need help with saint's information; there are many good resources we can provide for you. You will submit a form with your chosen name, and during the Confirmation Sacrament the Bishop will confirm you in this name.
11. **Pray about discipleship and stewardship for our Parish, and how you may serve God in our Community.** The Sacraments are the foundation of our Catholic faith and are a gift to all from our parish and archdiocese. However, we depend on the gifts of time, talent and treasure from our laity to sustain and grow our ministry and service to parishioners and our local communities. During our Confirmation preparation, we will talk about ways you can contribute from your gifts.



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ADULT CONFIRMATION

Guidelines and Information for Candidates (cont.)

How do I reach you?

- **For Adult Confirmation issues and questions:**
Richard Grebenc, Director of Adult Faith Formation: rgrebenc@st-mm.com or 281-446-8211 x246
- **For Marriage issues and questions:**
Fr. Felix Osasona, MSP, Pastor: pastor@st-mm.com or 281-446-8211



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ADULT CONFIRMATION AND RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA)

1. What is necessary to be confirmed through the Adult Confirmation Process?

- To be a currently a practicing Catholic.
 - To have already been Baptized and received first Eucharist/Communion.
 - To be at least 18 years of age.
 - To have graduated from high school or completed your secondary education.
- Adult Confirmation is not a replacement for teens who have missed the catechesis for youth Confirmation.

2. Under what circumstances must one prepare as part of the RCIA process rather than through Adult Confirmation?

- If you are an unbaptized Catholic or if you did not receive first Eucharist/Communion.
- Foundational preparation in the Faith and preparation for the Sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist is needed.

3. When is Confirmation to be administered as part of the RCIA?

In accord with the ancient practice followed in the Roman liturgy, adults are to be confirmed immediately after being baptized, “unless serious reason stands in the way” (RCIA 215; canon 866; RCIA U.S. Statutes 35). This also applies to children of catechetical age”(U.S. Statutes 18-19).

When candidates are received into the full communion of the Roman Catholic Church they are to be confirmed at the time of their profession of faith and reception. Their Confirmation is not to be deferred (RCIA U.S. Statute 35 and canon 885.1).

4. Who has the responsibility to Confirm?

Any priest who baptizes someone who is of catechetical age or older, or receives someone into the full communion of the Roman Catholic Church, by law, has the responsibility and faculty to confirm that person (canons 883 and 885).

Priests who do not exercise a pastoral office but participate in a catechumenate do require a mandate from the Diocesan Bishop if they are to baptize; but they do not then require any additional mandate or authorization in order to confirm. They have the faculty to confirm from the law, as do priests who baptize in the exercise of their pastoral office (U.S. Statute 12).



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ADULT CONFIRMATION AND RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA) (CONT.)

5. May a priest Confirm a baptized but uncatechized Catholic?

A priest who wishes to confirm a baptized but uncatechized Catholic must explicitly request this faculty from the Diocesan Bishop (canon 884.1).

The only exception is in the case of a baptized Catholic who has without fault been instructed in a non-Catholic religion or in the case of the re-admission to Communion of a baptized Catholic who has been an apostate from the faith (U.S. Statutes 28, 29).

6. Is the Easter Vigil an appropriate time to request permission to confirm active Catholics who have been fully participating in the Eucharist?

No. Active Catholics should be confirmed by the Bishop either at the specially designated annual celebration at the cathedral or on another occasion.

Baptism is at the center of the Easter Vigil. The celebration should focus primarily on those who are being baptized and may also include those candidates who have journeyed with the catechumens in a period of formation and are now completing their initiation through Confirmation and Eucharist. (See B1 above)

7. If candidates being received into full communion have already been confirmed in the Church of their baptism, do they need to be reconfirmed?

The Roman Catholic Church accepts only the Confirmation of the Orthodox Church and the Old Catholic Church. All others need to be confirmed in the Roman Catholic Church. If there is doubt, pastoral ministers should consult with the Chancery.

8. Is it permissible at one celebration for one priest to baptize and another to confirm?

No. The faculty to confirm is granted only to the one who baptizes. If there is a large number to be confirmed, the presiding minister may invite other priests to assist him in the anointing according to the norms prescribed in RCIA 14.

* Source of questions 3-8: <http://www.archindy.org/worship/rcia-faq.html>, retrieved 02/2015



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ADULT CONFIRMATION SERVICE DAY AND PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

Each Candidate in the Adult Confirmation Program is required to complete a Service Day or Project. This work helps you to meet people in our Parish and our community and enhances living your Catholic faith. As we grow in faith through the Sacraments, we are called to be disciples in service to others.

What must I do?

Choose a Service Day or Project that interests you and that fits with your schedule. Report on your Service using the template provided on the other side of this form. All work needs to be completed and turned in prior to Registration for your Sacrament Celebration, which is about one month before the Celebration date.

Following the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy helps you think about good ideas for Christian service.

Corporal Works of Mercy

- Feed the Hungry
- Give water to the Thirsty
- Clothe the Naked
- Shelter the Homeless
- Visit the Sick
- Visit the Imprisoned
- Bury the Dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy

- Instruct the Ignorant
- Counsel the Doubtful
- Admonish Sinners
- Bear Wrongs Patiently
- Forgive Offenses
- Comfort the Afflicted
- Pray for the Living and Dead

Corporal Works Ideas:

- Help the poor and needy through our [Social Service ministry](#) such as *Magdalene House*.
- Make and carry food packages in your car to give to the needy you pass on roadways.
- Volunteer at [Loaves and Fishes Soup Kitchen](#).
- Visit with those in hospitals and living facilities or join our [Homebound Ministry](#).
- Join our [Prison Ministry](#).
- Help the [Knights of Columbus](#) in their various outreach ministries.
- Visit a [Catholic Daughters of America \(CDA\)](#) meeting.

Spiritual Works Ideas:

- Become a [catechist](#) for our Formation programs.
- Tune in to Catholic radio at [1430 AM KSHJ](#) for learning and inspiration.
- Make time with a friend struggling with their faith to talk and pray together.
- Spend an hour in Eucharistic Adoration. We have Adoration in our Chapel from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm, Monday through Friday.
- Pray the [rosary](#) daily, either privately or with your family.
- If you are harboring a grudge or resentment, work on forgiveness through the [Sacrament of Reconciliation](#), or with a conversation with a priest, deacon or spiritual director.
- Join our parish [Prayer Chain Ministry](#) and offer to pray for the needs of others.



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**ADULT CONFIRMATION
SERVICE DAY OR PROJECT REPORT**

YOUR NAME _____

YOUR EMAIL _____

YOUR PHONE (CELL PREFERRED) _____

THE PROJECT OR SERVICE DAY IN WHICH YOU PARTICIPATED

THE CORPORAL OR SPIRITUAL WORK OF MERCY THIS WORK DEMONSTRATED

WHAT YOU LEARNED FROM DOING THIS SERVICE

HOW THIS WORK HAS AFFECTED YOUR CONFIRMATION JOURNEY



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ADULT CONFIRMATION CONFIRMATION SAINT NAME SELECTION

My Full Given Name _____

(First, Middle, Last)

The Saint Name I Select for Confirmation* _____

*Note: Only the NAME, will be placed on your Confirmation Card for the Sacrament. So, if you chose St. Teresa of Avila, the card the Bishop reads will say, "Teresa."

HELPFUL INFORMATION AND SUGGESTIONS FOR YOU

Why do we choose a Confirmation Saint Name?

In the Bible, God and His Son, Jesus, usually renamed a disciple sent on a new and special mission. Abram became Abraham, Jacob became Israel, Simon became Peter. To signify your new life in Christ with your Sacrament of Confirmation, it is a tradition to do that with a new name. This is now an option for Adult Confirmation candidates, not a requirement.

How do I decide which Saint to choose?

The key is to find a saint whose life and work resonates with you in your spiritual heart. Perhaps his service is what you aspire to. Perhaps her challenges as she lived her faith, or the flaws she overcame in her life, gives you inspiration to conquer your weaknesses. You may be moved by his name or the place where he served God. Some choose the saint whose feast day is on their birthdate or other important life date. Some pick the saint of their vocation or favorite hobby. The key is to find something personally important to you in the saint and the name, so that you are honored and inspired to carry this with you as part of your identity.

How do I find information about the saints and their lives?

We have many resources you may borrow to read from our library at St. Mary Magdalene.

There are numerous on-line resources:

www.catholic.org/saints

www.roman-catholic-saints.com

If you want to discuss your ideas or have questions, please contact the Director of Adult Faith Formation.



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For Adults Interested in Preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation

Dear Friend in Christ,

Thank you for inquiring about Adult Confirmation. We are happy that you are interested in completing your Initiation Sacraments by receiving Confirmation.

This Welcome Packet provides the information you need to assist in your discernment, and the forms for your initial registration.

What you need to do:

- **Submit the enclosed Registration Form.**
- **Meet with a Formation Director at St. Mary Magdalene for an interview.**
- **Prepare for the Sacrament**
 - **Attend ten Foundational Faith classes.**
 - **Attend a Retreat Day.**
 - **Attend six Sacramental Preparation classes.**
 - **Complete a Service Day or Project.**
- **Select a qualified Sponsor to support you during your preparation and celebration of the Sacrament.**
- **Work with the Director of Adult Formation and the pastor to resolve any marriage issues that may affect your receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.**

On behalf of our pastor, Fr. Felix Osasona, MSP, and all of the families here at St. Mary Magdalene, we join you in prayer as you as you contemplate preparing for and receiving Confirmation. We invite you to worship with us at Sunday Mass each week. Please know that you and your family will be added to our prayer requests. The full community of Christ, with the help of Blessed Mother Mary and all the angels and saints, pray for you as together we look forward to the day when you will be anointed with the gifts of the Holy Spirit at Confirmation.

Sincerely Yours, with Prayers,

Richard Grebenc

Richard Grebenc, Director of Adult Faith Formation



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ADULT CONFIRMATION: REGISTRATION

For Persons Who Have Received the Sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist in the Catholic Church

Today's Date: _____

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address _____ Occupation _____

Cell Phone: _____ Work/Home Phone _____

Are you a member of St. Mary Magdalene Church? Yes No Would you like to register? Yes No

Parish Where You Attend Mass _____

Place of Birth: City, State, Country _____

Date of Birth: _____ Date of Catholic Baptism _____

We must receive a copy of your Baptism Certificate for archdiocese records. Do you have a copy? Yes No

Have you received Eucharist (First Communion)? Yes No

Are you: Single, never married Engaged Married Separated Divorced Remarried

Widowed Cohabiting (living together with someone but not married)

If you are married, were you married by a priest or deacon? Yes No

Were you married in a civil ceremony (by a Justice of the Peace)? Yes No

Are you seeking to get married in the Catholic Church? Yes No

Have you met with a priest or deacon to discuss Catholic marriage? Yes No

Spouse or Fiancé's Name _____ Religion _____

Proposed wedding date: _____ (or) How long have you been married? _____

Names and ages of children	Baptized?	Name and ages of Children	Baptized?
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For Office Use

Date of Initial Interview _____ Date Baptism Certificate Received _____

Will need Marriage Convalidated before Sacrament of Confirmation.

Referred to a Priest or Deacon for Marriage counseling.

Name of person taking this information: _____

This form should be the first page of the total interview/personal sharing package. Please keep forms together.



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ADULT CONFIRMATION GUIDELINES FOR CHOOSING YOUR SPONSOR

Among your family and friends, is there anyone who stands out as a good example of someone who practices his/her faith? Remember that the Sponsor provides guidance for you, answers questions you have about your faith, the Church, and the Sacraments, and commits to accompany you during your preparation and celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Your Sponsor Must Meet the Following Requirements per Canon Law:

1. Must be a baptized Catholic, 16 years of age or older.
2. Must have received the Sacraments of Confirmation, Reconciliation and Eucharist (Communion).
3. Must be a Catholic in good standing with the Church (free to take Eucharist/Communion).
4. If married, he/she must be in a sacramental marriage: that is, they were married in a Catholic wedding that was witnessed by a Priest or Deacon and two Catholic witnesses. Cohabiting persons may not be Sponsors.
5. Divorced persons may be Sponsors as long as they are **not remarried outside of the Church**.
6. Your Sponsor may not be your parent.

“Good standing with the Church” means this person is a Catholic who has received the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist), has received Reconciliation, and if married, he/she must be in a sacramental marriage.) This person attends Mass regularly, prays in the home, shares the faith with family, and when possible participates in active ministry in his/her parish.

Why is it important to choose Catholics who practice the Faith? As representatives of the Catholic Church, it is the obligation and responsibility of Sponsors to support the Candidates as good examples of lived faith, so Candidates have a positive Catholic companion as they prepare for and receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

What if the Sponsor cannot attend the ceremony? It is acceptable to have a proxy stand in for the Sponsor in an emergency, but not as a routine occurrence. It is expected that the Sponsor commits to attending with the Candidate at the Confirmation Celebration.

**Please have your Sponsor complete the Commitment Form
on the back of this page.**



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ADULT CONFIRMATION SPONSOR COMMITMENT FORM

Our parish is blessed that you have been chosen to serve as a Sponsor for Adult Confirmation. We welcome you and hope you are aware of how vitally important this ministry is. Your presence and support are a gift to the Confirmation Candidate; nothing can replace the personal attention of a caring Sponsor to accompany the Candidate on their journey to complete the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Please provide us with basic information about yourself so that we may support you in this ministry. Our team will be happy to address any questions you may have. Thank you and God bless you!

First, Middle, Last Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cell Phone _____ Work/Home Phone _____

Email Address: _____

Candidate you will Sponsor _____

I am willing to sponsor anyone who is in need of a sponsor Yes

Years you have been a Catholic _____ Your parish _____

What sacraments have you received?

Baptism Confirmation Eucharist Reconciliation Anointing of the Sick Matrimony Holy Orders

Are you presently attending Mass Yes How Often? _____ No

Please describe your present state of marriage:

Single Engaged Married Separated Divorced Remarried Widowed

Are you presently married in the Catholic Church? Yes No

(Married in the presence of a priest/deacon.)

Are you free to receive sacraments in the Church? Yes No

Are you at least 16 years of age or older? Yes No

Spouse's Name (if applicable): _____ Phone: _____

Signature

Date