



Greetings!

We are excited to begin the process of preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation, which is a particular outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit that we receive to strengthen us in our spiritual journey.

Before we begin our formal sessions, please read through all the information below regarding preliminary steps.

**\*Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation is open to those who will be in at least the 10th grade in the Fall of 2024. Per the Confirmation guidelines for the Diocese of Richmond, the following is to be observed:**

*"Effective July 2, 2012, Bishop Francis X. DiLorenzo set the appropriate age for preparation and reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation to be when an individual is both at least 15 years of age and enrolled in at least the tenth grade." (Catholic Diocese of Richmond Confirmation Guidelines, p.10)*

**Bishop Knestout has kept these same guidelines in effect. Since the Bishop is the ordinary minister of Confirmation, our parish is obligated to follow what the bishop has prescribed regarding sacraments and cannot permit anyone to begin Confirmation earlier than the 10th grade.**

**\*If you are seeking Confirmation for your son/daughter but they have not yet received First Communion, please contact Trevor Hamilton before you begin registration ([thamilton@saintbenedictparish.org](mailto:thamilton@saintbenedictparish.org))**

### **St. Benedict Parish Requirements**

- Attend Mass every Sunday and on Holy Days of Obligation (if you're attending Mass/registered at another parish, please contact Trevor Hamilton before registering)
- Attend individual pre-Confirmation meeting with the Assistant Director of Evangelization and Catechesis
- Attend all Confirmation sessions (see below for dates). **Preparation for Confirmation must take place in the Catholic parish.** If you will be absent for any sessions, please contact Trevor Hamilton about make up work.
- Attend the mandatory Confirmation retreat on **Sunday, November 3** at Blessed Sacrament Huguenot School in Powhatan, VA. If you have a scheduling conflict, please contact Trevor Hamilton ASAP ([thamilton@saintbenedictparish.org](mailto:thamilton@saintbenedictparish.org)). The registration deadline for this retreat is October 20. Please return your permission form (last 3 pages of this document) to Trevor Hamilton by this date.
- If not enrolled at St. Benedict Catholic School, or in a Catholic homeschool program, please partake in religious education at St. Benedict.
- There is a \$25 fee to cover the cost of our Confirmation curriculum and other resources. Please do not let finances be an issue. If you are in need of any assistance, please contact us.
- Registration for Confirmation can be completed at the link below. Please submit your registration by October 5.

Register: <https://forms.gle/edUsLXQsji15D81Z6>

## **Confirmation Sponsor**

Each Confirmand is asked to select a sponsor to accompany them in their preparation for Confirmation. In order to be a sponsor according to Church law, a person must:

- Be at least 16 years old
- Be a Catholic who has been confirmed and has received the blessed Eucharist.
- Not be bound by a canonical impediment (divorced and remarried without seeking to have the previous marriage annulled, for example)
- Be living a life befitting the role to be undertaken (for example, regularly attending Sunday Mass; if married, be in a marriage recognized by the Catholic Church)
- Not be a parent of the Confirmand

All sponsors must submit a signed Confirmation Letter of Attestation. If the sponsor is from outside St. Benedict, they must also obtain a signature from the pastor of their parish on their attestation form.

## **If Members of a Different Parish**

- If you are registered at, or members of a different parish other than St. Benedict, we strongly encourage you to partake of sacramental preparation at the parish of which you most frequently attend Mass. For questions and inquiries about this, please contact Trevor Hamilton.

## **Baptism Information**

- If you your teen was baptized here at St. Benedict, no extra documentation is needed. Your teen's record of baptism and First Communion can be found here, at St. Benedict (If no record of First Communion is found on file here, we may need to obtain a record demonstrating First Communion has occurred).
- If your teen was baptized at a different Catholic church, parents must obtain a newly annotated baptismal certificate from the teen's church of baptism (a photocopy of the original certificate will not suffice). These annotated certificates **must also contain the date of your teen's First Communion** written on the back. Since all sacramental records are kept at the church of baptism, they should also have the record of your First Communion. Baptismal certificates can be obtained by contacting your teen's church of baptism and requesting a new certificate. You can have them mail the certificate directly to St. Benedict:

St. Benedict Catholic Church

Attn: Trevor Hamilton

300 N. Sheppard St., Richmond, VA 23221

- If baptized in a Non-Catholic church and/or your teen still hasn't received First Communion, please pause the registration process for now and contact Trevor Hamilton at [thamilton@saintbenedictparish.org](mailto:thamilton@saintbenedictparish.org).

\* After your teen completes their Confirmation, their Confirmation record will be sent to their church of baptism. We will keep a copy of the records at St. Benedict, but all sacramental records are kept together at the church of baptism.

- **Please aim to have your baptismal certificates submitted by December 1**

## **Confirmation Schedule 2024-2025**

**September 29 – 12:30pm: Introductory Meeting at St. Benedict (Teen & 1 Parent required)**

**November 3: Confirmation Retreat at Blessed Sacrament Huguenot (registration deadline 10/20/24)**

Regular Confirmation preparation meetings will take place at St. Benedict between October and February. Meetings will occur a few times per month, and exact dates will depend on selected small group. After registering for Confirmation, you will receive a survey to select the best small group times for your schedule. Then, based on group availabilities, you will be assigned to one of the options and dates will be announced. Small group options are listed below:

- A. Saturdays at 9:00am
- B. Sundays at 12:30pm
- C. Mondays at 7:00pm
- D. Tuesdays at 7:00pm

### **Confirmation Date: TBD**

The Confirmation date will be announced by the Diocese of Richmond after all registrations are submitted.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at [thamilton@saintbenedictparish.org](mailto:thamilton@saintbenedictparish.org). We will be praying for you all as you begin this journey!

God bless you,

Reverend Father John David Ramsey  
Pastor

Trevor Hamilton  
Associate Director of Evangelization and Catechesis

Attached below is the Registration Form for the Diocesan Confirmation Retreat. This is not the registration for Confirmation at St. Benedict. Please visit the parish website to register for Confirmation.

# DIOCESAN CONFIRMATION RETREATS 2024-2025

## CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF RICHMOND

### YOUTH Registration Form

Please indicate Confirmation Retreat location:

<input type="radio"/>	Saturday, November 2, 2024 at Saint Theresa, Farmville
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Sunday, November 3, 2024 at The Blessed Sacrament Huguenot School, Powhatan
<input type="radio"/>	Saturday, March 29, 2025 at Saint Mark, Virginia Beach

YOUTH INFORMATION	
First Name:	Last Name:
First/Nick Name for Badge:	
Address:	
City/State/Zip:	
Cell Phone:	
Email:	
Parish Name:	City:
Sex:	Date of Birth (MM/DD/YY):
Grade:	

PARENT / GUARDIAN INFORMATION	
Name:	Name:
(Parent/Guardian #1)	(Parent/Guardian #2)
Cell Phone:	Cell Phone:
(Parent/Guardian #1)	(Parent/Guardian #2)
Email:	Email:
(Parent/Guardian #1)	(Parent/Guardian #2)

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION	
Name:	
Cell Phone:	
Relationship:	

# DIOCESAN CONFIRMATION RETREATS 2024-2025

## Medical Information and Release Form

All information is kept private and confidential

Name of Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

### MEDICAL INFORMATION

In many cases, our team is not familiar with the medical, physical, and/or emotional history of each participant. It is essential that **ANY** information relating to the participant is shared in detail. **BE AS SPECIFIC AS POSSIBLE.**

Does the participant have any dietary restrictions?

YES  NO

Select any restrictions that apply to this participant:

Gluten-free  Peanut-free  Vegetarian

Is the participant allergic to anything?

YES  NO

List any details of allergies below (this may include allergies to specific medications or chemicals, allergies to any substances, food allergies, etc.). Please note, dietary needs other than the ones listed above will not be accommodated.

Is the participant currently taking or has taken any prescription medication in the last 6 months?

YES  NO

List the specific prescription medications, reasons for medication, and daily dosage. Indicate if the medication is currently being administered.

Does the participant have any emotional, physical or sensory conditions?

YES  NO

List any **emotional** conditions that may impact participation in the event. This may include counseling, treatment for emotional conditions (i.e. depression, eating disorders), and/or family situations that may have a significant impact on the participant.

List any **physical and/or sensory conditions** of which we should be aware or of which need special accommodations (e.g. hearing loss, visual impairment, mobility).

### RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND MEDICAL RELEASE

As parent and/or legal guardian I remain legally responsible for any personal actions taken by the above named minor. I agree on behalf of myself, my child named herein, or our heirs, successors, and assigns, to hold harmless and defend the Catholic Diocese of Richmond, its employees and agents, chaperons, or representatives associated with this event from any claim arising from or in connection with my child attending the event or in connection with any illness or injury (including death) or cost of medical treatment in connection therewith, and I agree to compensate the Diocese, its employees and agents and chaperons, or representatives associated with the event for reasonable attorney's fees and expenses which may incur in any action brought against them as a result of such injury or damage, unless such claim arises from the negligence of the Diocese.

I hereby warrant that to the best of my knowledge, my child is in good health, and I assume all responsibility for the health of my child. In the event of any emergency, I hereby give permission to transport my child to a hospital for emergency medical or surgical treatment. I wish to be advised prior to any further treatment by the hospital or doctor. In the event of an emergency, if you are unable to reach me at the above numbers I give permission for the noted emergency contact to be notified. I will not hold the Diocese of Richmond responsible for authorizing any medical treatment beyond necessary transportation to the hospital.

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

### USE OF PICTURES AND/OR VIDEO

I give permission for pictures and/or video of my child (named above) engaged in activities related to any Diocesan event to have their pictures posted in the Diocese of Richmond publications or websites. Names of participants **will not** be used without expressed permission from the parent or guardian. If no box is checked below, the Diocese of Richmond assumes you give permission.

YES  NO Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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

# DIOCESAN CONFIRMATION RETREATS 2024-2025

## YOUTH CODE OF CONDUCT

Youth participants must read, understand, agree, sign and return this sheet with the Medical Information and Release form. Each participant is expected to adhere to the following principles while at the Diocesan Confirmation Retreat:

### SHOW LOVE AND RESPECT FOR GOD:

- ✓ Pray daily for self and others.
- ✓ Participate in the sessions, activities, prayer experiences, and Sacraments.
- ✓ Be open, flexible, and have a servant's attitude.
- ✓ Represent God in your words and actions.

### SHOW LOVE AND RESPECT FOR SELF:

- ✓ Remember that you are the Temple of the Holy Spirit. Present yourself accordingly.
- ✓ No alcohol, drugs, or smoking will be tolerated during the event.
- ✓ Dress with modesty, considering the activities in which you will be partaking.
- ✓ Any music you bring and listen to should glorify God.
- ✓ Keep yourself hydrated and energized by drinking plenty of water and eating meals.

### SHOW LOVE AND RESPECT FOR OTHERS:

- ✓ All words and actions should be those of Christ to build up others and not injure.
- ✓ Make sure that your actions during the activities do not distract others from hearing, seeing, or praying.
- ✓ No horseplay or other potentially harmful actions. Leave pocketknives, lighters, or other hazardous materials at home.
- ✓ No outside or unregistered visitors at the event will be permitted.
- ✓ The facility must remain clean and undamaged. Pick up trash when you see it. If you cause damage to something, you will personally be responsible to pay for the damage.

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*I have read, understand, and agree to the above principles. Any violation of the above principles may result in immediate dismissal from the Diocesan Confirmation Retreat and participants will forfeit their registration fee.*

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

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

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_