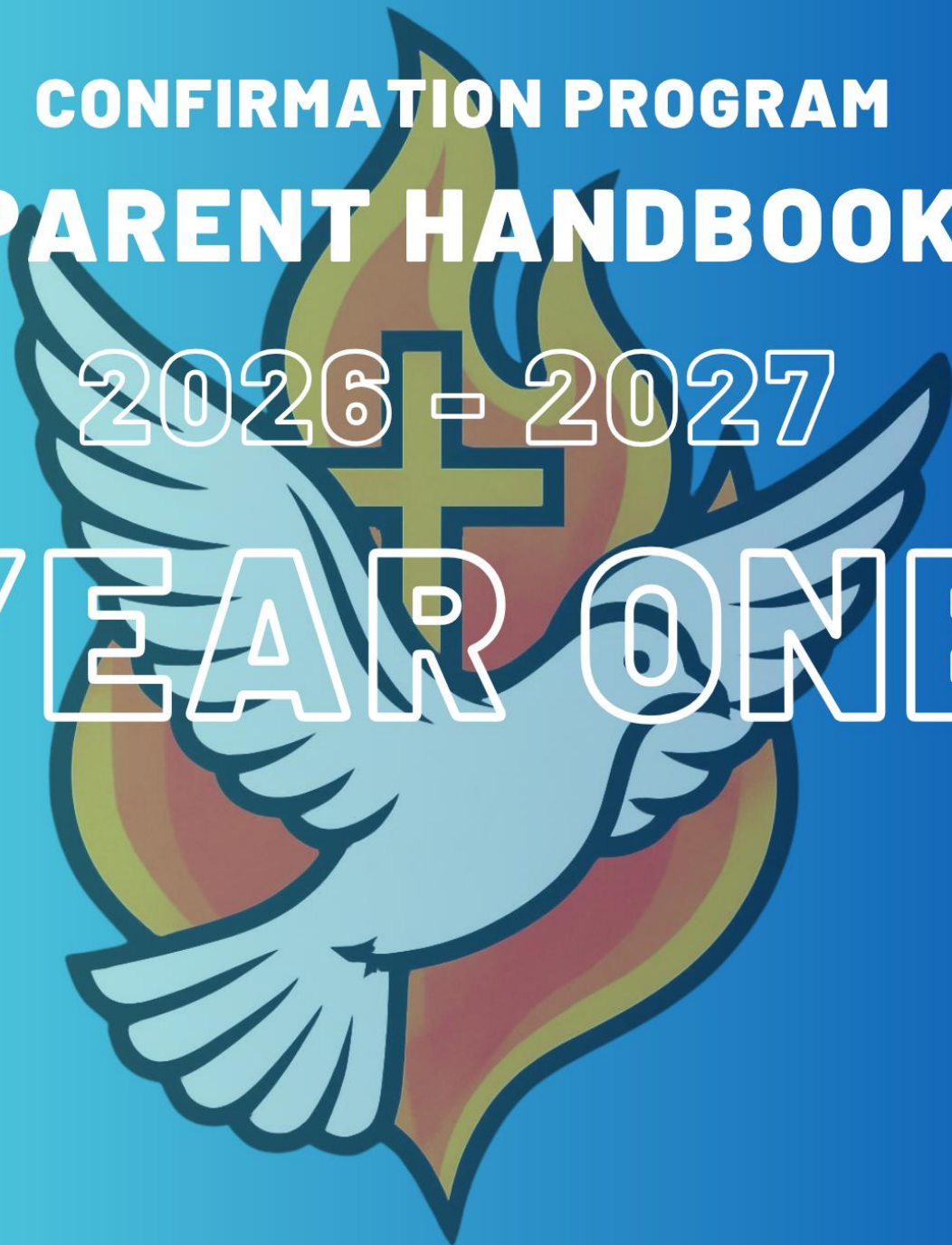




**CONFIRMATION PROGRAM  
PARENT HANDBOOK**

**2026 - 2027**

**YEAR ONE**



# Guidelines and Expectations

- Respect the leader and other group members.
- Bring a good attitude and a willing spirit.
- Please respect the privacy of each member in your group.
- Electronics may be used during sessions only when instructed by the leaders.
- All AirPods, Earphones, EarPods, or Headphones are forbidden while classes/retreats are in session.
- No smoking, drugs, alcohol, or profanity at any Youth Ministry/Confirmation event are allowed.
- Students who have drivers' licenses are not permitted to drive other students to any Youth Ministry function off-site.
- Permission slips and behavior contracts must be signed by parent and teen before the Candidate can attend a Youth Ministry event or service project activity that is not held at St. Joseph campus.
- Keep a positive attitude towards your fellow Candidates and volunteers. Please always remain respectful to everyone.
- **Retreats:** Students may not bring any water bottles or refillable containers to any retreat. Water will be available to all Candidates if needed.
- Kindly, do not share your snacks with others. Keep in mind we may have students with life-threatening food allergies.

Thank You.

## Parent Drop-Off

It is imperative that you drop off and pickup your teen in a **timely fashion**.

## Discipline

If there is a problem in a workshop, retreat, or class the following will happen.

- 1st Violation – Parent Conference
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Violation – Postpone Confirmation preparation until next year or until candidate decides they want to participate.

## Probation

If a candidate were to leave an event without permission, the candidate will be placed on probation for 1 year.

## Attitude:

Candidates are expected to voluntarily participate in the Confirmation journey and adhere to the established guidelines and expectations. Failure to do so may result in the candidate being asked to leave the session, with the session not being considered as completed. Parents will be notified promptly if such a situation arises.

## Late Arrival

Our sessions are held on Sundays at 11:00am in the SJC building. The doors will be closed at 11:10am, anyone who is late will not be allowed to attend the workshop for the day. It is important to respect and guard the spiritual journey of others during our time together.

## Mass

Attendance at Mass is an important part of the faith formation process. **STUDENTS MAY NOT LEAVE EARLY.**

We encourage the faith formation families to join their candidates for the 12:30pm Mass.

## Absences

- Candidates are permitted 3 absences per Confirmation year.
- **CONSECUTIVE ABSENCES ARE NOT PERMITTED.**
- **If more than 3 absences are missed, the year will not count towards Faith Formation.**
- **Missing the 3-day away retreat counts for 3 absences.**

**Please inform the faith formation office of any prolonged absence. We are always here to help!** If your student will be absent, please contact our office administrator Michelle Johnson via email: [Michelle@stjosephlb.org](mailto:Michelle@stjosephlb.org) .

## Sponsor Requirements

The sponsor for any candidate may be male or female and is to be sufficiently mature, at least 16 years of age, a fully initiated Catholic and may not be a parent. The sponsor should be a Catholic living a life of faith that aligns with the responsibilities of being a sponsor.

If you have any questions please call, Confirmation Coordinator / Youth Minister, Liz Moreno. (562)598-0519 Ext2



Welcome!

The two-year process for Confirmation at St. Joseph’s Church is an important event for our entire Parish Community. It is when our Parish youth are committing themselves to Christ and His Church. Our young parishioners are making a purposeful decision to step forward and choose their faith just as their parents did for them at their Baptism.

The process of Confirmation presents a unique and personal challenge to become involved in the Church and continue the mission of Jesus Christ. The preparation process is a journey which will bring our youth to full membership of the Church.

At St. Joseph, Confirmation is part of Youth Ministry. The minimum amount of time to complete the preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, as determined by the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, is two years. Candidates for Confirmation could take as long as four years, if needed. As a gentle reminder, no candidate should feel that they are pressured or obligated to join the formation process. This would not only defeat the purposes of the program but could create an atmosphere which has the potential to affect the spiritual growth of others.

It is expected that those who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation accept the above-stated understanding of what it means to be Confirmed. Each candidate will participate fully in the process and engage in meaningful reflection on what it means to be a member of the Church.

Failure to meet any of the expectations and/or complete any of the requirements herein stated is equivalent to withdrawal from the program for the year. Candidates may re-enroll the following year.

While the Sacrament of Confirmation is for our youth to become a part of the Church, it is also a special invitation for parents to renew and deepen their own commitment to God and His Church.

*We are asking our parents, and candidates with parents’ approval, to sign up to the BAND APP on your electronic devices. (QR can be found below) The Band App is designed to ease group communication and reach members easily with posts on the community board and share upcoming events without making a single phone call.*



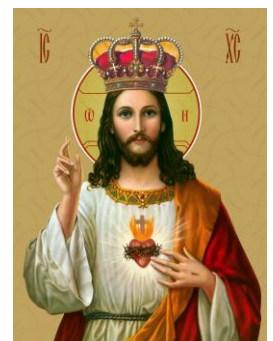
Parents and Students please scan QR code and join!  
This is a communication app.  
It’s FREE!  
This app is used to send class reminders!

Parents, please sign up as: Parent Name (Student name)

Students, please sign up as: Name (Student)

## Contact Information

Religious Education Office Hours:  
Monday - Thursday 9:30am - 4:00pm  
Director of Religious Education, Marc Leon: Ext 1  
Confirmation Coordinator, Liz Moreno: (562)598-0519 Ext 2  
Office Administrator, Michelle Johnson: Ext 3  
Website: [www.stjosephlb.org](http://www.stjosephlb.org)



## Community Retreats and Family Engagement Opportunities



## THURSDAYS

BI-WEEKLY THURSDAYS

7:00PM - 8:30PM

PLC

(562) 598-0519 EXT 2

LIZ MORENO

### Women & Men's Retreat!

Parents,  
Immerse yourself in a weekend and  
allow yourself to be transformed.

Scan QR code to learn more & register.



### Calling All Families!!!

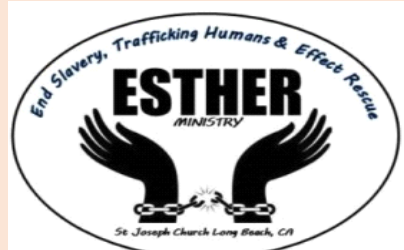
Join our Family Altar Service Ministry for a meaningful  
experience. Parents and children, serve together, grow  
spiritually, and build community.



### End Slavery, Trafficking Humans & Effect Rescue

Contact:

[estherministry1@gmail.com](mailto:estherministry1@gmail.com)



### Movement for a Better World

**Our Mission:** Aid the poor in the Long Beach area  
primarily with food, clothing, and care.

**\*Service hours provided!**

Please call Tim Clark at 431-4385 or email  
to [clark813@verizon.net](mailto:clark813@verizon.net).

# Confirmation Year 1 Schedule~ SUNDAYS- 11:00am – 1:30pm

## September 2026

Sunday, September 13,2026

Mandatory Parent Virtus Training 9:00AM –11:00AM

**(MINORS MAY NOT ATTEND)**

Sunday, September 20 –Class

Sunday, September 27 – No Class

## October 2026

Sunday, October 4 – Class

Sunday, Oct. 18 – Mandatory Retreat 8:30PM – 1:30PM

## November 2026

Sunday, November 1 – Class

Sunday, November 15 – Class

Sunday, November 29– NO CLASS – THANKSGIVING BREAK

## December 2026

Sunday, December 6 – Class

Sunday, December 20 – NO CLASS – CHRISTMAS BREAK

Sunday, December 27 – No Class

## January 2027

Sunday, January 3 – Class

Sunday, January 17 – No Class - MLK

Sunday, January 24 – Mandatory Class

## February 2027

Sunday, February 7 – No Class

Sunday, February 14 – No Class Presidents Day

Sunday, February 21 - Class

## March 2027

Sunday, March 7 – CLASS

Sunday, March 14 - Class

Sunday, March 21 – No Class

Sunday, March 28 – NO Class Easter

## April 2027

**Saturday, April 3 – YOUTH XLT NIGHT- 7:00PM – 9PM**

Sunday, April 18 – **Mandatory Retreat** 8:30AM – 2:30PM

Sunday, April 25 -No Class

## May 2027

Sunday, May 2 – Class

Thursday, May 13 – Re-enrollment Night – 7PM – 8:30PM

## Re-Enrollment Interview Appointment

You can expect to receive an email regarding the reenrollment interview. You will be invited to attend an in-person interview. Interviews are typically conducted in April. We look forward to meeting with you and your Candidate next spring!

## Confirmation Interview Q & A

### **Are you wondering why your child has a re-enrollment interview?**

The Confirmation re-enrollment interview is a part of the Confirmation faith formation process. This process helps us to determine your candidate's readiness to move forward to the second year of Confirmation preparation classes. This is also a time for you to evaluate the process – so that we may make the journey more meaningful for others in the future. We want to know what helped you in your journey and what didn't and how we might fix it together.

### **Do all Confirmation candidates need to be interviewed?**

The answer is YES. All candidates must be interviewed prior to moving on to the second year of Confirmation Faith Formation Classes.

### **Who needs to be present during the interview?**

The Confirmation candidate and one parent needs to be present during the interview.

## Confirmation Sessions

As a willing participant in the Confirmation process, we expect all teenagers to fully participate in the large and small group discussions. Their full participation shows us their readiness for Confirmation. Our intent is to offer a place where it is safe for them to ask questions and to share their feelings about God and about being Catholic.

## Service Hours

Please visit: [StJosephlb.org](http://StJosephlb.org) and navigate to our Confirmation page to submit your service hours.  
Thank you.