

# Sacrament of Confirmation at IHM

**The sacrament of Confirmation takes place in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, however, preparation for the sacrament begins in 7<sup>th</sup> grade!**

- It is unrealistic to expect families and the Church to cram sacramental prep into one school calendar year. It just doesn't work!
- The Holy Spirit and your child need more time together to develop a deeper understanding of God's plan for him/her
- Parents/guardians and the Church are the primary catechists of children when it comes to all matters of faith and the sacraments (Canon 226). IHM school and PSR (Parish School of Religion) are important secondary catechists of faith formation.

## **Preparation for Confirmation includes 4 main components:**

- 1. Home-based online curriculum with hardcopy workbook**
- 2. 4 Group sessions (parents attend too) over the course of 18 months**
- 3. Mandatory Confirmation retreat in 8<sup>th</sup> grade (parents don't attend)**
- 4. Sacrament of Confirmation during Mass, Spring 8<sup>th</sup> grade year (entire families attend).**

## **The curriculum:**

- ***Chosen*** is a great curriculum (USCCB conformity list) which uses world-renowned, dynamic Catholics who reiterate the beautiful teachings of our faith. IT IS NOT BORING!
- **In August of 7<sup>th</sup> grade year (at your first Group session)** you and your child will be given access to *Chosen*, a home-based, online Confirmation preparation platform and its corresponding hardcopy workbook. The online curriculum and workbook go together and are completed at home over the

course of 18 months when it is convenient for your child and your family's scheduling needs.

- **There are 24 short lessons.** Multiple lessons can be completed in one sitting. Some parents do all the lessons with their child, some pick a few to do (such as chastity) and leave the rest up to their child to finish.
- **Chosen online link:**  
[https://ascensionpress.thinkific.com/enroll/1855840?th\\_u=ee134204&th\\_c=amyincorvati\\_aloisichosencv2sw2022](https://ascensionpress.thinkific.com/enroll/1855840?th_u=ee134204&th_c=amyincorvati_aloisichosencv2sw2022)
- Simply click (or copy/paste URL) above to sign into an existing Ascension Press account or create a new account with an email and password of your choice. Please note that after creating a password, the registration is completed when you click on “complete your purchase,” but you do not need to pay for access, the amount due will be ZERO. Once the account is up and running you may need to sign out then sign back in to access the curriculum.
- Enrollment and completion of the curriculum is monitored by the Director of Faith Formation. I can see if your child is doing the curriculum or not and when it is completed.

### **Group sessions:**

- **There are only 4 occasions** when you and your child attend **in-person** Confirmation prep sessions together. These are called Group sessions. See calendar at the bottom for upcoming Group sessions.
- Your child’s Confirmation sponsor, or other responsible, involved adult can attend Group sessions with your child if you are unavailable.
- **Children just starting their 7<sup>th</sup> grade year** will receive the workbook and online access at the first Group session in August. See calendar below for exact date.
- Group sessions include meaningful activities, service projects, small group discussions and games. There are no mandated service hours outside of the Group sessions but please continue to serve God in some capacity!
- Group sessions are **mandatory**.

## Confirmation retreat:

- The last thing your child will attend before receiving the sacrament of Confirmation is the **mandatory** Confirmation retreat for **8<sup>th</sup> graders only**.
- The exact date fluctuates; however, it is always on a Saturday in mid-February. See calendar below for the exact date of upcoming retreat.
- Details of the retreat will be given via email as the retreat gets closer.

## Sacrament of Confirmation:

- For Catholics, it is always conferred by a Bishop or Abbott. The exact date of Confirmation fluctuates; however; it is usually mid-March. The diocesan Office of Worship contacts the rectory in the Spring to let us know when the Bishop (or Abbott) is coming the following Spring. Please see the calendar below for the exact date of upcoming Confirmation liturgy.
- Details of the Confirmation liturgy will be given via email as it gets closer.

**Does my child still receive religious education at IHM school or via PSR? Yes!** The standards of the Catholic Diocese of Cleveland mandate that children preparing for the sacraments receive religious education either in their school (IHM day school) or attend the PSR program of the parish, in addition to preparation for a specific sacrament.

**Link to PSR Program:**

<http://ihmcfo.org/education/parish-school-of-religion/>

**What if you didn't know preparation began in 7<sup>th</sup> grade? Can your child still receive Confirmation in 8<sup>th</sup> grade?** Usually, they can! Children and parents can easily catch up with the online curriculum, attend the remaining Group sessions, complete service hours outside of those sessions and be enrolled in either PSR or IHM school. You must contact Amy Incorvati-Aloisi, Director of Faith Formation: [aaloisi@ihmcfo.org](mailto:aaloisi@ihmcfo.org) to receive all the information, materials, and registration paper.

### **Confirmation calendar 2023-2024**

**All online and workbook *Chosen* lessons are completed at home by Feb 10<sup>th</sup> 2024 8<sup>th</sup> graders only**

**Group session (parents attend) Sunday August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 11:15-1:15 (after 10:00 Mass) 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and parents**

**Group session (parents attend) Sunday January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 11:15-1:15 (after 10:00 Mass) 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and parents**

**Confirmation retreat on Saturday Feb 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 11:00 a.m. followed by 4:30 Mass 8<sup>th</sup> graders only**

**Confirmation Liturgy Sunday March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 4:30 Mass 8<sup>th</sup> graders and families attend, mission accomplished!**

### **Confirmation calendar 2024-2025**

**All online and workbook *Chosen* lessons are completed at home by Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 8<sup>th</sup> graders only**

**Group Session (parents attend) Sunday August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 11:15-1:15 incoming 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and parents**

**Group Session (parents attend) Sunday January 12<sup>th</sup> 2025, 11:15-1:15 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and parents attend**

**Confirmation Retreat on Saturday Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> 2025 8<sup>th</sup> graders only**

**Confirmation Liturgy March 2025 TBD 8<sup>th</sup> graders only mission accomplished!**