



St. Ignatius Loyola

Roman Catholic Church

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Dear Candidates for Confirmation and Dear Parents:

Warm greetings to all of you this Advent Season!

As the relatively new pastor of St. Ignatius Loyola Parish, it is with great joy that I extend a warm invitation to all Grade 7 students to begin the process of preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation is a profound step in your faith journey, and it is a time when you are invited to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit in a new and profound way.

In the coming months, we will offer a comprehensive preparation program that will guide you through the teachings of the Church, help you grow in your relationship with God and prepare you for the grace-filled experience of receiving this Sacrament.

I hope you see this as an exciting time in your journey of faith. At your Baptism, as well as your First Communion, we looked forward to this day, when you could choose for yourself the opportunity to fully celebrate your faith-life as a Catholic Christian and here we are! This Sacrament is a significant step in your life, and it does several important things: It strengthens the Holy Spirit within you; it affirms your commitment to Christ; it empowers you to live out your faith; it strengthens the bond that you have with the Church and it provides you with the courage to witness to Christ in your life.

With all of these realities going on, I ask that you be open to continuing and developing a daily personal prayer life, anchored in coming to Sunday Mass at our parish of St. Ignatius Loyola on a regular basis. I will be simply delighted to get to know you and your family more closely.

With this letter is attached all the necessary details to help you navigate through this process. Our first and very important meeting is the **Registration and Information meeting on either Tuesday, January 14th or Wednesday, January 15th**. The Confirmation Candidate along with at least one parent must attend the Registration Meeting.

In the meantime, I would ask each candidate to begin thinking about a Confirmation Sponsor. In choosing a sponsor, keep in mind that this person acts as a role-model for the candidate—someone who demonstrates what it means to be a full and active member of the Church. Please consult the attached sheet to assist you with this important decision.

We will be using the book *Decision Point* by Dynamic Catholic.com as part of our parish preparation program again this year. Each student will be required to purchase a copy at the registration meeting. Fr Alex D'Silva, our Associate Pastor, will be using this text both in his school visits and in four mandatory sessions in the parish hall.

There are many steps along the way, and it is only after each of these steps have been completed that you will be accepted as a candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation 2024, which will take place at St. Ignatius Loyola Church on ONE of the following dates:

Tuesday June 10th or Wednesday June 11th at 7:00 p.m.

I pray that this is a positive experience for everyone involved. May the Holy Spirit accompany each of us throughout this process. And may the Lord bless you and your family abundantly this Advent Season and on behalf of our parish team at St. Ignatius, I wish you all a joy-filled Christmas.

Sincerely yours in the Lord

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward Curtis".

Father Edward Curtis
Pastor

General Q&A

What resource will be used to prepare the 2024/2025 students for Confirmation?

The program we will be using is called [Decision Point](#). Students will receive a physical copy of the resource at the Registration/Information session happening in January. The videos are available [online](#).

When will registration open?

Online registration will open on Wednesday December 11th, 2024. A letter from the Pastor will be sent to each of our feeder schools containing an invitation for students to consider making the next step in their faith journey by receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. It will also include a copy of the preparation schedule (see last page) and instructions on how to register. **Note:** Candidates must (1) upload a copy of their Baptismal Certificate when completing the online form. If families have misplaced this document, they must contact the Parish where the Candidate was baptized to receive an updated copy, and (2) select and provide information about their Sponsor. These two items are required in order to complete the online form. **Registration will close on Friday January 10th, 2025. Late registrants will *not* be accepted.**

Who can register for this Confirmation program?

Latin Rite Roman Catholics who are in grade 7 (or older) that have received the Sacrament of Baptism and First Holy Communion, who also attend one of our feeder schools (All Saints, St. Clare, or St. Mark) and/or lives within the [Parish boundaries](#) may register for this preparation program. If the student is *not* Latin Rite Roman Catholic and would like to participate, please email our Lay Pastoral Associate Melissa at msiuchong@archtoronto.org.

If the Candidate goes to a school that is *not* one of our feeder schools and/or if the Candidate is in a grade older than 7, they will be required to attend the 8 x sessions at the Parish Hall in addition to the 4 x group sessions. Kindly see below for this schedule:

Non-Feeder School Sessions (Wednesdays from 4:30 PM – 5:30 PM, St. Ignatius Loyola Parish Hall):

- March 5, March 19, April 2, April 9, April 16, April 23, May 7, May 21

Who is eligible to be a Sponsor?

The following are the requirements in order for a Catholic to be a godparent (Canon 874 §1):

- Is at least 16 years of age
- Is fully initiated in the Catholic Church (received Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation)
- Is in good standing with the Catholic Church: live a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken; not under canonical penalty - not the father or mother of the one to be confirmed.

The Candidate must watch [this video](#) before selecting and asking someone to be their Sponsor, as it outlines important prerequisites and responsibilities that the individual must fulfil in order to be a godparent. *You will not be able to submit the registration form without providing details about the Sponsor.*

What is the cost of this program?

The cost of this program is \$60 (cash or cheque) per student. Cheques should be payable to “St. Ignatius Loyola Parish”. This cost includes the program’s resources and the Candidate’s gown for the day of their Confirmation.

What if the Candidate misses a class?

It is the student’s responsibility to make every effort to attend *every* class. We understand that things might come up, and so if you are unable to make a class (both at the school or Parish), please email our Lay Pastoral Associate Melissa at msiuchong@archtoronto.org to let her know immediately.

When will the Confirmation Mass take place?

Candidates will have the option of picking between two dates for their Confirmation: Tuesday June 10th or Wednesday June 11th, 2025. An Eventbrite link will be made available in May for families to select their preferred date.

I have more questions... Who should I contact?

Please call the Parish Office at 905-820-1444 or email our Lay Pastoral Associate Melissa at msiuchong@archtoronto.org.

Registration Requirements

Requirements for registration are:

- Be registered, practicing members of St. Ignatius Loyola Parish
- Regular attendance at Sunday Mass
- Complete the Sacramental Preparation Form via Google Forms, *including submission of baptismal certificate*
- Attend the **mandatory** Registration and Parent & Student Meeting on January 14th/15th, 2025.

The completed Google Form needs to be submitted by **Monday January 13th** in order for your child to be registered to the Confirmation Preparation classes for 2024/2025. **No late registrations will be accepted.**

During the mandatory parent information session on October 15th/16th, 2024:

- Confirm your child's information
- Submit registration fee of \$60 (cash or cheque, payable to St. Ignatius Loyola Parish)
- Receive the preparation program

Registration Checklist

- Fill out the online Registration Form via Google Forms, including submission of your child's baptismal certificate, and information about the Candidate's selected sponsor by **Monday, January 13th, 2025**
- Review the applicable schedule (see attached) and mark your calendars for all meeting dates. Please take note of the shaded blocks, which gives options of two different dates for the group Church sessions
- Attend the Registration and Parent & Student Meeting on January 14th/ 15th, 2025
- Submit \$60 registration fee at the Registration Meeting

Registration Form

Click [here](#), visit the Parish Website (<https://stignatiusloyolami.archtoronto.org>), or scan the below QR Code to access the online registration form:



If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Siu-Chong, our Lay Pastoral Associate at msiuchong@archtoronto.org.

Confirmation Classes for Grade 7s in **Parish Schools** (All Saints, St. Clare, St. Mark) 2024/2025

Date	Program	Place	Time
Jan 14 (Tues) OR Jan 15 (Wed)	Registration/Information Parish Schools & Non-Feeder Schools Candidate & One Parent	Church (Front Foyer)	Registration: 6:30 PM – 7:00 PM Meeting: 7:00 PM
Jan 18/19 OR Jan 25/26	Return Commitment Forms at any Sunday Mass Presentation of the Cross	Church	Sat 5:00 PM Sun 7:45 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:00 Noon
Feb 24 (Mon) OR Feb 25 (Tues)	Prep Class – 1 Parish Schools & Non-Feeder Schools S.1 Life is Choices	Church Hall	7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Feb 26 – Mar 9	S.2 What's holding you back?	In Class	Tues Mar 4 th – 10:20 AM (St. Mark) Tues Mar 4 th – 1:30 PM (All Saints) Wed Mar 5 th – 12:41 PM (St. Clare)
Mar 10 – Mar 14	NO CLASS – MARCH BREAK		
Mar 15 – Mar 23	S.3 The Jesus Question	In Class	Tues Mar 18 th – 10:20 AM (St. Mark) Tues Mar 18 th – 1:30 PM (All Saints) Wed Mar 19 th – 12:41 PM (St. Clare)
Mar 24 (Mon) OR Mar 25 (Tues)	Prep Class – 2 Parish Schools & Non-Feeder Schools S.4 The Prayer Process	Church Hall	7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Mar 26 – Apr 12	S.7 The Eucharist	In Class	Tues Apr 8 th – 10:20 AM (St. Mark) Tues Apr 8 th – 1:30 PM (All Saints) Wed Apr 9 th – 12:41 PM (St. Clare)
Apr 13 – Apr 20	NO CLASS – HOLY WEEK		
Apr 28 (Mon) OR Apr 29 (Tues)	Prep Class – 3 Parish Schools & Non-Feeder Schools S.8 The Holy Spirit	Church Hall	7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Apr 30 – May 11	S.11 Made for Mission	In Class	Wed Apr 30 th – 10:20 AM (St. Mark) Tues May 6 th – 1:30 PM (All Saints) Wed May 7 th – 12:41 PM (St. Clare)
May 12 (Mon) OR May 13 (Tues)	Prep Class – 4 Parish Schools & Non-Feeder Schools S.10 Confirmation	Church Hall	7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Jun 3 (Tues) OR Jun 4 (Wed)	Confirmation Rehearsal Parish Schools & Non-Feeder Schools Candidate, One Parent & Sponsor	Church	7:00 PM – 8:30 PM
Jun 10 (Tues) OR Jun 11 (Wed)	Confirmation Ceremony Parish Schools & Non-Feeder Schools (Registration via Eventbrite)	Church	7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
Jun 17 (Tues) OR Jun 18 (Wed)	Distribution of Certificates & Post-Confirmation Session Parish Schools & Non-Feeder Schools	Church Hall	7:00 PM – 9:00 PM