



St Gertrude's Parish Smithfield

6 Justin St, Smithfield NSW 2164

Tel 9725 4317 Fax 9609 6585

Email: sacraments@stgertrude.org.au

CONFIRMATION 2019 – SUNDAY 8th SEPTEMBER, 2 pm & 4 pm ST BENEDICT'S SHRINE, SMITHFIELD

Dear Parents,

Children in Year 6 and above, who have made their Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, are eligible to enrol for the Confirmation Program. Enrolments will be accepted when parents and children present the completed attached form during:

THE CEREMONY OF ENROLMENT AT MASSES IN ST. GERTRUDE'S PARISH 25/26 May 2019.

Mass Times are as follows:

St. Benedict's – Saturday Vigil 6 pm, Sunday 6 pm,

St. Therese's – 7:30 am and 9 am

Confirmation is the Sacrament by which your child(ren) receive a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Through Confirmation, the Holy Spirit gives them the increased ability to practice their Catholic faith in every aspect of their lives and to witness Christ in every situation.

In light of this, the Sacramental Program's preparation of candidates strongly encourages them to attend Mass alongside their classes. For this reason, class times have been scheduled either before or after one of the weekend Mass times in our parish, so as to allow candidates and their families the opportunity to attend Mass as part of their preparation for receiving the Holy Spirit.

The preparation program for Confirmation consists of:

- **Information Night for Parents – Wednesday 24th July at 7:30 pm in the Montefano Hall**
- **Parent's Only Workshop – Tuesday 13th August at 7:30 pm in the Montefano Hall**
- **Weekly Mass attendance**
- **4 Group Sessions for parents and children held on a Saturday or Sunday: Weekends of 27/28 July, 3/4, 10/11 & 17/18 August.**
- **Reconciliation for Candidates**
- **Retreat day held at St Gertrude's School - Friday 6th September from 9 am to 3 pm.**
- **Rehearsal for ceremonies**

All the requirements of the program are **compulsory** and need your careful consideration prior to enrolment. Only candidates who have met **all requirements** will be eligible to receive Confirmation in 2019. If for whatever reason, you cannot meet all of these requirements, please enrol next year.

Parents, please note, if you do not attend the Information Night AND Parent Workshop, your child may also be asked to re-enroll the following year. The parent meeting and workshop is an essential part of parent formation, regardless of whether this is your first child receiving the Sacrament or if you have had other children complete the program in previous years.

The Confirmation sessions will be held in the Parish Demountables behind the Montefano Hall. On your enrolment forms, please **indicate 3 time slots in order of preference** that you can attend. You may indicate one (1) additional family to be part of your Group. If there are any learning needs or family situations, please indicate on the enrolment form.

Should you have any questions regarding the programme please call us on 9725 4317 (Tuesday or Wednesday) or email: sacraments@stgertrude.org.au.

May God bless you and keep you in his care.

Helena Mertin
Sacramental Co-Ordinator

*** Please refer to Privacy Compliance advice on the back of this letter.

(Please keep this information page in a safe place)

PRIVACY COMPLIANCE ADVICE

1. The parish collects personal information, including sensitive information about members of the faithful. The primary purpose of collecting this information is to enable it to administer the sacraments and pastoral care to the faithful, and to the children of the faithful. Information may be required to allow the parish to meet some of its legal obligations, provide care for the child while under supervision and discharge its duty of care. The information you provide on enrolment forms may be used to request your services as a volunteer and to assist with a donation to cover programme costs.
2. The Parish from time to time discloses personal and sensitive information to others for administrative purposes. This includes other parishes, the diocese, medical practitioners and people providing services to the schools and parish including volunteers.
3. If we do not obtain the information requested, we may not be able to administer the Sacraments.
4. Personal information collected from children is disclosed to their parents or guardians. Parents or guardians may seek access to personal information collected about them and their son/daughter by contacting the parish 9604 1199 (Office hours are 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Tuesday to Friday).
5. Adults may also seek access to information collected about them in the same manner.
6. As the parish is largely reliant upon locally raised funds and local efforts for its continuation, information received from those who reside in the parish or avail themselves of its services may be used to seek donations and other forms of support from them. On occasions it uses the resources of the diocese to support this process and in the course of this, information is made available to those people. We will not disclose your personal information to other third parties for other fundraising purposes without your consent.

ST GERTRUDE'S PARISH SMITHFIELD – 6 Justin St SMITHFIELD 2164
APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT – CONFIRMATION 2019

IMPORTANT

This completed form should be placed in a plastic sleeve/envelope and be presented by parents and children during the **Enrolment Ceremony at Masses on 25/26 May 2019**.
 If your child did not make their BAPTISM or First Communion here at St. Gertrude's Parish, you will need to hand in the ORIGINAL Baptismal and ORIGINAL First Communion Certificates with the enrolment form.

Confirmation Mass: SUNDAY 8th SEPTEMBER 2019, St Benedict's Shrine, Smithfield, 2 pm & 4 pm

Please note – the ceremony time will be allocated; NO changes will be possible!

Please PRINT details for your child. One form per child, please.

CHILD'S SURNAME: FIRST NAME: GENDER: M / F
 (as appears on child's birth certificate)

ADDRESS:

PHONE: Mother: Father:
 (mobile preferred)

EMAIL ADDRESS: DATE OF BIRTH:

SCHOOL: CLASS:

FATHER'S NAME: RELIGION:

MOTHER'S NAME: RELIGION:

MOTHER'S FULL MAIDEN NAME:

PARISH WHERE YOU ATTEND MASS: MASS TIME:

HOW OFTEN DO YOU ATTEND MASS? (Please tick)
 WEEKLY FORTNIGHTLY MONTHLY OTHER:.....

DATE OF CHILD'S BAPTISM: NAME OF CHURCH:

ADDRESS OF CHURCH OF BAPTISM:

DATE OF HOLY COMMUNION: NAME OF CHURCH:

Please spend some time discussing with your child their choice of Confirmation Name and their Sponsor prior to enrolling. Please ensure you complete this vital information BEFORE enrolling.

CONFIRMATION NAME: (This may be your child's name at Baptism, provided they are named after a Saint, OR they may choose a different Saint for their Confirmation name.)

NAME OF SPONSOR:

IMPORTANT: Sponsors are to be fully initiated Catholics (i.e. Have been confirmed and made their First Holy Communion, regular in their practice of Faith, and over sixteen years of age).
 Parents and grandparents CANNOT be sponsors. A Godparent MAY be chosen to be a sponsor.

CONFIRMATION SESSION TIMES – Please number three (3) time slots in order of preference.

| SATURDAY | SUNDAY | SUNDAY |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| | 9 am – 10:15 am () | 4:30 pm – 5:45 pm () |
| 4:30 pm – 5:45 pm () | 11:45 am – 1 pm () | |

Please note any family situations, learning needs or additional information below (if applicable):

You may nominate **ONE family ONLY** to be in your group. **FAMILY NAME:**

Parent's/Guardian's Signature:.....

(Please return this page)

Enrolment for Confirmation

CELEBRANT: *Children, at your baptism, God called you to be followers of Jesus, His Son. He now invites you to come closer to Him, to continue to be strengthened by the gifts of his Spirit in Confirmation. Are you ready to deepen your understanding of the Holy Spirit in your life and to prepare well to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?*

CHILDREN: **YES, WE ARE!**

CELEBRANT: *Parents, having asked that your child be part of the Sacrament program at St Gertrude's Parish, do you commit to the program and will you support your child in their faith journey?*

PARENTS: **YES, WE WILL! WE ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT TO HELP US RESPOND TO THIS CALL.**

CELEBRANT: *Parishioners will you support these families through your Prayers?*

ALL: **YES, WE WILL!**

CELEBRANT: *May God be with you. May you experience His healing touch and peace. May you know His embrace and presence.*

ALL: AMEN.