



St Gertrude's Parish Smithfield

6 Justin St, Smithfield NSW 2164
Tel 9725 4317 Fax 9609 6585
Email: sacraments@stgertrude.org.au

CONFIRMATION 2021 – SUNDAY 12th SEPTEMBER* 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 Programme.

Enrolment forms must be submitted by Friday 26th March 2021. Enrolments may be returned in the following ways:

1. a) Email: sacraments@stgertrude.org.au Please scan your child's enrolment form and Baptism Certificate.
2. b) In person, by placing the enrolment form and a photocopy of your child's Baptism Certificate, in an envelope and placing it in the St Gertrude's Parish DOOR letterbox – 6 Justin Street Smithfield 2164. Please **DO NOT** place the ORIGINAL Baptismal Certificate from your child's Baptism ceremony in the letterbox.

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 Programme'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 – Tuesday 20th July at 7 pm in the Montefano Hall**
- **Parent's Only Workshop – Tuesday 10th August at 7 pm in the Montefano Hall**
- **Weekly Mass attendance**
- **4 Group Sessions for children & parents to attend together in the Montefano Hall. To be held on a Saturday or Sunday: Weekends of 24/25 July, 31 July/1 Aug, 7/8 Aug & 14/15 August.**
- **Reconciliation for Candidates – small groups. Dates to be advised.**
- **Retreat day held at St Gertrude's Parish - Thursday 9th September from 9 am to 3 pm.**
- **Rehearsal for ceremony**
- **Confirmation Mass**

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 2021. 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 Montefano Hall. On your enrolment forms, please **indicate 3 time slots in order of preference** that you can attend. Session times are organised based on enrolment numbers, therefore, there is no guarantee a listed time-slot will go ahead. If there are any learning needs or family situations to be considered, please indicate on the enrolment form. *** Please refer to Privacy Compliance advice on the back of this letter.***

In light of current events, and due to the government limiting indoor gatherings in places of worship, **only the candidate, sponsor and parents may attend the Confirmation Ceremony**. We may be able to add more guests per candidate; however, we will not be able to release these details until closer to ceremony. We thank you for your understanding.

* Please note, the ceremony date/time may be subject to change. Parents will be advised once enrolments are complete.

Should you have any questions regarding the programme, please call 9725 4317 and leave a message. Alternatively, please email: sacraments@stgertrude.org.au. If you wish to see Helena face-to-face, please call/email to make an appointment.

May God bless you and keep you in his care.

Helena Mertin
Sacramental Co-Ordinator

(Please keep this information page in a safe place)

ST GERTRUDE'S PARISH SMITHFIELD

APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT – CONFIRMATION 2021

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If your child was not BAPTISED here at St. Gertrude's Parish, you will need to hand in an **UPDATED BAPTISM CERTIFICATE**, which can be obtained from the Parish where your child was Baptised. A copy of your child's First Holy Communion certificate must also be submitted with the enrolment if their First Communion was made at another Parish.

Confirmation Mass: SUNDAY 12th SEPTEMBER 2021*

*The ceremony time will be ALLOCATED. *The ceremony times may be subject to change.**

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

CHILD'S SURNAME: FIRST NAME:

(As appears on child's birth certificate)

DATE OF BIRTH: GENDER: M / F

ADDRESS: Postcode:

PHONE: Parent 1: Parent 2:
(mobile preferred) Name: Name:

Please PRINT email address below – all correspondence will be emailed to you.

EMAIL ADDRESS:

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: The sponsor is to be a fully initiated Catholic (i.e. Confirmed and made their First Holy Communion, regular in their practice of Faith, over 16 years of age). Parents and grandparents CANNOT be sponsors. A Godparent MAY be chosen as a sponsor.

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

Please note, sessions times are based on final numbers and there is no guarantee a listed time will go ahead.

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

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

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I _____ understand we are required to attend all parts of the Sacramental programme and that an adult must attend the Sacramental classes with my child.

Office use only

Baptism Certificate YES / NO

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.

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.