



Saint Elizabeth Seton 2023-2024 Confirmation Candidate Guide



This Candidate Guide Belongs to....

Please keep this as a reference/guide to use throughout the Confirmation process

Attendance Policy

We ask that each Candidate attend as many Confirmation Sessions as possible. In the event that your youth cannot attend due to illness, or other reasonable conflict, a make-up reflection will be provided to make up the missed session. *In the event that the Candidate misses too many Confirmation sessions without make-up, their Confirmation will be delayed.* Make-up reflections are provided to keep each youth on track, but should be used within reason, the preparation is meant to be in person and part of the community, as opposed to online or at home.

Retreat attendance: Please note that per the Diocese Confirmation guidelines every Confirmation Candidate needs to attend at least one Confirmation retreat within the two year preparation process. All Confirmation 1 youth are expected to attend their retreat in year 1, that said if something occurs they may attend in year 2.

Cell Phone Policy

We ask that Confirmation Sessions be a Cell Phone free experience. Parents should consider keeping their youth's phone with them. That said if the youth must have their phone, we will ask that they are out of site and not used during Confirmation. During each session, there will be a table set aside, designated for Cell Phones to be turned in, and will be watched by our parent chaperones. The youth can speak to a chaperone or catechist and step out if they need to use their phone briefly. Otherwise if a youth is found with their cell phone during a Confirmation session, they will be asked to place it at the cell phone table and their parents will be notified that they were using it inappropriately during Confirmation when they were not supposed to.

Confirmation Mass Date TBD

We do not yet have an official date for Confirmation Mass. That said, Confirmations typically take place after Easter Sunday through to the month of July. As soon as we have a Confirmation date we will let you know. In the past Confirmation Mass has been held in May at S.E.S.

Dress Guidelines for Confirmation Mass

We encourage you AND your sponsor to wear White or Pastel Colors

Ladies:

- Dress, Skirt & Blouse, or Blouse & Slacks
- Must have sleeves on dress or blouse
- Modest length for dresses or skirts
- Appropriate Shoes

Gentlemen:

- Collared Shirt
- Dress Slacks
 - A Tie is encouraged, but not mandatory
- Appropriate Shoes

LETTER OF PETITION

Due in March of Year 2 of Confirmation

Please write a **personal** and **detailed** LETTER OF PETITION for the Sacrament of Confirmation to the Pastor of Saint Elizabeth Seton, Fr. Michael Robinson.

It is due no earlier than March 1st 2024 and no later than April 1st 2024. (Dates are subject to change according to the Confirmation date.)

It may be printed out or written in your best handwriting and must be submitted in a properly addressed sealed envelope.

The petition letter should be completely your own and is a way to introduce yourself to Fr. Michael, who represents the Church, and ask to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Below are sample questions and things we suggest you include, it does not need to be exactly like this, the goal is to make it your own and be sincere.

Questions? Contact Reanna Castro at ReannaC@seschurch.org or call 760.607.5018

Suggested Guidelines/Format

Date

Dear Father Robinson:

Paragraph 1:

- Introduce yourself
- Ask to be Confirmed
- Explain what name you chose for Confirmation and why
- If you chose a Saint who are they, why did you choose them.

Paragraph 2:

- Explain why you want to be Confirmed
- Share why you feel ready and what you have done to prepare yourself for Confirmation
- Did you have a favorite part of Confirmation or something you learned/take-away?

Paragraph 3:

- Tell us about your Sponsor
- Why did you pick him or her
- How has your sponsor supported you

Paragraph 4:

- What are your plans after Confirmation?
- How do you plan to put your faith into action?
- Anything else you want to share, or the parish should know?

Sincerely,

(Your Signature over printed name)

Address and Send Envelope to:

Fr. Michael Robinson

6628 Santa Isabel Street

Carlsbad CA 92009

Confirmation Name Reflection Paper

DUE: December 31st of Year 2 of Confirmation

Email your pdf to ReannaC@seschurch.org

History behind the Confirmation Name

You are invited to choose the name of a Catholic Saint who inspires you. This person is symbolic of a new beginning in your faith life and a connection with the Lord and His Church. At Confirmation you are making a commitment to share the faith and live as a witness to the Gospel with is symbolized with the taking of a new name to show that you are in some way a new person. This practice of taking a new name is found throughout both the Old and New Testament as a sign of conversion, which means a decision to live life differently. Saints are models of the Faith who lived their lives as examples of faith, hope, and love. Your patron Saint becomes a role model for you, and is an example of how the Gospel can be lived in a practical way.

Guidelines

Candidates will select prayerfully a Confirmation name **with the help of** their Sponsors and Parents; and complete a reflection paper on their Confirmation name. The Confirmation name chosen is the name by which the Candidates will be presented to the Bishop (or his delegate) at Confirmation. **Every Candidate must submit a reflection paper before your Confirmation.**

Whatever name you decide on, we ask that you explore how this holy person, this Saint, inspires you to be a witness and walk more closely with Christ during the Confirmation process and in your entire life.

Below is a possible format you may use in your reflection. That said, all we are looking for is an explanation of why you chose a Saint and how they are a role model for you on how to live the faith in today's world.

Format

(1st paragraph)

- Share why you feel ready for Confirmation?

(2nd paragraph)

- Share the Catholic Saint that you chose and why. Provide a brief summary of the Catholic Saint's life **OR** if it is your Baptismal First Name, share why your parents gave you your first name .

(3rd paragraph)

- How can the life of this Saint be a model of faith and commitment to you throughout the Confirmation process AND beyond Confirmation?

Confirmation Retreat November 3-5, 2023



All Confirmation Candidates in Confirmation 1 and those in Confirmation 2, who did not attend previously, are expected to attend this year's Confirmation Retreat! We will meet at the Lower Parking Lot on Friday, November 3rd, at 4:00pm to board the buses for Whispering Winds.

Retreat Site: Whispering Winds Catholic Camp & Conference Center
17606 Harrison Park Road, Julian, CA
760.765.1600

We will return to St. Elizabeth Seton on Sunday, November 5th, to pray the 11:30am Mass with the St. Elizabeth Seton Parish Community. All parents and family members are encouraged to attend! Please note that youth will not be released until the conclusion of the 11:30am Mass.

Permission Slip & \$250 Contribution due by 10/15/23

No refunds will be given after this date.

The cost of retreat includes transportation to and from Whispering Winds, retreat sweatshirt, meals & lodging. We try to fundraise to supplement the cost of retreat, as the true cost of retreat is higher. For those who are able please consider contributing more to help.

For more information and to request a permission slip contact Reanna Castro at ReannaC@seschurch.org or call 760-607-5018. All High School Youth at St. Elizabeth are invited to attend retreat, even if they are not in Confirmation prep.

Confirmation Retreat

Packing List

What to Bring:

- Warm clothing! (we'll be in Julian at about 4,000 feet so be sure to include a jacket, sweatshirt, sweatpants, warm pajamas, hat and gloves)
- Shoes—boots or tennis shoes (2 pair: 1 to wear and a spare)
- Jacket(s) – a warm one (there could be snow!)
- Socks (bring extra)
- Towels and toiletries (toothbrush & paste, deodorant, hairbrush, lotion, shampoo, soap etc.)
- Bedding or sleeping bag and pillow
- Water Bottle
- Prescription medication labeled with participant's name and detailed instructions (to be collected at check-in on Friday before departure)
- Catholic Youth Bible
- Insect Repellent with no DEET
- Flashlight
- **Snacks to share (to be collected Sunday, 10/29 during Confirmation)**
 - By last names:
 - A-J bring drinks (juice/soda)
 - K-R bring snacks (chips, crackers, fruit)
 - S-Z bring desserts (cookies, brownies)
- ***Please bring an open heart, a willingness to share, a spirit of fun, and a desire to grow personally and spiritually!***



WHAT NOT TO BRING:

Drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, vapes, weapons or anything else that may be a detriment to this retreat.

CELL PHONE POLICY:

We strongly suggest unplugging from cell phones, texting, calling, and all social media for the weekend. This retreat is a rare chance for participants to truly unplug and enjoy making new friends as well as partaking in the beautiful surroundings of Whispering Winds. Cell phones may be used as cameras and during free time, however, if they are seen out during any retreat activities, they will be held with an adult for the duration of the activity.

Contact Information:

If you need to reach your teen for any reason, please call Whispering Winds at 760-765-1600. Thank you for your cooperation.

Whispering Winds
17606 Harrison Park Road
Julian, CA 92036
760.765.1600

Confirmation Sponsor Form

A confirmation sponsor must be at least 16 years of age & be a practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church. This means that the person follows the commandments of God by participating each week in Sunday Mass, frequents the Sacrament of Reconciliation and their marriage has been blessed by the Catholic Church. The sponsor must have received all sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation) and may not be a parent of the Confirmation Candidate.

Some practical guidelines for selecting a sponsor

- A sponsor should be someone who tries to be a model of how a person of Catholic faith lives in today's world. They should lead a life in harmony with the Church and the role to be undertaken.
- A sponsor should have a willingness and capacity to engage in the Confirmation process as a means of enhancing their own growth as a Christian adult.
- A sponsor should have a positive and comfortable relationship with the candidate.
- Ideally a sponsor should be someone who either lives in the area or is able to travel to the area when necessary, so that they may be actively involved throughout the Confirmation process.

Name of Confirmation Candidate: _____ Year _____

Sponsor Information

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____ Birth date: _____

Name of parish you attend: _____

City: _____ State: _____

What is your relationship to the candidate? _____

How long have you known the candidate? _____

Initial here: _____ **I am a Catholic in good standing with the Roman Catholic Church. I understand my role as a Confirmation Sponsor and meet all the criteria.**