



Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph  
2026 Youth Confirmation  
Frequently Asked Questions

Revised February 12, 2026

## **BEFORE CONFIRMATION DAY**

### 1. Will there be a rehearsal of any kind?

Confirmation practice will take place at the parish. [HERE](#) is a link to a training video for Confirmation in the Cathedral. We especially encourage frequent practice of the ritual questions and responses the Bishop will ask your candidates.

### 2. I have a candidate who is unable to attend our date. What should we do?

The Confirmation coordinator should contact Bobbi Aschwanden in the Office of Divine Worship for other possible dates. Alternatively, the candidate is welcome to receive the sacrament at the adult Confirmation Mass on Wednesday, May 6, 2026 (contact your parish adult Confirmation coordinator).

## **CONFIRMATION DAY**

### **PRE-LITURGY**

#### 1. What time will everyone be expected to arrive?

The only reserved seating in the Cathedral will be for the candidates, their sponsors and one parish representative. Families will have open seating in the remainder of the Cathedral. All candidates should check in with their parish coordinator in Father Donnelly Hall *no later* than 45 minutes prior to the beginning of Mass.

#### 2. Will there be individual parking or will the church be expected to use busses/vans?

The Cathedral parking lot is first-come, first-served. Free parking in the public parking garage (northeast corner of Broadway and 12<sup>th</sup> Streets) next to the Folly Theater is available using the barcode on the Cathedral's [website](#). The code, that changes monthly, can be printed at home or shown on a smartphone and is needed both to enter and exit the garage. Families are also welcome to park on the street, where permitted, and/or use public transportation. Bus and streetcar maps and schedules can be found at [ridekc.org](http://ridekc.org).

#### 3. Will there be a check in area that parishes can use for all the candidates and their sponsors?

Yes. Each parish will have a check in table in Father Donnelly Hall. After your candidates have all checked in with the parish representative, that parish representative can then check in at the diocesan check in table, also located in Father Donnelly Hall, to verify all candidates are present. **Parishes should check in at the diocesan table between 9:15-9:45am on Saturdays and 12:15-12:45pm on Sundays.**

For the sake of consistency, as well as verification of presence for the celebration, nametags will be supplied by the Office of Divine Worship and distributed by each parish coordinator at Father Donnelly Hall during check in.

4. [Is there an area outside of the Cathedral that we will be able to use to put personal items, etc.?](#)

Each parish will have a table in Father Donnelly Hall. You may choose to leave items there. However, Father Donnelly Hall will be unsecured and will not be attended during Mass. Neither the Cathedral nor the diocese is responsible for lost items.

5. [How will the seating be throughout the Cathedral? Will there be pews reserved for candidates & sponsors?](#)

For each parish there will be reserved seating for candidates, sponsors and one parish representative. Everyone else is welcome to choose their seats in the unreserved pews in the main body of the church.

Our number of candidates for each Confirmation has been calculated based on six people per candidate (candidate, sponsor, +4). Please work with your families to ensure this is met. For example, if a candidate is only expecting mom, dad and sponsor to attend, two seats are available for the Confirmation Coordinator to accommodate another family who has more guests from that parish. Similarly, if a family has two candidates but only mom, dad, two sponsors and two siblings, this frees four seats for another family. The only exception to exceed this rule is for siblings and grandparents of candidates.

6. [Will the candidates process in?](#)

No. The parish coordinator will locate your parish pews and arrange the candidates and sponsors before Mass as a group to enter the Cathedral together. We ask that absolutely everyone be in their seats at least 10 minutes before Mass begins.

## **LITURGY**

1. [Will the pastor and priests from each parish be expected to concelebrate? What about our deacon?](#)

The priests and deacons from the parishes are highly encouraged but not required to concelebrate/assist at the Confirmation Mass. The Cathedral has a limited supply of matching red chasubles and dalmatics available first come, first served. It is helpful that the Office of Divine Worship know how many additional clergy are planning to attend each Confirmation Mass.

## 2. Will there be a program/worship aid?

[HERE](#) is a generic worship aid that can be used at all the Masses. Printable program templates are available for purchase at I. Donnelly. **Neither the Cathedral nor the diocese provide printed programs.** If your parish desires a program, you will need to create and bring it to the Cathedral.

## 3. How long should we anticipate the Mass to be?

The Mass will be approximately 90 minutes.

The candidates will be confirmed at the cathedra (the seat of the Bishop); see the Bishop's *Welcome to the Cathedral* brief video [HERE](#). This will involve navigating four steps up from the nave to the sanctuary and four steps down. **If this will be a hardship for a candidate or sponsor, notify the Office of Divine Worship at least a month before the Confirmation Mass so adjustments can be made.**

# RECEPTION/POST-LITURGY

## 1. Will there be a group photo with the Bishop after Mass? What about individual & family photos?

Yes! At the conclusion of Mass, the Bishop will return to the sanctuary for a group photo with all the candidates. We request the parish coordinators work together to arrange their newly confirmed for the group photo on the sanctuary steps. Afterwards, The Bishop will remain in the sanctuary for individual photos, with those wishing to have an individual photo lining up in the main center aisle immediately following the group photo. In the interest of time and respect for the Bishop's and others' schedules, we request individual photos be limited to one photo per candidate. **There will be no official photographer.**

## 2. Is there a charge to use the Bishop Hogan Center?

Through the Annual Catholic Appeal, the diocese is paying for use of the Bishop Hogan Center between 8:00am-2:00pm on Saturdays and noon-5:00pm on Sundays. Outside those hours a Cathedral fee will apply; contact Regan Getman at the Cathedral for more information ([rgetman@kcgolddome.org](mailto:rgetman@kcgolddome.org)).

# RECORDKEEPING

## 1. In whose sacramental register are the entries recorded?

Sacramental entries will be recorded in the Cathedral's Confirmation register, and the Bishop's Office will be responsible for mailing notifications to the parishes of baptism. Each parish is welcome to additionally make sacramental entries in their records,

noting that the Confirmation took place at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, the place of the official record.

## 2. How do you need everyone's information?

[HERE](#) is the online form that should be completed for each candidate absolutely and without exception a minimum of two weeks prior to the desired Confirmation date. The form, along with baptismal register information, must be received by the Office of Divine Worship at least two weeks prior to the Confirmation date—failure to meet this deadline will require the Confirmation Coordinator to request a new date for the Confirmation candidates and for the Coordinator to inform the youth and their families that they will not be Confirmed on the date two weeks hence.

Baptismal register data can be submitted a) by a copy of the candidate's baptismal certificate, or b) for those completing Confirmation preparation at the parish of baptism, the information can be compiled in an Excel spreadsheet, dated and signed by the pastor. Baptismal data should be email to Bobbi Aschwanden in the Office of Divine Worship; again, at least two weeks prior to the scheduled celebration.

Nametags will be printed from the online forms submitted. Please review for accuracy prior to submission.

## 3. Will the Cathedral be issuing the Confirmation certificates or will the parish?

If a parish would like their candidates to have a certificate, the parish will issue them. Neither the Cathedral nor the diocese will be issuing Confirmation certificates.

### **ADDITIONAL ITEMS:**

- Many candidates choose to wear red for Confirmation, but this is not a requirement. Please be sure the candidates are in Church-appropriate attire. **No robes, stoles or other additional items should be worn.**
- Verification and authentication of baptismal register information must be received by either a) baptismal certificate, or b) for those preparing for Confirmation at the parish of baptism, an Excel spreadsheet with the pastor's signature & date of submittal.
- If your number of candidates exceeds the number you estimated, or has decreased by five or more, notify the Office of Divine Worship as soon as possible.

A message from the Cathedral staff:

We are so happy to welcome you to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception as we come together to celebrate the 2026 Confirmations!

If your parish would like to host a reception in Father Donnelly Hall following Mass, please reach out to Regan Getman at [rgetman@kcgolddome.org](mailto:rgetman@kcgolddome.org) to reserve your spot. We ask that you contact her at least one month prior to your parish's scheduled Confirmation date so we can plan accordingly.

The hall will be set with 20 round tables and six cocktail tables throughout the space. Each parish will have one 8-foot table available to set out finger foods, cookies, or beverages (please no alcohol). Linens will not be provided, so feel free to bring your own. The hall may be shared with other parishes, and all receptions will conclude two hours following the end of Mass.

We look forward to celebrating with you!