

St. Ann Catholic Church and School
2016-2017 Academic Year

Dress Requirements for Confirmation

Receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation is a sacred and special event in the lives of our young people. Confirmation unites us more firmly to Christ. It strengthens our relationship with the Church, and gives us a special strength from the Holy Spirit to defend the faith and confess the name of Christ.

It is our wish that the outward appearance of our Confirmandi will reflect the reverence, modesty, and respect which they feel inside as they enter into this joyous yet solemn celebration. With this in mind, we offer the following guidelines.



GENTLEMEN CONFIRMANDI:

Either a suit or a sport coat with dress pants is to be worn with In either case, these are to be accompanied by a dress shirt, necktie, and dress shoes.

- No denim clothing or athletic shoes.
- Dress (or suit) pants should be belted and solid colored.
- Dress shirts (short or long sleeved) should be white or a solid pastel color.
- Sport or suit coats should be solid colored.
- Neckties may be either solid color or striped with subtle colors.
 - No paisley or prints permitted
 - No ties with official logos (Coca Cola, sports teams, etc.) permitted
 - No string or bow ties permitted
 - No ascots or scarves are permitted
- Shoes should be black or brown, clean, and in good condition. No sports shoes please.
- Hair should be neatly trimmed and combed and worn off the face so that the Bishop may easily anoint each young man.

MALE SPONSORS:

Although not required, the same guidelines as above will also serve well for our male sponsors.

YOUNG LADY CONFIRMANDI:

We encourage you to take this sheet with you when you shop for a dress to be certain that all requirements are met. We will have a “dress check” in the spring to be certain all dresses are appropriate for this very important sacrament. Last year, we were impressed and touched by the simplicity and modesty of the dresses chosen, and we look forward to continuing this tradition.

Parents, please take these guidelines along with you as you shop. This will help you and your daughter to select a dress that will be in keeping with our expectations and standards at St. Ann.



Dress:

- _____ Dresses should be simple, tasteful, and modest. Each young lady’s dress should be carefully chosen keeping in mind that the focus is on the beautiful sacrament rather than the dress. Beaded dresses and dresses with slits above the knee are not appropriate.
- _____ Dresses should be white, off-white or cream in color.
- _____ Dress hem lengths must touch the knee-cap when standing and be the same length all the way around. The inner fabric or slip must also touch the top of the knee-cap at all points. If you are not sure whether or not a particular dress is too short, please choose another that you are certain meets the guidelines.
- _____ Longer dresses are fine, but please remember that you will need to climb stairs. It is best to keep the hem at a safe length so that it is not a tripping hazard for you.
- _____ Shoulders must be completely covered at all times while on Cathedral property. You may wear a sweater or jacket if you need to make sure that your shoulders are covered completely.
- _____ Any sweater or jacket should be white or off-white to match the dress, and should be opaque rather than see-through.
- _____ Strapless dresses are not to be worn even with a sweater or jacket.
- _____ The chest should be well-covered for modesty’s sake. Dresses should not be low-cut in either the front or the back.
- _____ Skin-tight dresses are not appropriate.
- _____ Any trim on the dress (other than white) should be of a pastel color and should not be so predominant that the dress is thought to be pink, blue, etc.

Dress Shoes:

- _____ Must be white or off-white.
- _____ May be open or closed-toe, but must have a closed or strapped back.
- _____ Slides or Flip-Flop style are not appropriate and could be hazardous.
- _____ Thong (between the toes) style sandals are not appropriate.
- _____ Heel must be 1 inch or lower. Flats are fine.

Undergarments:

- _____ Hose (stockings) are not required, but should be white or skin-toned if worn.
- _____ White or skin-toned undergarments are to be worn so as not to be noticeable under the dress.
- _____ Unless the dress has a built-in slip or under-layer, please wear a slip as this gives a much more modest and “finished” look.

Hair: Should be worn off the face so that the Bishop may easily anoint each young lady.

Nail Polish: Any polish on fingers (or toes if they show) should be a pale pink, clear or skin tone.

Accessories:

- _____ Jewelry and accessories should be kept to a minimum.
- _____ No dangle earrings.
- _____ No bracelets.
- _____ No purses.
- _____ No hats, large bows or large clips.
- _____ No scarves.

FEMALE SPONSORS:

Although female sponsors do not dress in white, considering the guidelines put forth above may help them when choosing attire best-suited for serving as a Confirmation Sponsor.



It is our hope that these guidelines will answer most of your questions regarding dress code. We trust that whatever you purchase will be versatile enough to be worn on other occasions after your child receives the Sacrament of Confirmation.
Revised 8.9.2016