

Confirmation Class Schedule 2025/26 (7th & 8th Grades) **Year B**

Purpose:

The purpose of this two-year sequence is to prepare our kids for confirmation in the Episcopal Church and help them take ownership of their faith and the vows made for them at their baptism.

Structure:

The class follows a 2-year cycle, with kids learning Holy Scripture (Year A) and the Church's tradition, history, and Christian ethics (Year B). Students may begin with Year A or Year B, depending on when they begin the confirmation process.

Some Essential Questions:

What does it mean to be a Christian? An Episcopalian?

What is the Church, and what does it mean to me?

How has my faith changed in my life so far; how may it still change?

Who is Jesus to me?

What does it mean to take ownership of my faith?

Logistics:

- Classes will be taught by Mother Storm and Mother Eliza
- Classes follow school schedules--i.e. No classes on school holidays
- All classes go from 5:30-6:30 pm. Please be on time.
- Other requirements, such as worship attendance and participation, will be shared when classes begin.
- Only 8th graders need to have a sponsor. This will be explained when classes begin.
- All confirmation kids will be expected to volunteer in one of the four following areas: Sunday reader in services, Sunday acolyte in services, Sunday greeter, or member of the Junior Altar Guild. Sign-ups for these ministries will happen in the fall, before classes begin.
- Confirmation students are also encouraged (but not required) to put their faith into action at one of our feeding ministries: Midnight Run or the Fordham Food Pantry.

To buy/bring to class (IMPORTANT!)

Please buy your child a Book of Common Prayer in time for the first class on November 2.

NOTE: This will become the book that the bishop signs when your child is confirmed. You may purchase a basic edition (totally fine) [here](#), or a leather-bound gift edition [here](#).

Also buy [this book, *My Faith, My Life*](#) which we'll be using and referring to a lot, and [this book, *"What If Jesus Was Serious?"*](#) which we'll use to open class (they'll also be using this book with their sponsors starting in January)

Sponsors

Every 8th grader will need a sponsor, someone in the parish or close to your child (preferably outside the family, though) who can meet with them four times, starting in January and before confirmation.

Your child will need to have chosen their sponsor by class on January.

To help you remember classes: emails, texts, church calendar

Attendance at all classes is expected to qualify for confirmation.

Please enter the dates below in your calendar, or check our church calendar (on our website and the phone app) for a list of classes. Assuming your cell # is in our church database, you will also receive text messages the afternoon before each class to remind you.

The following are the dates for classes. Holiday weekends and youth group nights have been left off this list.

October 10 (Optional but HIGHLY RECOMMENDED)

Family Interfaith Shabbat Service at Scarsdale Synagogue, starting at 6 pm and includes dinner. A youth group leader will reach out about this.

November 2

Class 1

Taught by Bill Haffner & Mo. Eliza

Who am I? Who are we?

Chapter 1, My Faith, my Life

Talking about our baptism, what baptism means, the claims our faith makes on us, what difference being a Christian makes, or should make, what the communities we belong to say about who we are, our view of the world, and who we're trying to become.

November 9

Class 2

Taught by Monica Sganga

Our Roots, part 1: Judaism, the early Church

The Judaism of Jesus' day, where we see it in the Gospels, how Jesus was raised, the background of our Christian calendar, similarities in Christian and Jewish faith and worship

November 16

Class 3

Taught by Donna Robertson

Our Roots, part 2: the early Church, Constantine, the Nicene Creed

November 23

Class 4

Taught by Mo. Eliza

Our Roots, Part 3: the Church of England, the colonies, the formation of the Episcopal Church

December 7

Class 5

Taught by Mo. Storm

Who Was Jesus? What we know, what we don't know, Different views of Jesus around the world, Various Christian understandings of his life and importance

December 14

Christmas Party Jr & Sr High

December 21

Class 6

Taught by Mo. Storm

Christian Concepts: Sin, Grace, Forgiveness, "Agape" Love, the Trinity, Resurrection, Life after Death

Episcopal Concepts: Compromise, "middle way," Reason and science as gifts from God, Intellectual, Curious

January 11

Class 7

Taught by Monica Sganga

Worship: Why we worship, the ancient act of worship, the importance of doing things "without purpose," the importance of doing things that have nothing to do with us, but point outside ourselves, etc.

January 25

Class 8

Taught by Mo. Eliza & Mo. Storm

Worship and the Seven Sacraments

February 1

Class 9

Taught by Donna Robertson

Christian Ethics & How to Live: Moral lessons in the Old and New Testaments

February 8

Class 10

Taught by Bill Haffner

Christian Ethics & How to Live, continued

March 1

FIELD TRIP

Led by clergy & volunteers

Field Trip to NYC - Trinity Wall Street, St. Paul's Chapel, Church of St. John the Divine

Starts Sunday morning, home by 4 pm.