

## Adolescent Confirmation Policies and Procedures Fact Sheet

**Problem Statement:** The quality of faith formation for adolescents preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation is currently influenced by:

- The absence of archdiocesan policy for adolescent Confirmation preparation
- An unspecified time requirement for sacramental preparation
- Lack of normative preparation standards among varying social-economic household levels
- Quality faith formation wavering from parish to parish
- Confirmation Guidelines as baseline authority

**Problem Solution:** To provide clarity and understanding of our Church mission and vision for Confirmation sacramental preparation adaptation is necessary to authenticate:

- Archdiocesan policies and procedures that include the establishment of a standardized two year sacramental preparation requirement for the Sacrament of Confirmation
- Bishops, deans, catechetical leaders, catechists including parents, pastoral center staff have recognized and expressed a need for a two-year sacramental preparation requirement for Confirmation
- Policy is dictated by a pastoral need to introduce our young people to a relationship with Jesus Christ. Developing an intimate relationship with Jesus takes time.
- Lifelong Faith Formation of a Gospel centered approach to learning at home and within parish community faith formation structures
- Advancement of quality Lifelong Faith Formation throughout the Archdiocese of Chicago to achieve uniform outcomes
- The transformative process of conversion, evangelization, catechesis, and missionary discipleship
- Accompaniment to experience the merciful love of Jesus
- The practice of our Catholic Identity and Mission
- Theological reflection, spiritual formation, liturgical catechesis, and bonding with the parish community
- Conformity with the theological structure of the Catechism of the Catholic Church
- Common standards for proficiency of sacramental preparation for Confirmation

### Policy Sections:

- § 1900 Sacramental Preparation for Adolescent Candidates Seeking Confirmation
- § 1900.1 Confirmation Readiness
- § 1900.2 Program Uniformity
- § 1900.3 Community Responsibility
- § 1900.4 Missionary Service
- § 1900.5 Annual Retreat
- General Instructions for §1900