St Francis of Assisi Church
214 King Ave E.
Newcastle, ON
L1B 1H5

October 7, 2026

Dear Parents,

As the pastor of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, I am excited to share some wonderful news with you and your family. With your support as parents and the guidance of our parish and Catholic school community, Fr. John and Carole Madeley, along with the Grade 7 and 8 teachers, will hold preparation sessions for the Sacrament of Confirmation in their classrooms during the 2027 school year. I believe this will create a meaningful and enriching experience for everyone involved.

Our Bishop will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation here at St. Francis of Assisi Church on Thursday, May 20, 2027, at 7 p.m. I look forward to this special day for your child and our community.

To be eligible for Confirmation, your child must be a baptized Catholic or baptized in another Christian tradition and received into full Communion in the Catholic Church and celebrated his/her First Holy Communion.

The collaboration between home, school, and parish is essential for supporting the ongoing faith development of your child. Through this partnership, your child will come to understand that he/she is a valued individual, able to celebrate his/her gifts and to claim a place in our Parish community.

The completed documents (registration form, a copy of your son/daughter's Baptism/First Eucharist certificates) are due back to the parish office by **Tuesday, December 1, 2026**.

The required documents may be scanned and emailed to office@stfrancisnewcastle.ca or brought to the church and put in the box in the gathering room (labelled Confirmation Information)

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact the parish office.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. John J. Rathinaswamy

Rev. John J. Rathinaswamy
Pastor

REGISTRATION FORM
Sacrament of Confirmation

Our family wishes to support our child in the for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Child's Full Name:
(Please Print)

_____
First Name Middle (as shown on official documents) Last Name

Date of Birth _____ Place of Birth _____
Month / Day / Year

Parish _____ School _____

Teacher _____

Candidate's Date of Baptism _____

Candidate's Parish of Baptism _____

Address of Parish of Baptism _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Baptismal Certificate (Enclosed) Yes No (A copy of the Certificate is required as proof of Baptism)
Sponsor Form (Completed & Enclosed) Yes No
Sacraments Received (please check) ◯ Reconciliation ◯ Eucharist

Mother of Candidate _____
Maiden Name First Name

Email Address: _____ Cell # _____

Mother's Address _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Father of Candidate _____
Maiden Name First Name

Email Address: _____ Cell # _____

Father's Address _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Completed documents due to St. Francis of Assisi Church by:

Tuesday, December 1, 2026

Registration Form/Copy of Baptism Certificate/Sponsor Form must be dropped off to the parish or sent to office@stfrancisnewcastle.ca

Personal Attestation Form

FOR SPONSOR

NAME OF THE CANDIDATE: _____

Thank you for your willingness to be a Sponsor for Confirmation. Please prayerfully consider the role noting that a Sponsor for Confirmation is a role model of the Faith for the candidate. The sponsor has her/himself received all three sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation) and is living in harmony with the Roman Catholic faith. The sponsor supports the candidate being confirmed in her/his commitment to a Christian life.

Sponsor Requirements (*Taken from the 1983 Code of Canon Law Canon 87*):

- Is at least 16 years of age;
- Is a practicing Catholic;
- Has received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation;
    - Sponsor is required to provide a Copy of sponsor's annotated Baptism certificate (including Confirmation Date – this may be obtained from the Parish where one was baptized)
- Leads a life in harmony with the Roman Catholic faith;
- Attends the parent sessions when possible;
- Is not a parent of the candidate; and
- Completes and submits this Personal Attestation Form to the pastor.

I, _____, attest that I fulfill the requirements as outlined above in accordance with the Code of Canon Law. I further promise to support the candidate during this time of preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and I will encourage them to live out this sacrament faithfully.

_____ _____

Signature of Sponsor E-Mail Address

_____

Date

St. Francis of Assisi Parish, Newcastle
CANDIDATES INFORMATION SHEET

The parish community supports you in prayer as you prepare this year to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

To assist you in understanding and appreciating the preparation for the Sacrament, this Candidate Information Sheet describes the different parts of the sacramental preparation program.

Checklist for the Confirmation Sacramental Preparation Program:

- ☐ Fill out Registration Form.
- ☐ Attach a copy of your Baptismal Certificate/First Eucharist Certificate to the Registration Form.
- ☐ Complete the homework assigned after each school session.
- ☐ Choose a Sponsor for Confirmation. The candidate's sponsor is at least 16 years old, s/he is a practicing Catholic, s/he has received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation, s/he is not a parent of the candidate, and s/he is leading a life in harmony with the Roman Catholic faith.
- ☐ Submit the Sponsor's Personal Attestation Form.
- ☐ **Attend Sunday Mass (at the church with the parish community)** as candidates will be asked to write five reflections on the Masses that you attend. A Mass Journal will be provided for this purpose with guiding questions and statements to inform your reflections.
- ☐ Complete eight hours of service for the Apostolic Service Project; complete the log and submit the log at the conclusion of your sacramental preparation program.
- ☐ Complete the Confirmation Saint Project...
- ☐ Draft a letter to His Excellency Most Reverend Bishop Miehm expressing your faith and reasons for seeking the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- ☐ The parish will send all the candidate's letters together to His Excellency.
- ☐ Pick up your Certificate of Confirmation signed by His Excellency and your pastor following the celebration, Thursday, May 20, 2027, 7:00 p.m. at St. Francis of Assisi Parish.