



Lowering the Age for Confirmation

Cardinal Seán Patrick O’Malley approved a proposal that changes the ordinary age for Confirmation from 10th Grade to 8th Grade in the Archdiocese of Boston, to be implemented over the next 2–3 years. The Archdiocese made this decision in order to:

- Strengthen the participation of young people and their families in their spiritual lives.
- Give ownership of the faith to young people by decreasing the gaps between the Sacraments.
- Increase the role of families in the faith formation of their children.

At St. Ignatius, Candidates prepare for Confirmation over two years. Confirmation I introduces students to the foundational beliefs of the Catholic faith. Confirmation II builds upon those beliefs, encouraging students to claim the faith as their own in the tradition of Ignatian discernment. Per the Archdiocese’s guidelines, we will transition to the lower Confirmation age on the following timeline:

2024–2025

- Students entering 10th Grade in Fall 2024, who have already completed Confirmation I, will go through Confirmation II, as usual.
- Students entering 8th–9th Grade in Fall 2024 will begin Confirmation I.

2025–2026

- Students entering 9th–10th Grade in Fall 2025 will begin Confirmation II.
- Students entering 7th–8th Grade in Fall 2025 will begin Confirmation I.

2026–2027 (transition complete)

- Students entering 8th-9th Grade in Fall 2026 will begin Confirmation II.
- Students entering 7th Grade in Fall 2026 will begin Confirmation I.

Parent Registration Timeline

| Grade your child is entering Fall 2025 | Register for Confirmation I | Register for Confirmation II | Will Be Confirmed |
|--|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 10th Grade | | Fall 2024 | Spring 2025 |
| 9th Grade | Fall 2024 | Fall 2025 | Spring 2026 |
| 8th Grade | Fall 2024 | Fall 2025 | Spring 2026 |
| 7th Grade | Fall 2025 | Fall 2026 | Spring 2027 |
| 6th Grade | Fall 2026 | Fall 2027 | Spring 2028 |
| 5th Grade | Fall 2027 | Fall 2028 | Spring 2028 |

If your child is enrolled in an independent Catholic school, please contact Liz Turnwald (turnwald@bc.edu) to see which Confirmation class(es) you should register for.