



ARCHDIOCESE OF BOSTON
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April 23, 2024

To the parents, pastors, clergy, and lay catechetical leaders who are involved in confirmation preparation – thank you! We learn in the Catechism that “*Preparation for Confirmation should aim at leading the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and a more lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit - his actions, his gifts, and his biddings - in order to be more capable of assuming the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life*” (CCC, 1309). This is important and beautiful work; we are grateful for your efforts.

You have likely heard that the Cardinal decided to lower the normal age of reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation in the Archdiocese of Boston from around the age of 16 (or 10th or 11th grade) to around the ages of 13-14 (or 8th grade).

What follows is a set of resources and information to help you implement this change within your parish. As the Cardinal points out in his letter, the Secretariat for Evangelization and Discipleship supports parishes throughout the Archdiocese; don’t hesitate to reach out for guidance on navigating this change in the age for Confirmation and with your efforts to evangelize and catechize people of all ages.

Come Holy Spirit!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cristiano B. Barbosa".

Bishop Cristiano B. Barbosa

Cabinet Secretary for Evangelization and Discipleship

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark O'Connell".

Bishop Mark O'Connell

Vicar General