



CONFIRMATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION
HOSTED BY THE

CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

A faith-filled pilgrimage for the children of our diocese

FOUR REASONS TO HOST CONFIRMATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION FOR CHILDREN AT THE CATHEDRAL OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION IN SPRINGFIELD.

The Mother Church

The word “catholic” means “universal.” We are part of a world-wide community of faith. The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield is the diocesan symbol of our universal faith, the Mother Church of the diocese. The Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion complete a person’s initiation into the Catholic, universal Church. Receiving these sacraments at the Cathedral will be a powerful experience, an experience which will remind everyone that what we believe and how we live as Catholics must go beyond our local communities and into the world!

Apostolic succession

The diocesan bishop is a successor of the apostles, an unbroken line of bishops from the beginning of Christianity starting with the apostles appointed by Christ Himself. Our bishop is our connection and communion with the universal community of the Catholic Church throughout the world, as well as our rich faith history. To celebrate the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion with the diocesan bishop at the Cathedral is fitting.

A pilgrimage

A pilgrimage is a journey to a sacred place to come to know God better. Every Catholic should visit their Mother Church, their Cathedral, at least once. Making a pilgrimage to the Mother Church is a spiritual journey. Our children, while on this journey, will be sealed with the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit through Confirmation, will receive Jesus Christ for the first time in the Holy Eucharist, and ultimately come to know God better.

Championship game

If your child’s sports team makes it to the championship game in Chicago, your child would be thrilled, and you would feel the joy of that excitement. Likely, you would not hesitate to drive several hours to attend the game, possibly book a hotel room, and deal with the added expenses. In fact, you would celebrate it because this is possibly a once in a lifetime opportunity! Confirmation and First Holy Communion are just that! They are the championship game for your child’s faith, they are a once in a lifetime opportunity, and the Cathedral is the arena in which it is being played.

Visit dio.org/confirmation for more information