

## Confirmation Candidate Expectations

**1. Register** –First, you need to be registered for IGNITE-afternoon or evening- sessions. During this online process, there is a simple box to click to enroll in the Confirmation program. There is also a \$25 sacramental fee.

**2. Prayer** – It is important that you are spiritually ready when you receive the sacrament of Confirmation. We suggest that you set aside at least 5 minutes every day to pray. You can read Scripture, recite learned prayers, share with Jesus what you're feeling or just sit in silence before our Heavenly Father. It is difficult to have a relationship with Jesus if we do not spend time with Him. Let prayer strengthen your connection with God!

**3. Attend Scheduled Events** –The Confirmation Schedule is published online. Please note that the interviews and practice will be determined at a later date. The program is comprised of the following elements:

- a. Initial Parent/Guardian and Candidate Meeting is **September 16<sup>th</sup> following 10am Mass**. Parents will sign up for providing lunch with other parents for our Confirmation Sessions and Retreat.
- b. Confirmation Sessions will include attending the 10am Mass as a large group. Sessions will take place on Sundays at St. Mary's in the Parish Center. We will begin by attending **10am Mass** as a group. Lunch will be provided after mass for the teens and our sessions will end at 1pm.
- c. Candidate/Sponsor Session – This session will take place on **Sunday, January 13** with a format that is similar to your regular sessions. If your sponsor is able to be present for 10am Mass it would be a wonderful opportunity to celebrate the Eucharist together. We will have lunch and begin our session at 11:30am. This session will consist of time for you to reflect with your sponsor, a witness from a previous Confirmation sponsor, and more details for your sponsors to know about our Confirmation program. This session will most likely finish around 12:30 instead of the normal 1pm finish time.
- d. The BTC Confirmation Retreat- **February 3 beginning with 10:00 a.m. Mass until 3:30 p.m.**
- e. Confirmation Practice at St. Mary with sponsor (if sponsor is unable to attend, a parent must attend in their place)- **after Ash Wednesday Mass @ 8pm.**
- f. Confirmation Interview – At St. Mary's on **February 27** attend a 10 minute interview. Candidates will choose times when the date is closer.
- g. Confirmation Liturgy at St. Mary Church- **March 13 at 6:30**

**4. Missed Events** – Candidates who miss a session will be asked to complete a written make up assignment. If two sessions are missed, the candidate must meet with Marcia Nachtman and Father Anderson to review readiness to receive the sacrament. Candidates must attend a Confirmation retreat. Dates and times of area retreats will be made available if the candidate has a conflict with the BTC retreat date.

**5. Choose your Confirmation Saint name** – You are encouraged to use your baptismal name (your first or middle name) if it is a saint's name, but you are free to choose a new saint's name. Try to find a saint that you relate to and want to emulate. The website [www.catholic.org/saints/](http://www.catholic.org/saints/) provides a variety of saints to choose from. Once you have selected a saint complete the Patron Saint Report form found the cluster website. Please use your own words to complete this. Your Patron Saint Report is due on **October 28**.

**6. Choose your sponsor** – Every candidate must have a sponsor. A sponsor must be at least 16 years old, a fully initiated and practicing Catholic in good standing with the Church. A parent may NOT be a confirmation sponsor since they already have a special relationship with the candidate. Refer to the "Sponsor Requirements" form on the cluster website for more details. Once chosen, send your sponsor the Confirmation Sponsor Form. Then have the completed form turned in by **November 11**.

**7. Christian Service** – Service to the Church and the community is an integral part of living our faith. Serving others as the hands and feet of Christ is our way of answering our baptismal call to love and follow Christ through our actions. The "Christian Service" form details this component of the Confirmation program and must be **completed and returned on the date of the Confirmation Retreat February 3**.

**8. Confirmation Interview**– All candidates must sign up for a 10-minute interview on **February 27**. Sign up will be closer to the date posted.

**9. Final Form** – Complete and sign the Confirmation Candidate Final Form and return by **December 9**. This form provides information that is used in printing the Confirmation certificate and program. It also provides a statement of faith that the candidate signs that demonstrates their personal intent to be confirmed in the Catholic Church.

**10. Picture** – we make posters for each of the churches so people can see who is preparing for this sacrament. We do this so the candidates can be prayed for by our community! Please bring your school picture to Marcia (during a session, to Religious Ed, or drop them off to the office) as soon as you receive them from school.