



Confirmation

Year One Preparation

Parent Orientation



Opening Prayer

Lord, we ask your grace, your blessing, and your guidance on our youth as they begin their preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. May this journey be a time of true openness of our minds and hearts to the Great Commandment of Jesus: To love God with all our heart, all our mind, all our soul; and to love our neighbors as ourselves. The greatest message of Jesus is the call to mercy—to bring healing, compassion, hope, charity, and justice to a broken and hurting world; to bring kindness and goodness to our relationships each day at home, at school, at work, and in our neighborhood. May we all take up this call and the invitation of Pope Francis to embark upon a “revolution of mercy” for the healing of the world.

For this we pray in your Son’s name, Jesus, the One who showed mercy to all he encountered, the One who calls us to the same. Amen



Agenda

- Welcome & Introduction
- Review Schedule
- COVID-19 and Safety Measures
- Material Review - *Called to Mercy*
- Expectations
- Service
- Sponsor
- Confirmation Name
- Catechists & Peer Ministers
- Questions



Schedule

- Candidate Orientation - 9/19/21
- Class meeting dates: 10/10/21; 11/14/21; 12/12/21; 1/23/22 & 2/27/22
- Service & Solidarity Retreat is 3/27/22
- Rite of Acceptance: 4/24/22

- **Schedule can be downloaded at:**
<https://assumptionparish.org/confirmation-prep>



Candidate Orientation

- Next Sunday, September 19, 2021
- Candidate must be registered in the Confirmation Preparation Program to attend
- Directly following the 5:30pm Sunday Night Youth Mass



COVID-19 & Safety Measures

- All in-person gatherings require masks
- Social Distancing guidelines will be observed
- Hand sanitizing stations will be set-up
- Health Screening



Screening

Please complete Parts I and II below for each child before they attend Mass or Confirmation Preparation. This screening is performed at home and does not need to be submitted to the parish. If you answer YES to any of the symptoms listed or any of the screening questions below, DO NOT send your child to Mass or Confirmation Prep.

Part I: Symptoms Consistent With COVID-19

1. Does your child have any of the following symptoms?

- Fever of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater*
- New cough
- Shortness of breath
- Difficulty breathing
- Loss of taste or smell
- Headache
- Bodyache
- Chills
- Sore throat
- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Congestion/runny nose

Part II: Close Contact/Potential Exposure

1. In the past 14 days, has your child or any other member of your household tested positive for COVID-19?

2. Is your child or any other member of your household assumed to be positive for COVID-19 based on symptoms or a healthcare provider's assessment?

3. In the past 14 days, has your child been in close contact (within 6 feet for at least 10 minutes) of anyone who either tested positive for COVID-19 or is assumed to be positive?

4. In the past 14 days, has your child or any member of your household been on a commercial flight or traveled outside of the State of New Jersey to an area on the [NJ Travel Advisory List](#)?



Materials: Called To Mercy

<https://www.calledtomercy.com/>

Big Picture View

At the heart of the formation experience of this program are Jesus' teachings and the Church's call to live as people of mercy. All the online learning modules for this program lead down this singular path: to understand what it means to be a person of mercy and to commit our lives to living mercifully toward others. This is what Pope Francis means when he says, "This is the Lord's most powerful message: mercy" (homily, March 17, 2013).



Materials: Called To Mercy

Unique Approach

- Called to Mercy combines online learning modules that the young people will complete on their own with gathered sessions.
- The online learning modules are accessed through a website application, using any type of device that can connect to the Internet.
- The gathered sessions will meet once per month for prayer, reflection, and review of the completed online module. Small groups will discuss each module and how they correspond to the YouCAT and the Scriptures.



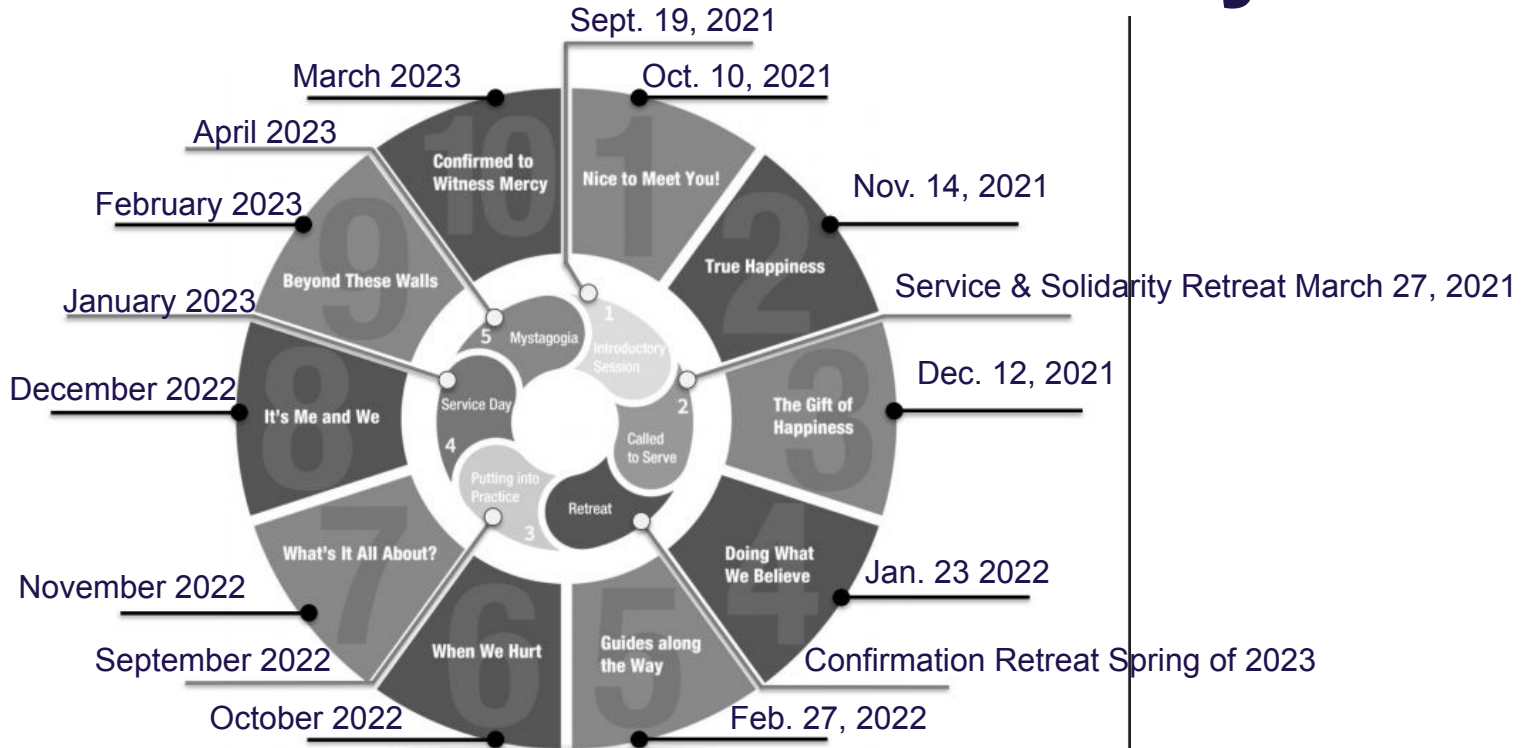
Materials: Called To Mercy

Each young person will need two things in order to complete the online e-learning modules:

- a smartphone, tablet (such as an iPad or Kindle), laptop, or desktop computer (The modules are accessed through a website, so any web-enabled device that can access the Internet will work.)
- Internet access (modem, Wi-Fi, or cellular connection)



Materials: Called To Mercy





Materials: Called To Mercy

Log-In and Access Code Information

1. Go to <https://mlearn.smp.org/enroll>
2. Enter Section Code: dfcq9xq9
3. Enter parent/guardian information and young person information.
4. Read and agree to the terms of service. If the young person is under 13 years of age, a parent/guardian must agree to the terms.
5. Receive a confirmation e-mail. (Both the parent/guardian and the young person will receive this.)
6. Open the e-mail and click on the link to reset your password. Create a new password and save changes. Then click “Continue.”
7. Log in with your e-mail address and password.
8. Select your course and begin with learning module 1.
9. Move through the 10 modules sequentially, completing them by the dates indicated.



Expectations

- Full participation in on-line and in-person sessions
- Bring Bible, YouCAT, and writing utensil to each session
- Participation at Mass
- Full Family Participation



Service

Being a Christian, a Catholic, and a disciple of Christ calls us to live our lives according to the example and instructions Jesus himself gave us. This is our mission as Church! One of the most important lessons Jesus taught us was that we must be willing to be a servant to all people in His name. This means that we must actually DO something to be a disciple of Christ! By doing community service, we demonstrate a willingness to show Christian responsibility to our mission. Therefore, all Candidates are asked to complete a minimum of 25 hours of service and to complete a brief service reflection.

- Log sheet and Catholic Social Teaching reflection prompts are available for use and can be found at: <https://assumptionparish.org/confirmation-prep>
- Service hours and reflection will be due in the Spring of 2023
- <https://www.jerseycares.org/>
- <https://springstreetcdc.org/table-of-hope/>



Sponsor

The primary responsibility of the sponsor is to provide the candidate prayerful support and guidance in his or her Christian walk. Being a sponsor is a lifelong commitment. A sponsor takes on the role of a spiritual parent who “brings the candidate to receive the sacrament, presents him to the minister for the anointing, and will later help him to fulfill his baptismal promises faithfully under the influence of the Holy Spirit” (*Rite of Confirmation* 5).

A sponsor must have these qualities:

1. sufficient maturity to fulfill their function (at least 16 years old)
2. membership in the Roman Catholic Church - having received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist
3. be practicing the Roman Catholic faith; attending Mass regularly (Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation) and living according to their baptismal promises
4. **not be a parent** of the Confirmation candidate.



Sponsor

During the time of preparation, sponsors are encouraged to take an active role in the Confirmation program and meet with their candidates on a regular basis for faith sharing. It will be up to the candidates and their sponsors to set up times for the two to get together.

- Sponsor forms will be digital and accessible via the parish website in the winter



Confirmation Name

To reinforce the connections between Baptism and Confirmation, candidates are encouraged to be confirmed with their baptismal or given name. The act of reaffirming the name given them at Baptism is a way for them to confirm their baptismal promises. Candidates who decide to take a new Confirmation name should be encouraged to do so thoughtfully and seriously. The name might reflect a Christian ideal or goal or value they wish to strive for. Perhaps they wish to honor a saint whose holiness or charitable works have inspired them.



Catechists & Peer Ministers

- Catechists Needed!
- Ministerial Roles for Youth at our Parish
 - Freshmen & Sophomores: Music Ministry & Ushers
 - Juniors & Seniors (Post Confirmation): Peer Ministers, Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Music Ministry & Ushers



Question & Answer

Thank You!