



July 21, 2021

Dear Parent(s):

Hello, my name is Miranda Fitzpatrick, welcome to Year Two of Confirmation Preparation! I am thrilled to be serving as your new Youth Minister at Christ the King Parish. I just finished my masters in Theology at the University of Notre Dame in the Echo Graduate Program. My formation included working for two years in a parish in South Jersey, living in an intentional faith community, and taking my courses over the summer on campus or online during the year while I was in New Jersey. Before my masters I studied Theology and Psychology at Saint Anselm College in New Hampshire. I grew up with my three older brothers and parents in Connecticut and I am so excited that my many experiences in life have brought me here to Christ the King. I am really looking forward to getting to know each of you through Confirmation Preparation and parish life.

Our Confirmation Preparation Process is designed as a two-year program. But it does not have to happen in two years, or even all 4 years of high school. Our vision is that we provide an environment for you and your teen to become more involved in your faith. Hopefully this leads to your teen making the conscious decision to *choose* the faith that you chose for them at their Baptism. Our **Youth Ministry**, however, is open for **all four years of high school** if your child chooses to participate! We hope you will consider it as one of the many avenues to stay involved in our parish and live out your faith as a fully Confirmed Catholic after this final year of preparation.

I know many of you are well informed on our Sacramental preparation, but I've included the details again below for your convenience. You are invited to review the following to remind yourself of our Confirmation Preparation process.

- † There are many different high schools represented in our Youth Ministry, from freshmen to seniors. **With that being said, I have done my best to look at as many school calendars as possible to choose these dates.** *The Antioch Retreat dates were given to you last year! It can be found again on the attached sheet.*
- † There are **7 mandatory topics** that your teen must attend. Each topic is offered twice a year. Many of your teens have attended some of these already, **every** topic must be attended before your teen receives their Confirmation. Once you attend one topic, you do not have to attend that topic again. These are for **TEENS AND AT LEAST ONE PARENT.**
- † There is a **service component** that your teen must complete in conjunction with the Confirmation Prep Topics, Retreats, and overall involvement in Youth Ministry. I understand that your teen might have service hour requirements for their school, but as part of their Confirmation Process it is important that they take part in the service opportunities we have through our Parish. We ask that your teen completes **3 service**

projects/opportunities each year of their two-year preparation for the Sacrament.

- † **I hope that you will take these dates and mark them on your calendar now.** I understand that family emergencies, or other instances, might come up throughout the year that might come in conflict with these dates, but please know that I am giving you these dates now and hope that you understand the role I have in regards to the requirements that are needed for your teen to receive their Confirmation. Please know that I am willing to work with you, as long as you are willing to work with me, if conflict arises throughout the year.
- † Throughout the year we will need many **parent volunteers**, such as with the Retreats and through the community service components and we hope that you will take every opportunity given to be involved in your teen's Confirmation Preparation Process!
- † I will be meeting **one-on-one at the end of summer/beginning of school** with each freshman – I will have sign-up sheets as it gets closer.
- † Keep an eye out for emails regarding **Youth Ministry** programs throughout the year!

Attached to this letter are the Important Dates for you to mark on your calendars. As well as a Youth Ministry Registration form. *Please make sure you put ALL DATES on your calendar!*

Please let me know if you have any questions: (973) 539-4955 x155 or you can e-mail me at ctk@boldym.com!

I look forward to meeting and working with you all!

In Christ,



Miranda Fitzpatrick
Coordinator of Youth Ministry
Church of Christ the King

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