

2021-2022 **REVELATION** CONFIRMATION CLASS PACKET



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL TEEN CONFIRMATION

REVELATION 2021-2022

INFORMATIONAL MEETING Aug. 11, 2021

Dean Kovacs, Coordinator of Youth Ministry

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WELCOME CONFIRMATION TEENS AND PARENTS!

Aug. 11, 2021

Parents & Teens,

Welcome to the St. Vincent de Paul Teen Confirmation program & if you've attended Genesis class previously, it's glad to have you back!! We are excited to start the Revelation Class of 2021-22. We know during our program, not only will you (or your teen) be prepared to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation but will also make lasting friendship and importantly come to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ.

Confirmation is not a graduation from the faith, but in many ways just the beginning. Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace. It unites us more perfectly to the Church, giving us special strength from the Holy Spirit to be witnesses of Christ, spreading & defending the faith by word and deed (CCC 1285). It is the same outpouring of the Holy Spirit that the Apostles received on the day of Pentecost which equipped them in their mission to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ (CCC 1302). Through this great and necessary sacrament, the Holy Spirit will increase His gifts in you, unite you more perfectly with Jesus, and help you know your identity as a son or daughter of the Father (CCC 1303). This sacrament marks the beginning of the Christian life. It makes it possible to live our faith and to become the saints God has called us to be.

We have an amazing confirmation team at St. Vincent de Paul. These faithful men and women are all dedicated to serving the teens. They are excited to journey with them during this time to help them receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and to encourage them to grow in their faith. It is our hope and prayer that through this program, the teens will discover the gift of our faith and will all be equipped to become faithful & fruitful disciples of Jesus Christ.

We are looking forward to this year and are eager to work hard to provide the most faith-filled & effective program as possible. Our confirmation program is structured according to the norms and guidelines set forth by Archbishop Daniel Cardinal DiNardo and we will continue to present the topics in a dynamic and relatable way. It is a blessing to be a part of this incredible ministry and we all look forward to this exciting (& seemingly ever changing) year. Thank you for allowing us to serve your family and know of our prayers for you! Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns!

In Christ,

Dean Kovacs

Coordinator of Youth Ministry

St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church

(713) 663-3524/dkovacs@svdp-edu.org

Revelation

Year 2 Catholic High School Teens and Returning Teens attending Non-Catholic High School

Revelation classes will be more “catechetical” in nature. These classes will have deeper theology and more specific sacramental theology in preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Scripture, Catechism and the Lifeteen Purpose Confirmation program resources will be used as the main materials used in this class, in addition to videos and resources relevant to the topic being presented and discussed that night.

Material will be presented in a way that emphasizes small group discipleship and evangelization. It will not be a typical classroom setting. Jesus taught in small groups and met his disciples where they were at in life. We want to strive to pass on the faith to teens in a similar format, focusing on personal relationships and encounters with Jesus.

Lifeteen Purpose App: You should receive an email inviting you to set up a Lifeteen account. Download the app for the Confirmation calendar and paperwork due dates.



2021-2022 Revelation Topic & Class Schedule

Parent Meeting Wednesday August 11

September 1- Revelation Session 1: Faith & Reason/ Desire/ Is God Real?

September 15: Revelation Session 2: Creation, Fall & The Problem of Evil

September 29: Revelation Session 3: ***Baptismal Certificate/Retreat Sign Up Deadline/Sponsor Form Due***-
Salvation History & The Coming of Jesus

October 13: Revelation Session 4: Paschal Mystery of Jesus, Why does it Matter?

October 27: Revelation Session 5: The Apostles & The Catholic Church

November 5-7: Confirmation Retreat

November 17: Revelation Session 6: The Holy Spirit & Life of Discipleship

No classes until 2022. Good luck on Midterms on Merry Christmas!

January 5: Diocesan Required Circle of Grace Class for **ALL Confirmation Students**

January 12: Revelation Session 7: The Eucharist & The Life of a Disciple in the Church

January 26: Revelation Session 8:) | ***Service Form/Saint Name/Letter to the Bishop Due*** TOB, Morality and Tough Questions of the Faith Night

February 9: Revelation Session 9: Sacraments & Confirmation

February 23: Revelation Session 10: Witnesses to the Faith, Vocations & Ongoing Relationship with the Holy Spirit

****Saturday March 26:** 1st Choice Confirmation Mass for Revelation. *Rehearsal **Mon.** March 21 at 7:00 if so*

****Saturday March 5:** 2nd Choice Confirmation Mass for Revelation. *Rehearsal **Mon.** Feb 28 at 7:00 if so*

****Saturday Feb 26:** 3rd Choice Confirmation Mass for Revelation. *Rehearsal **Thurs.**
Feb 24 at 7:00 if so*

Broken down by the numbers:

Revelation: Over the course of 1 year, Revelation students will participate in 15 hours of class instruction plus service hours and retreat.

Important Documents for Revelation Students

- Retreat Sign Up Deadline/Baptismal Certificate/Sponsor Form **(due Sept 29, 2021)**
- Letter to Cardinal, Confirmation Form, Service Hour Form **(due Jan. 26, 2022)**
- Pre-Confirmation Interview- February 2021 **(date TBD)**

Special Accommodations

If your child requires special accommodations during Confirmation class, please schedule a meeting with the Confirmation coordinator prior to the start of classes so we can best accommodate your child's needs.

SAMPLE CONFIRMATION NIGHT SCHEDULE

Confirmation Revelation Week 5 12-05-20- Why Be Catholic/ Why the Church

7:00-7:10: Check in & setup

7:10-7:20: Question of the Week: Is Jesus' second coming/the Rapture going to happen soon?

7:20-7:35: Caleb: Why the Church

7:35-7:50: Small Group Discussion

7:50-8:05: Caleb: Why be Catholic

8:05-8:20: Small Group Discussion

8:25-8:30: Saint of the Week, Closing Announcements

Group Closing: *Hail and blessed be the hour and moment in which the Son of God was born Of the most pure Virgin Mary, at midnight, in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold. In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to hear my prayer and grant my desires through the merits of Our Savior Jesus Christ, and of His blessed Mother. Amen*

Small Group Discussion: Begin in prayer and use the questions as a guide for discussion

- Thoughts or questions regarding the question of the week or the talk?
- What have you heard about the role of the Pope in the Church? How do we know that Jesus wanted a pope? (Mt. 16:16-20)
- What do you think Papal Infallibility means? Why do you think the Church needs this gift? What sort of consequences would the church suffer if it didn't have a pope?
- How do you think people view the Church? What teachings of the Church do you think people have a hard time understanding? In what ways can we help them understand the teachings better?
- Why do you think the Catholic Church is so different than any other Church? Why do you think it matters if we are Catholic or not?
- In Matthew 28, Jesus sends His apostles out to evangelize the nations. The Church from the beginning was missionary. Why is it important to bring people to the Catholic faith? In what ways can we aid the church in her mission to proclaim the Good News?

Confirmation Retreat Registration (Due Sept. 29)

SVdP Confirmation Retreat will be offered **November 5-7, 2021**. The retreat is the most fulfilling experience of the whole Confirmation program. It's going to be a blast!

Archdiocesan Confirmation regulations require students to attend a retreat as part of their Confirmation preparation. If you are unable to attend the SVdP retreat, a retreat with another parish offered before Confirmation must be attended.

Forest Glen Christian Camp
34 Forest Glen
Huntsville, TX 77340

Transportation from SVdP & all meals from Fri. dinner to Sun. lunch will be provided

Retreat Fee included in Confirmation Payment
Packing list and more details will be emailed prior to retreat

Confirmation Candidate: _____

School/Grade: _____

T-Shirt Size (ADULT S-XL) (included in Retreat Fee): _____

Special Dietary Needs/Allergies: _____

Parent Names: _____

Parent Email & Phone #: _____

High Ropes: One part of the retreat includes a high ropes course (zip line, rock wall, etc.). We pay an additional fee per person to participate in this activity. Please indicate below if you would like to participate. Your fee will be covered by your retreat registration.

_____ **Yes, count me in!**

_____ **No thanks**

Medications: There will be at least one Registered Nurse on retreat with us. All medications should be administered by the RN to ensure accurate time and dosage of medication. Please indicate below if you will be sending medications with your child. Medications should be in original bottle with administering instructions.

_____ **I will not be sending medications**

_____ **I will be sending medications**

Type of medication/dosage/purpose/instructions (attach additional page if necessary):

Over the Counter Medications: Please sign below if you give the Registered Nurse permission to administer over the counter medications (Advil, Tylenol, Benedryl, etc.) to your child if needed.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

CHOOSING A SPONSOR (Form due Sept. 29)

Each candidate must have an eligible sponsor. Sponsors are to be spiritual guides for the candidates, as well as witnesses to the Church that the candidates are indeed ready to receive this sacrament. The sponsor's function is to ensure that the person confirmed behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the duties inherent in this sacrament. To be eligible, a sponsor must:

- Intend to fulfill their commitment
- Be at least sixteen years of age
- Be a baptized Catholic who has been confirmed and has received the Blessed Eucharist
- Not be the father or mother of the candidate
- If married, must be married in the Catholic church
- Not to be under any canonical penalty; i.e, not be excommunicated, living in a state of mortal sin, etc.

The church says it is desirable that the sponsor chosen be the one who undertook this role at baptism, their godparent. It is important that the sponsors participate in the preparation program. The Confirmation rehearsal and the Confirmation Mass are mandatory requirements for the sponsor (a proxy is allowed if the sponsor is unable to attend these events). The role of the sponsor is more than just an honorary position. It should be someone who can be a guide for the candidate through the entire preparation process. Sponsors and Confirmation Saint names will be discussed in class.

St. Vincent de Paul Church

6800 Buffalo Speedway - Houston, TX 77025-1405 - (713)667-9111 fax (713) 667-3453

Confirmation Sponsor Affidavit (Due Sept. 29 for Revelation)

Name of Sponsor _____

Address _____

Child to be Confirmed _____

Scheduled Confirmation date (if known) _____

FROM THE CODE OF CANON LAW: SPONSOR FOR THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION MUST BE CATHOLICS WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED AND CONFIRMED AND HAVE RECEIVED THE SACRAMENT OF EUCHARIST. THEY MUST BE IN GOOD STANDING WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND MUST LEAD A LIFE IN HARMONY WITH THE FAITH IN KEEPING WITH THE FUNCTION TO BE UNDERTAKEN (CANON #874 & #893)

I am a parishioner at St. Vincent de Paul YES

NO – I'm a parishioner at _____

Please initial the affirmations that apply

_____ I am at least 16 years of age

_____ I have celebrated the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation

_____ I am single.

_____ I am in a valid Catholic marriage (celebrated in the Catholic Church)

_____ I participate in Sunday Mass regularly

_____ I shall give Christian witness to and pray for the person I am sponsoring

_____ I understand the responsibility I am undertaking and have both the desire and intention to fulfill it faithfully

Signature of Sponsor _____

Today's Date _____

BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE

(Due Sept. 29 for Revelation)

Please adhere to the following guidelines when submitting the baptismal certificate:

- Submit a **COPY** of your child's baptismal certificate. Do not submit an original. A photocopy, picture, or scanned copy will work as long as all of the information is legible. EVERYONE must submit a baptismal certificate, even if your child was baptized at SVdP.
- If the baptismal certificate is in another language, please translate the information by either writing directly onto the baptismal certificate or attaching a separate sheet.
- The following information is needed for sacramental records. If all of this information is not listed on the baptismal certificate, please include it when turning in the copy of the certificate: **Child's name, date of birth, city of birth, parents' names, Godparents' names, date of baptism, name AND address of church of baptism, name of clergy member who performed the baptism**. If any of this information is missing or illegible on the certificate, please include the information with certificate or write directly on the certificate copy.
- If your child had a valid, Christian baptism, but was not baptized at a Catholic church, please include the certificate of Profession of Faith into the Catholic church.

Confirmation Service Form
(Due Jan. 26, 2022)

Name of Candidate

Due to different familial circumstances and concerns about Covid-19, we are have a couple changes to our service requirements. Teens are responsible for keeping track of their service hours using this form. Due to limited opportunities at SVdP, exclusive parish hours will not be required. ANY community service completed by the student through school, church, sports teams, scouts, NHS, etc. will be counted. Additionally, we are asking teens to complete either two family service projects with a short reflection essay on both (Please see next page for explanation on this requirement) or to complete 1 service projects/trips with a short reflection on both.

Community Service Hours (5)

Date	Event	Hours	Supervisor Signature	Contact #

Service Project (Family Service Project)

Date	Activity (please attach reflection paragraph)

I verify that the hours documented were indeed completed as described.

Candidate Signature

Date

Family Service Project Guidelines

St. Mother Theresa said: “If you want to change the world, go home and love your family.” The purpose of the Family Service Project requirement is to change our home world by coming up with some ways that you can intentionally serve members of your family. These should be things that you aren’t already asked to do (like chores for an allowance) and should be things that take some time and effort. Some questions you might want to ask yourself before deciding what to do are:

- Can I do a better job of showing some members of my family that I love them?
- How do the members of my family feel loved?
- What are some ways that I can show this love? What would really mean a lot to my mom/dad/brother/sister/grandma/grandpa, etc.?
- Who are the people in my family who I have a harder time showing love to? (These should be the people you serve first!)

Here are some examples of family service projects:

- Inviting your family to a special dinner prepared by you. You do the shopping, the cooking, the serving, and the cleaning up! It could be something as simple as grilled cheese and tomato soup. It’s the act of love and service and the quality time spent with your family that counts!
- Planning a special activity or outing for you and someone in your family.
- Running errands for an elderly member of your family who may not be able to get out much and then spending some quality time with them.
- Planning a family game night with no electronics. Just fun games and family time!
- Writing an appreciation letter to each member of your family.
- Plan and lead a family prayer walk or bible study.

Be creative and intentional! The opportunities to show love are almost endless! Once you have come up with and carried out two of your ideas, write a short, 2-3 paragraph reflection on what you chose to do, why, and the impact it made on you and your family.



Letter to Cardinal DiNardo Instructions (Due Jan. 29)

Write a personal, **TYPED** letter to the Cardinal (addressed “Dear Your Eminence,”) that should include **at least six** of the following points, YOUR NAME, AGE, SCHOOL ATTENDING, and GRADE. The letter should be 1 page long. **Don’t forget to sign your letter at the bottom!**

1. REASON you wish to be confirmed
2. HOW you HAVE PREPARED yourself for the reception of the Sacrament
3. WHO you have chosen to be your sponsor & WHY
4. NAME you have chosen for Confirmation and the REASON
5. WHAT THE SIGNS OF CONFIRMATION MEAN TO YOU (select one)
 1. Renewal of Baptismal Vows
 2. Laying on the hands
 3. Anointing with oil
 4. Sign of the Cross
6. HOW have you put YOUR GIFTS/TALENTS into ACTION THROUGH WITNESS to others this past year
7. WHAT ONE THING meant the MOST TO YOU through the CONFIRMATION PROCESS
8. Has ANYTHING CHANGED in the way you SEE YOURSELF as a member of the SVdP CHURCH FAMILY?
9. If you could CHOOSE ONE GIFT & ONE FRUIT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, which ONE WOULD YOU CHOOSE & WHY?
10. Name an area of the church in which you would like TO SERVE as you become a FULL MEMBER of the church as a result of receiving Confirmation.

Frequently Asked Questions



How many classes is my child allowed to miss?

- You have a maximum of two absences per Confirmation year to be eligible for Confirmation, unless there are extenuating circumstances such as severe illness.



How old must my child be to be confirmed?

- Teen must be in high school, and must be at least a sophomore to receive Confirmation.



What credentials puts my child in the Revelation classes?

- Teen must have been registered and actively participated in the Confirmation Genesis program the previous year or enrolled in a Catholic High School their freshmen year of high school.



My child can't make the retreat. What do I do?

- We really want your child to go on retreat with their fellow classmates here at SVdP! However, if it is impossible, then they may attend another Confirmation retreat with another parish after clearing it with the Confirmation Coordinator. A retreat is an Archdiocesan requirement for Confirmation prep. The retreat typically occurs Veterans Day Weekend during the second year.



What if I can't make the Confirmation Mass?

- As long as all requirements are completed, students can celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation with another parish at a later date if a scheduling conflict arises.



My child goes to public high school, but went to Catholic grade school. How come that doesn't allow them to just do Confirmation in one year?

- Catholic theology classes in high school are very different than grade school courses. We want your child to be as prepared as possible for the Sacrament and gain the most out of this experience. We also need to follow the Diocesan guidelines for Confirmation prep which states that those attending non-Catholic high school must attend two years of Confirmation preparation.



What are some good ideas for service hours with SVDP?

- Becoming part of our Peer Teen Leader program is a great way to earn SVdP service hours. More information and the application can be found on our website: <http://svdp-houston.com/lifeteenpt!>
- Help is always needed in our Nursery during Masses and at special events. Contact Melissa to sign up!
 - Nursery Coordinator, Melissa Pruet: mpruet@svdp-edu.org
- We need help with the Live Streaming the Mass & serving the 5pm mass. Please contact for more details
- Help is always needed at SVdP Fundraisers like FunFest & other special events. Details will be posted on the website & email reminders.

Parent Resources

The following resources are just a few among the wealth of information that is available for navigating the parenting of a teenager and confronting some of the tough issues. We've decided to include additional resources on pornography, as this issue we find is one of the most prevalent among teenagers today. It is also important to periodically monitor the safety of the social media apps your teens are using.

- **Lifeteen Parent Life:** <https://ltparentlife.com/>
 - Free access to hundreds of blogs, videos, and resources on marriage, parenting, teenagers, etc.

Resources for Dealing with & Confronting Pornography

- **Catholic Resources:**
 - www.integrityrestored.com (includes weekly podcasts)
 - www.theporneffect.com (focused on young adults)
- **Secular Resources:**
 - www.fightthenewdrug.org (focused on youth)
 - www.fortifyprogram.org (online recovery program for youth- free for those 22 and younger)
- **Apps/Software:**
 - Lifeteen Victory App (accountability and usage tracking- search in app store)
 - <https://www.covenanteyes.com/> (internet accountability and filtering. Does have a fee)
 - <https://protectyoungeyes.com/> (blogs, risk profiles for apps, websites, and devices, etc.)

Resources on Vaping/JUULing/E-cigarettes

- https://e-cigarettes.surgeongeneral.gov/documents/SGR_ECig_ParentTipsheet_508.pdf
- <https://raisingteenstoday.com/vape101-what-parents-need-to-know/>

St. Vincent de Paul Youth Ministry Events & Activities

Confirmation is not a “graduation” from our faith. It’s only the beginning! All high schoolers are encouraged to attend our Life Teen youth group to grow in their faith and community! We would love to have you!

Life Teen Mass: Every Sunday at 5PM. Contemporary worship music and message geared toward teens. Teens are invited to sit at the front left of the church if not seated with their family.

Bible Study: Every Monday from 6-7PM. Join us for fun, lively discussions about various topics and have an opportunity to enhance your prayer life.

Lifeteen: After the Sunday Life Teen Mass till 8:30pm, we meet in the Family Center for a night of faith, fun, & fellowship. Join us for opportunities to make new friends and to grow in your relationship with God in an uplifting and welcoming environment. Visit <https://svdphouston.com/lifeteen> for more details

Retreats & Special Events: We offer several social outings and retreats during the year and the summer. Events will be shared by email or visit <https://svdp-houston.org/life-teen-programs> for more details

Follow us on Instagram!

@st.vincentlifeteen



Email Dean at dkovacs@svdp-edu.org for more info!