



What is Confirmation?

Confirmation is one of the three Sacraments of Initiation in the Catholic Church. Baptism and the Holy Eucharist are the other two. **Confirmation initiates us into a deeper, adult faith and unites us more firmly to Christ. Confirmation calls us to a stronger commitment and involvement in the Church.** It increases the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit in us that we received through Baptism. These gifts are: Wisdom, Understanding, Right Judgment, Courage, Knowledge, Reverence, and Wonder and Awe.

Confirmation Preparation

Students who desire to receive the sacrament of Confirmation are required to participate in a two-year program that is designed especially for the 9th and 10th grades. The program involves specific class work, homework, service to others and Mass attendance.

The more knowledge and understanding students have of their faith and the experience they will gain during these

two years will better prepare them to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and to become stronger Catholic adults. Confirmation should not be considered an ending point -- for our faith journey is lifelong in spiritual growth.

Classes

Students are required to attend all scheduled classes. There is an expectation that students will come to class prepared to learn, participate in activities, and complete on time their assignments as instructed. If a student misses a class due to illness or excused for a significant reason, the class time/material review will be made-up at the discretion of the catechist. In the event of a cancelled class, it will be rescheduled.

Community Service

Community Service is rooted in the Gospel and is a vital part of Christian Life. An important aspect in preparing to receive Confirmation is experiencing the personal effort that service to others entails. Self-giving and sacrifice gives the students the opportunity to imitate Christ as they reach out to others.

Service to others can be defined simply as acts of kindness - large or small - done for the love of Jesus and in His name. There are many opportunities for

service within the Parish, as well as the student's school, neighborhood, and larger community.

Students in the Confirmation Program are **expected to participate in at least ten (10) hours of Community Service each year with at least half connected to the Parish.** We urge students to make a thoughtful effort in choosing and participating in a service(s) to others.

We encourage students to engage in services that they have not experienced before. A brief description of the service experience(s) is due before the Confirmation date.

Mass Participation

The Mass is central to our faith. There is an expectation that students will take responsibility for attending weekly Mass and participate in designated Class Masses. We recognize that many students are dependent on their parents' support for transportation to Mass, particularly when the student is going to a different Mass than their parents.

