JULY 2019
Task Force launched; Comprised of Clergy, Principals & Parish Staff

FEBRUARY 2020
Research begins; conducted interviews, focus groups & online surveys

JANUARY 2020
Priest Survey Sent; 80% in favor of lowering the age of Confirmation

AUGUST 2020
Recommendations made to Archbishop Coakley

INTERVIEWS
Clergy, Catechetical Leaders, Elementary & High School Principals

FOCUS GROUPS
Catholic School Teachers, Catechetical Leaders, Parish Staff, Volunteer Catechists, Parents & Teens

CLERGY ONLINE SURVEYS
- 60% said parental involvement is key
- 58% said catechesis on sacrament is needed

CATHOLIC SCHOOL TEACHER ONLINE SURVEYS
- 50% said the demands of the current guidelines are a barrier to receiving the sacrament

PRINCIPAL ONLINE SURVEYS
- 85% said challenges faced by youth is most important factor in determining the age of Confirmation

GENERAL ONLINE SURVEYS
- 60% said the age should be lowered
- 63% said challenges faced by youth is most important factor in determining the age of Confirmation

KEY THEMES IN FEEDBACK
- Grace of the Sacrament
- Forming Disciples in Youth Ministry
- Parent Involvement & Communication
- Lower the Age
- One Year Program

August 18, 2020 Task Force Recommendations to Archbishop Coakley
- Lower the age of Confirmation and shorten the process to one year, focusing on the grace of the Sacrament;
- Hold significant focus on realistic parent involvement and engagement in the implementation of the change;
- Re-examine youth ministry at the high school level during transition to ensure that we do not leave a gap for current and future teens. If Confirmation is moved, then something dynamic and engaging needs to be added.