



SAINT  
**KATHARINE DREXEL**  
CATHOLIC PARISH

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August 22, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

I am truly delighted to welcome families of our youth in Grades 8 and 9 who have received this introduction letter to this year's preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. This is a very special time in your teen's life of Faith! I always consider it a time for them to make important choices with the guidance of the Holy Spirit; especially to experience their faith as more actively DOING for God and others, than just simply learning about God. This has been part of a two-year process which began last year.

**Youth who are preparing for Confirmation will meet online beginning on Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM – 10:00 AM and one Sunday per month going forward until April 2021 (some sessions are 90 minutes).** We will possibly re-vamp scheduled sessions at the beginning of 2021 to include sessions in person, rather than online. In addition to the monthly meetings, there is independent work assigned and to be completed online by the candidates.

**We expect parents to attend the first session on September 20<sup>th</sup> as well, via Zoom meeting, as well as two more sessions especially for parents and one particularly for parents and Confirmation sponsors. These will also be via Zoom Meeting. *If you or your son or daughter cannot attend this session for any reason, please contact me as soon as possible.***

Enclosed is a schedule of all the sessions and lessons due. The schedule will have better meaning after the program is explained in full at our first meeting. We are planning some extra activities and events, including an important all-morning service activity and another, which is a retreat experience, later in the year. More information about these will be communicated as the year progresses; however, **the dates are important to place on your schedules and to be given the utmost priority.**

**Our celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation is already set for Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021, at 11:00 AM in the Bentleyville Main Church. The Sacrament will be conferred by our pastor, Father Edward L. Yuhas, who has been given the proper faculty by Bishop Zubick, in light of the difficulty in scheduling a bishop during the pandemic, as we experienced in April of 2020 when our planned celebration was postponed.**

The parish should already have on file a special "Sacramental Preparation Registration" form, which you should have submitted to us last year. In case you did not provide us with one, we

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have included an extra one enclosed in this packet for you to return to the parish. The form is necessary to ensure that your child's sacramental record is complete and accurate. It also serves as registration specifically for Confirmation sacramental preparation. All information recorded on this form will be kept strictly confidential. Youth preparing for Confirmation must be baptized and also should have received the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. If your child was NOT baptized at one of the predecessor parishes to Saint Katharine Drexel Parish (Ave Maria, St. Agnes, St. Joseph, St. Oliver Plunkett, St. Thomas Aquinas), then a copy of the baptismal certificate must be submitted with this form. You can obtain a copy of your child's baptismal certificate by calling the church of baptism and requesting it. You must also record the date your child received First Eucharist and the church where the celebration had taken place as well on the form.

We are excited to begin working with all of you in Confirmation preparation. If I can be of any assistance to you prior to the first informational session, please do not hesitate to contact me in the Faith Formation Office at 724-209-1370, ext. 412 or by email at [skddebaugustine@gmail.com](mailto:skddebaugustine@gmail.com).

In Christ's Peace,

Deb Augustine  
Director of Evangelization and Faith Formation