Curriculum

Confirmation Prep uses *Chosen: Your Journey to Confirmation* by Ascension Press. *Chosen* brings together twelve of the most talented and inspiring presenters in the Church today, and is filmed at more that fifty locations, *Chosen* is designed to capture the attention of our youth and present the faith to them in new and unexpected ways. The program seeks to connect with the hearts and minds of our young people on an intellectual, emotional, and spiritual level. Each week, teens will be engaged, challenged, and inspired as they are guide toward a deepening relationship with Christ and a life of committed discipleship.

Chosen also comes along with a Parent Guide that provides an overview of each Lesson and follow-up questions that can help parents spark faith conversations with their child. Additionally, parents interested in gaining an even more thorough idea of what was presented to their child at class are invited to view the videos shown in class via online access. This can be done by following the below directions.

To watch the Chosen videos, follow the below step for Online Access:

1. Go to ascensionpress.com
2. Click on the SIGN IN button in the top right corner of the page
   2a. If you already have an account, login using your e-mail and previous created password on the right side
   2b. If you do not have an account, create one by clicking on become a member on the left side
3. Using the MENU dropdown on the top right corner of the page go to My Dashboard
   3a. If you have already registered for this year's Chosen study, click on Your Library and then chose Chosen- St. John & St. Mary Church
   3b. If you have not registered for this year’s Chosen study, click on Join a Study, then click on Redeem Code and enter **9NKBUM** (for Confirmation I) or **SP2WC5** (for Confirmation II).
6. Once in the Chosen study, click on the appropriate week's videos to view.
Components

Mass Engagement
As Catholics, we believe that the Holy Mass is the source and summit of our faith. Regular Mass attendance (i.e. at least every Sunday and on Holy Days of Obligation) is an expectation of our faith formation families. Confirmation class timing is designed to be in conjunction (either before or after) with a Mass. However, families are welcome to attend any Mass that works for them and their schedule.

Mass participation is encouraged two ways. First through Mass tickets each week that can be found at the entrances of the churches. These should be placed in the offertory basket. Second through Mass Reflections sheets found near the Faith Formation Desk in the New Parish Center at St. John’s or near the Confessionals in the Church at St. Mary’s. 5 Mass Reflections should be completed and turned in to a teen’s table facilitator by their last class.

Reconciliation
As Catholics, we have the beautiful opportunity to experience Christ’s forgiveness of our sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We are obligated to go at least once a year, though the bishops encourage us to go at least once a month.

Teens in Confirmation I are asked to go to confession at least once before their last class of the year.

Class
Confirmation I meets approximately once a month during the faith formation year for a total of 8 classes. Classes are held in the Parish Hall.

Teens should come each week with their books. Teens missing class are expected to make-up the material they missed via online access. Make-up work directions can be found on our website (chelmsfordcatholic.org).

Deep Dives
A common component to all grade levels in family faith formation, Deep Dives are a chance for families to experience faith together through prayer, service, etc. A wide variety of Deep Dives will be offered throughout the year, allowing families to pick ones that fit with their schedules and interests. Confirmation candidates may choose from the general Deep Dive list OR from the Confirmation ONLY Deep Dive list.

Confirmation I is asked to complete AT LEAST 4 Deep Dives before the last class that meet the following requirements:

- of the 4, 1 must be a Teaching Baptism (either Feb. 29th at St. Mary’s OR Mar. 7 at St. John’s both 12:45-2:15pm)
- of the 4, 2 must be attended as a family
- for each Deep Dive completed youth are asked to complete a Reflection; reflection can be found on the website (chelmsfordcatholic.org).
Confirmation II Specific Requirements

Sacramental Paperwork-
All sacramental paperwork is due by Jan. 5th
- Saint Name Form
- Sponsor Form
- Letter to the Bishop
- Sacramental Records (Baptism & 1st Eucharist) on file with parish

Confirmation Retreat
All youth preparing for Confirmation must participate in a retreat. The Chelmsford Collaborative provides two retreats. One at St. John's (Feb. 22) and one at St. Mary's (Dec. 14) each year. Teens are welcome to attend at either parish regardless of where they attend classes. Sign-up for the retreat is done online on a first come first serve basis.

Candidate & Sponsor Night
The role of the sponsor is an important one for those preparing for Confirmation. At this evening sponsors will be invited to help their confirmand reflect and pray on how they can best live out their Christian faith as they prepare for Confirmation and after Confirmation. This evening will be on April 15th from 6:30-8:30pm at St. Mary’s Hall (for ALL Confirmation II). If a sponsor cannot attend, a parent may come in his/her stead.

Interview with Fr. Brian
Fr. Brian has requested that all confirmation candidates complete a 15 min. interview with him before receiving confirmation. This is not meant to be an intimidating event. Fr. Brian just wants the chance to get to know the kids in his parish a little better and having an informal conversation with teens preparing for confirmation is one of the ways he does this. Interview will be schedule in the month proceeding confirmation and candidates should come prepared with a question for Fr. Brian.

Confirmation Mass & Rehearsal Dates
St. Mary’s
St. Mary’s Confirmation will take place Sunday May 17th 2020. There will be a 3:00pm Mass and a 6:00pm Mass. Mass assignment will be made in early spring. There will be a rehearsal on the Friday preceding Confirmation May 15th at 6:30pm OR 8:00pm)

St. John’s
St. Mary’s Confirmation will take place in the fall of 2020 (September or October). Dates from the Bishop’s office for fall confirmation are usually sent out early in the calendar year. As soon as we have been given a date, we will pass it on, along with rehearsal information.
Chelmsford Catholic Collaborative

Confirmation II Requirement Tracking

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- Attend Reconciliation ✓
- Attend Retreat ✓
- Attend Sponsor Candidate Evening ✓

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