



## St. Nicholas Church

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[www.stnickparish.org](http://www.stnickparish.org)

February 4, 2021

Dear Parents & Students:

As you know, it is the tradition of the Church that a Bishop should administer the sacrament of Confirmation. As such, it is a pleasure to announce that Bishop Brennen will be confirming both the 2020 Confirmation students and the 2021 Confirmation students on Sunday, May 2, 2021. The Confirmation Mass is scheduled for 1:00 p.m., but there are a large number of students to be Confirmed so there may be a second Mass that same date, later in the afternoon. Practice will be held on Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Church. Students and their sponsors are expected to attend the practice. **If the student does not attend the practice, it will be assumed that the student will not be confirmed this year.** Parents are welcome to attend the practice, as well. To aid in planning, students are asked to complete and return the enclosed questionnaire no later than March 30, 2021. **Only students who complete and return the enclosed questionnaire will be confirmed.**

Students should be able to fully participate in the Mass and should also be able to respond to the questions asked of them during the administration of the sacrament. Unfortunately, with the Mass dispensation, many of the students have not been attending Mass in person and as a result may be a little rusty in the area of Mass participation. In order to address this concern, the students and parents are encouraged to begin attending Sunday Mass in person each weekend.

Additionally, students should receive the Sacrament Of Reconciliation prior to being Confirmed. Families and sponsors are encouraged to join them. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered each Saturday from 4:15 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. in the Church. An Examination of Conscience is enclosed for use in receiving the sacrament. Monthly participation in this sacrament is highly recommended.

In conversations with some of the students it has been revealed that many of them do not remember their saint name nor do they recall their sponsor. To help the students in this regard, a copy of their respective saint paper is enclosed as well as the Sponsor Worksheet. Students should review this information so as to become familiar with their chosen saint and their sponsor.

Some students have not completed their saint paper, and some have not selected a sponsor. These students will need to select a sponsor and a saint name. A step by step guide is enclosed for use in selecting a saint, including instructions for a Saint Report, to be completed by each student. With regard to sponsors, the sponsor **must** be a practicing Catholic at least 16 years in age who has received the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion and Confirmation. The Code of Cannon Law suggests a godparent although others are permissible. If the sponsor is not a member of St. Nicholas Church, a letter of recommendation must be provided by the sponsor's pastor. The Students are asked to complete the

“Choosing Your Sponsor” form enclosed herein and return it to the office along with the saint report. The sponsor form and saint report should be returned to the parish office no later than March 30, 2021. Those needing assistance with the selection of a saint or sponsor are encouraged to call the parish office. We are here to help.

Additional information/instructions for the day of Confirmation will be forthcoming as it becomes available.

Please do not hesitate to contact the parish office (740) 453-0597 with any questions or concerns you may have or if we can help you in any way.

May God bless you and your family abundantly.

Yours truly in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fr. Martin J. Ralko".

Reverend. Martin J. Ralko

MJR/pab  
Enclosures