

## **2021-22 Youth Ministry Class descriptions for youth in grades 7-12**

**Preparing for Confirmation:** Youth in grades 7-12 will prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation and explore our Catholic faith through Our Lady of the Lake's Explore Four program, which encourages faith exploration through four pillars - study (class), social, service, and faith practice opportunities. There will be 18 scheduled classes (study pillar) between August 22, 2021, and May 4, 2022. Youth preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation are required to attend a minimum of 14 in-person classes to fulfill study requirements for the 2021-22 year. Make up work is required for any in-person class missed and is expected to be turned in to the Faith Formation office within one week of the missed class. Youth will also complete a minimum of 7 total additional Explore Four activities from the pillars of social, service, and faith practice. These opportunities are outlined on the Explore Four Chart and must be completed between June 1, 2021-April 30, 2022. Explore Four credit is earned for social, service, and faith practice activities by completing and submitting the Youth Ministry Explore Four Reflection form found on the parish website under Formation, on the Preparation toward the Sacraments page. This reflection should reveal the students understanding of how their service, social, or faith practice activity relates to, and enriches, life in the Church.

**Grade 7-8 Confirmation Preparation Year 1 (CY1) – Youth in grades 7 & 8 that have received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and in their first year of sacramental preparation for Confirmation.** In addition to the Explore Four requirements listed above all CY1 youth will seek out and invite a qualified family member or friend to commit to being his or her Confirmation sponsor and complete the Sponsor Interview. CY1 youth will also choose and research a Confirmation Patron Saint and write a Biography about that Saint.

**Grade 7-8 Eucharist/Confirmation Preparation Year 1 (CY1) – Youth in Grades 7-8 that have been baptized and are in their first year of sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation. This may also include youth that have not been baptized in the Roman Catholic Church.** In addition to the Explore Four requirements listed above all CY1 youth will seek out and invite a qualified family member or friend to commit to being his or her Confirmation sponsor and complete the Sponsor Interview. CY1 youth will also choose and research a Confirmation Patron Saint and write a Biography about that Saint.

**High School Confirmation Preparation Year 1 (CY1) – Youth in Grades 9-11, that have received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and in their first year of sacramental preparation for Confirmation. This may also include youth that have not been baptized in the Roman Catholic Church.** In addition to the Explore Four requirements listed above all CY1 youth will seek out and invite a qualified family member or friend to commit to being his or her Confirmation sponsor and complete the Sponsor Interview. CY1 youth will also choose and research a Confirmation Patron Saint and write a Biography about that Saint.

**High School Eucharist/Confirmation Preparation Year 1 (CY1) – Youth in Grades 9-11 that have been baptized and are in their first year of sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation. This may also include youth that have not been baptized in the Roman Catholic Church.** In addition to the Explore Four requirements listed above all CY1 youth will seek out and invite a qualified family member or friend to commit to being his or her Confirmation sponsor and complete the Sponsor Interview. CY1 youth will also choose and research a Confirmation Patron Saint and write a Biography about that Saint.

**Grade 8 Confirmation Preparation Year 2 (CY2) – Youth in grade 8 that have received the sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and have completed their first year of an approved Confirmation preparation program.** In addition to the Explore Four requirements listed above, all CY2 youth will participate in an interview with Fr. Seán Martin, write a letter of Intention to the Bishop, and attend a Confirmation Retreat.

**High School Confirmation Preparation Year 2 (CY2) – Youth in grades 9-12 that have received the sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and have completed their first year of an approved Confirmation preparation program.** In addition to the Explore Four requirements listed above, all CY2 youth will participate in an interview with Fr. Seán Martin, write a letter of Intention to the Bishop, and attend a Confirmation Retreat.

**High School Youth Group – All high school youth grades 9-12 – no sacramental requirements.** Youth in grades 9-12 will gather as disciples of Christ to serve the Church, enter into community with one another, and study and live their faith. High school youth are also encouraged to join with family and parish community to explore our faith through the Explore Four pillars of social, service, and faith practice opportunities outlined on the Explore Four Chart.

A Youth Night will be held Wednesday evenings from 7:30-8:30 and we are hoping to also offer a weekly Bible Study, Leadership group, and other small group faith sharing and service groups for high school youth that will be offered at a times still to be determined. The links for these opportunities will be sent out in the Friday Flocknotes. Members of High School Youth Group and/or sub-groups will help run Trunk or Treat festivities, plan and lead the Confirmation retreat, and narrate and act out Shadow Stations of the Cross during Lent. Youth in grades 9-11 will plan and host a Senior dinner at the end of the school year for our graduating seniors of the parish. All high school youth are encouraged to bring a friend and join the fun!