

## Components of St. Mary of the Lake's Confirmation Preparation:

Components that need to be completed prior to the Rite of Confirmation:

- Baptismal Information
- Sponsor Information
- Completion of Five Service Hours
- Weekly Class Work
- Interview with Father Lybarger and Bette Wolf

## FAQs about the Confirmation at St. Mary of the Lake

**What is Confirmation?** Confirmation is a sacrament which strengthens us and obliges us to witness, to spread and to defend the faith (CCC 1303). Confirmation is not graduation from a life of Christian learning, a mere cultural passage into maturity or an opportunity to choose whether to remain Catholic. Confirmation completes our full initiation as Catholic Christians (CCC 1306) and strengthens our ability to be missionary disciples through the reception of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

**What do the specific Confirmation preparation sessions look like?** There will be Confirmation sessions which explore topics specifically related to preparing for the night of Confirmation, when the Holy Spirit will seal the candidate with the gift of the presence of God. These sessions are an important opportunity for the candidate to continue to develop their relationship with God in the presence of their parents and sponsor. These sessions take place throughout late winter and early spring as the Confirmation date approaches.

**When does Confirmation preparation begin? When does it end? How long does it take?** Most teens will begin completing the pre-requisites for Confirmation preparation immediately following their 6th-grade year. Many will choose to complete the process over a two-year period, be Confirmed in their 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> grade year and continue to be involved in youth ministry in their 9<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>-grade years. Some students may choose to complete their preparation over their four years of high school.

**Is this preparation process for Confirmation enough?** Many teens will find that they desire to grow in their faith in more ways than what is asked in St. Mary of the Lake's Confirmation preparation process. These requirements are a minimum. We are called to be life-long disciples of Christ who continue to grow in love of God and neighbor through prayer, worship, study and service.

**What is the Confirmation preparation interview?** It is a lot less scary than it sounds. Think of it more as a conversation, than a test, with Father Lybarger. Then Bette Wolf will visit with each student to make sure all is correct with the required information, such as: Confirmation Name, Baptismal Certificate information, and any other questions your student may have. Please feel free to contact Bette Wolf in the Faith Formation/Youth Ministry Office for more information.