

September 2021



Dear Parents and Confirmation Candidates,
Welcome to Confirmation Preparation for 2021-2022!

On Wednesday, October 13, we will begin the Confirmation Preparation at St. Mary's Parish (Visitation Commons) from 6:30-7:30pm for all candidates from our parish in grades 10-12 who are planning to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation in the spring of 2021. The gathering will be facilitated by the Confirmation catechist team of Tom Parlin and Terri Kersting. **Two additional adults are needed to help with small group activities at each session.**

Registration for Confirmation

Please go to the St. Mary's Parish website to register for Confirmation this school year by **October 1**.

www.stmaryswinona.org/Sacraments/Confirmation

(see the link called **Confirmation Registration Form**)

There is a registration fee of \$30 to help pay for materials and lunch for the retreat day. **If your child was not baptized at your current parish, please provide a copy of his or her baptismal certificate.** We **must** have a copy of the baptismal certificate before Confirmation in May.

Confirmation Preparation Sessions

See the back of this letter for the calendar including all dates for gathered sessions and other expectations.

Confirmation Preparation Program

Called to Mercy is the Confirmation preparation program from St. Mary's Press that will be used this school year. It combines online learning modules with gathered sessions a retreat day. The **online fee of \$24.95 will be paid directly to St. Mary's Press** when the candidates enroll online. You will learn more about that process in January 2022. Go to www.calledtomercy.com for more information.

Confirmation Sponsor

The candidates will need to choose a sponsor to journey with them during their preparation. The sponsor should be someone who can relate to the candidate, be mature in practicing his or her Catholic faith, be fully initiated and participates in the Eucharist weekly. Sponsors will be asked to participate with the preparation process on the following dates:

December 15 – Advent Prayer/Discussion with Sponsors

March 23 – Lenten Prayer/Discussion with Sponsors

Sunday, May 8 – Blessing of Candidates (10:30am Mass)

Wednesday, May 11 – Confirmation Rehearsal

Sunday, May 15 – Confirmation Liturgy

If you have any questions, concerns or can help with sessions, please contact Julie Fitzgerald at julie@stmaryswinona.org.

Together in ministry,

Fr. Michael Cronin
(Pastor)

Julie Fitzgerald
(Director of Parish Life & Faith Formation)

Tom Parlin
(Pastoral Assistant/Catechist Team)

Terri Kersting
(Catechist Team)