



**Dear Confirmation Candidates,**

Welcome to your 1<sup>st</sup> year of Confirmation preparation. I am very much looking forward to sharing in your journey towards the day in which you will be sealed with the gift of the Spirit in the spring of 2023. Though the night of Confirmation might seem like a long way off, true preparation for receiving the graces God wants to give you begins now. The Sacrament of Confirmation has a long and storied tradition in the Church and now you will begin to push yourself to become the saint God made you to be.

The effects of Confirmation on the person who receives it with their whole heart are explained below, from the Catechism of the Catholic Church #1303:

It is evidenced from its celebration that the effect of the sacrament is the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the apostles on the day of Pentecost.

- Confirmation brings an increase and deepening of baptismal grace.
- It roots us more deeply in our divine filiation, where we are sons and daughter of God.
- It unites us more firmly to Christ.
- It increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us.
- It renders our bond with the Catholic Church more perfect
- It gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to SPREAD and DEFEND the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ.

God is promising you so much. "Life Everlasting in his Kingdom!" Please take time to invest in your own faith, because God has most evidently invested His faith in you.

If you ever have any questions, concerns, or just want to talk about faith or Confirmation, please do ask me. My job is to be here for you.

God Bless,

Doug

Doug Leikam

Confirmation Coordinator

Holy Spirit Catholic Church

