

## FORMATION FOR CONFIRMATION DURING 2019-2020

**SPECIAL NOTE: Confirmation preparation will begin a transition this year. In 2019-2020 Confirmation will be open to both 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade teens (see specific guidelines below). Preparation will take place once a month, a calendar will be given to families who wish to participate in the formation.**

**A major change is the discernment and growth in the “*signs of readiness*” for the reception of Sacrament of Confirmation (see listing below) rather than specifically tied to a certain age.**

**In 2020/21 Confirmation preparation will be available to 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades.**

**In 2021/22 Confirmation preparation will be available to 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades.**

**In 2022/23 Confirmation preparation will be available to 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades.**

**All high school teens are welcome to enter Sacramental Formation for Confirmation so long as they:**

- Have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Reconciliation
- Have participated in 1 full consecutive year of Discipleship/Religious Education prior
- Are currently participating in a 2<sup>nd</sup> year of Discipleship/Religious Education
- Actively willing to commit to growth in the “*signs of readiness*” (indicated below)
- Participate in a variety of retreats, service experiences, and Parish life
- Parents along with Sponsors, are to be intimately involved in Confirmation formation

**Confirmation is about discipleship and mission — drawing persons into the life, work and mission of the Church.**

**The focus is discipleship**—What is the candidate’s relationship with God like? How has he/she grown in that relationship? Is he/she committed to a life in Christ?

**The standard is readiness**—Is the candidate ready to receive the sacrament with the proper disposition?

If not, how can I help him/her to become ready? In what way does the candidate still need to grow in his/her relationship with God before he/she is ready?

**The process is one of growth and discernment**—Preparing for the sacrament is not merely about completing a specific program. Any sacramental preparation program’s job is to be one aid among many for the growth of individual candidates in their relationship with God.

**What are the “signs of readiness” to receive Confirmation?**

In addition to having interviews with the Parish leadership (including the Pastor) to determine when a young person is ready for Confirmation, it will be an ongoing process with specific “*signs of readiness*” that the young person and the family will use for discernment for the reception of the Sacrament.

**Signs of readiness include:**

- Demonstrating an understanding of the Sacrament
- Desire and intent to receive the Sacrament
- Committing to continue to live the Catholic faith **beyond** the Confirmation
- Understanding spiritual gifts, vocational discernment and charitable outreach
- Name of **Saint** chosen (and explanation of why)
- Name(s) of qualified **Sponsor**(s)
- Names of other people who will support the candidate on their journey
- Written “**Plan of faith for life**” (for ongoing Sunday Mass, daily prayer, and regular confession)
- Write a “**Letter of Petition**” in candidates own wording, explaining desire for the Sacrament of Confirmation; including Candidates “**Interview with the Pastor.**”