

Confirmation for the 2017/2018 School Year

“Baptism, the Eucharist, and the sacrament of Confirmation together constitute the ‘sacraments of Christian initiation’ whose unity must be safeguarded. It must be explained to the faithful that the reception of the sacrament of Confirmation, [the baptized] are more perfectly bound to the church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed. (CCC 1285)”

- An **information meeting** will be held in St. Angela Hall on Sunday, October 22 at 2pm.
- The **date for Confirmation** is April 18, 2018.
- Following is a list of requirements and guidelines for the Confirmation Program at St. Mary Help of Christians Church.

All paperwork and registration must be complete and turned into the parish office by Feb. 1, 2018. Any received after that date will be held for the next Confirmation in 2019.

- **Holy Mass Attendance**
Candidates for Confirmation must attend Mass every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation. If a child is not attending Mass, then we reserve the right to delay the reception of the Sacrament.
- **Class Attendance and Preparation**
Confirmation Candidates should be enrolled in St. Mary Help of Christians School, Sunday Youth Ministry (Faith Formation) or another Catholic School. He/she must actively participate in class and complete all assigned work. Christian Formation students can miss no more than 3 classes. All work must be made-up. High School candidates may attend Life Teen on Sunday evenings.

All candidates are expected to know and be able to answer basic questions concerning the Sacrament of Confirmation.

- We will have **two nights of learning** that will be required for all confirmation candidates. These nights are to be attended by the candidate and their parent.

They will be held on:

Sunday, December 3, 2017 6:15-8:00pm

Sunday, January 28, 2018 6:30-8 pm

On both dates, we will have a special guest speaker. These sessions will take place in St. Angela Hall.

- **Confirmation Retreat and Practice**

Each candidate is required to attend a Confirmation retreat. Confirmation candidates and sponsors are required to attend a practice for Confirmation, usually held on the retreat date.

Confirmation Retreat – Required. The Confirmation retreat for 8th graders will be held on Saturday, April 14. High School candidates – please see Mrs. LaBone for high school retreat information

- **Sacrament of Baptism Information**

Each candidate is responsible for supplying the Parish Office with a copy of his/her Baptismal Certificate.

- **Sponsors**

Each candidate will select a sponsor for Confirmation. This person must be at least 16 years old and a practicing Catholic who has already been confirmed. *Please see “Eligibility Certification for Sponsors” form.*

- **Sacrament of Confession**

All candidates will be given the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Confession prior to receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

- **Confirmation Name**

Each candidate should select the name of a saint to use at the time of Confirmation. This name should reflect the candidate's new role as a Christian. The baptismal name may also be used again in Confirmation. When choosing a name, candidates should read about the various saints and their lives. They should study the life of the saint whose name they will take and be prepared to tell the Bishop why they chose him or her. A listing is available of the saints. A saint report is required by each candidate. His/her teacher will send home the requirements.

- **Service**

Each candidate is encouraged to perform acts of service for the church and community as they prepare for Confirmation.