

Confirmation Parent Meeting - Jan 12, 2022

Practical "housekeeping"

- Confirmation: Monday, March 28. Ceremony is at 7:00 pm
- Candidates and sponsors will need to be here by 6:15
- Information Sheet & Sponsor sheet are due Feb 23 – HARD DEADLINE



SPONSOR

- At least 16 years old, Baptized and Confirmed in the Catholic faith.
- An active Catholic: "An active Catholic is one who attends Sunday and Holy Day masses regularly and participates in the Sacramental life of the Church."
- Only one sponsor is required and cannot be a parent of the candidate.
- Sponsor may be of either sex and may be a Baptismal Godparent
- Married sponsors must be in a valid Catholic marriage.
- Pastors are required to send signed approval by deadline – Feb 23 (keep in mind times for snail mail)

CONFIRMATION SAINT

- Can be a Saint or a Blessed
- They need to be able to explain WHY they want that Saint
- Girls choose female Saints; Boys choose male Saints
- Will have a page to complete on why this person will be their heavenly friend

CANDIDATE RESPONSIBILITIES

- This is a commitment on the part of the Candidate ... they need to desire Confirmation, and be able to express the reason for their desire
- Sacraments are not magic ... they are effective as much as the individual is prepared and open.
- Catechism Catholic Church #1128 - From the moment that a sacrament is celebrated in accordance with the intention of the Church, the **power of Christ and his Spirit acts in and through it**, independently of the personal holiness of the minister. Nevertheless, **the fruits of the sacraments also depend on the disposition of the one who receives them**.

SACRAMENTS

- Outward sign instituted by Christ to give grace
- CCC 1131: The sacraments are efficacious signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us. The visible rites by which the sacraments are celebrated **signify and make present the graces** proper to each sacrament. They bear fruit in those who receive them with the required dispositions.

CONFIRMATION GRACES

- It is the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the apostles on the day of Pentecost.
- It imprints on the soul an *indelible spiritual mark*, the "character," which is the sign that Jesus Christ has marked a Christian with the seal of his Spirit by clothing him with power from on high so that (s)he may be his witness.
- CCC 1303 - It brings an increase and deepening of baptismal graces
 - it roots us more deeply in the divine filiation which makes us cry, "Abba! Father!";
 - it unites us more firmly to Christ;
 - it increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us;
 - it renders our bond with the 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, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross

- CCC 1310 - To receive Confirmation one must be in a state of grace. One should receive the sacrament of Penance in order to be cleansed for the gift of the Holy Spirit. More intense prayer should prepare one to receive the strength and graces of the Holy Spirit with docility and readiness to act.

CANDIDATES SHOULD BE ABLE TO:

- Explain who the Holy Spirit is
- Express why they want to be confirmed
- Describe Pentecost – the first Confirmation
- Define: sacrament, Eucharist, Confirmation
- Name the effects of Confirmation
- List the 7 gifts of the Holy Spirit
- Know their faith well enough to defend it

PREPARING FOR CONFIRMATION

- Pray daily, especially for the openness to the Holy Spirit.
- Go to confession.
- Go to Mass every Sunday and Holy Day.
- Attend Confirmation Preparation Class, do assignments, study as needed
- Study the 92 Questions.

CCC #260

... we are called to be a dwelling for the Most Holy Trinity: "If a man loves me", says the Lord, "he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him, and make our home with him."

THINGS TO BE TURNED IN

- 3 Saints (assigned in October) – most have handed it in
- "Hey Mom or Dad" (assigned last week)
- Saint Friendship Form (assigned tonight, due NO LATER THAN 3/2)
- Information Sheet (due 2/23)
- Sponsor Form – signed by Pastor (due 2/23)

