

CONFIRMATION

2019-2020

THE SACRAMENT

We are so excited that you are preparing to enter into the Church through Confirmation. The Catechism of the Catholic Church says, "*by 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.*" This new responsibility within the Church requires preparation and discernment.

PREPARATION FOR CONFIRMATION

Before receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in 10th grade, expectations include:

- **Participating in Confirmation classes and missing no more than 2** (Why? It is important that before deciding to be Confirmed in the Holy Spirit, you have the opportunity to learn more about the Church, ask questions, understand where doctrine comes from, and learn how to defend the faith. If you miss more than two classes in the year, you must make up the extra classes missed. If you miss 5 or more classes in a year, you will have to repeat the year's curriculum the following year.)
- **Serving the Church and Community for 15 hours each year** (Why? James 2:14-17 says, "*What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, 'go in peace, keep warm, and eat well,' but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.*" If we truly believe in the Gospel, then we must put our faith into action and serve others in love and joy. Volunteering can be anything that one does to help another out of love and not incentive, such as mowing grass for a neighbor, shoveling snow, visiting a nursing home, helping with VBS, etc. At our Life Teen Mass (Sunday, 5:30), teens are able to serve as Lectors, Ushers, and Sacristans.)
- **Attending the Parent/Teen Session for Confirmation 1 - February 16, 2020 from 4:00-6:30pm** (Why? Though the decision to be confirmed is the teen's choice, it is important to sit down with the family to pray together and talk about being initiated into the faith.)
- **Attending the Confirmation 2 retreat weekend - February 21-23, 2020** (Why? Sometimes we need to get out of our comfort zone, retreat from the distractions of life, and enter into a designated space and time where we can more fully encounter our Lord.)
- **Writing a letter to Fr. Fabio expressing the intent of being confirmed - Confirmation 2** (Why? After sacramental preparation and discernment, you should be able to express your reasons for desiring to be confirmed and become a full initiated member of the Catholic Church.)
- **Meet with Fr. Fabio - Confirmation 2** (Why? It is important for Fr. Fabio to get to know you before Confirmation so that he can truly present you to the Bishop at the Sacrament of Confirmation)
- **Creating a Saint Project based on the saint of choice - Confirmation 2** (Why? Saints are beautiful examples of how to live out our universal call to holiness. They are witnesses for Christ, and they are praying for us! Choosing a Saint and learning more about their spirituality helps to better understand the universal Church and the many ways to have a relationship with the Lord.)