



St. Philip Neri Catholic Church

A SPIRIT OF CARING AND GIVING

Confirmation at St. Philip Neri Policy

The Sacrament

Prior to his ascension into heaven, Jesus told his apostles that he would send them the Holy Spirit to be their advocate and guide, and on the Feast of Pentecost, the promised gift of the Holy Spirit fell on the apostles and the Virgin Mary as they prayed in the Upper Room, empowering them to be witnesses of Jesus in the world. "The Sacrament of Confirmation perfects Baptismal grace; it is the sacrament which gives the Holy Spirit in order to root us more deeply in the divine filiation, incorporate us more firmly into Christ, strengthen our bond with the Church, associate us more closely with her mission, and help us to bear witness to the Christian faith in words accompanied by deeds." (CCC 1316) "Confirmation, like Baptism, imprints a spiritual mark or indelible character on the Christian's soul; for this reason one can receive this sacrament only once in one's life." (CCC 1317)

The Program for 2022-2023

The Confirmation Program at St. Philip Neri aims to prepare 10th graders to receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Confirmation. Through the preparation, teens encounter the Lord through taking on more responsibility within the Parish community, serving the greater community with love, and learning more about the Catholic Faith that they will soon be fully claiming as their own.

Classes meet (2022-2023) on Sunday evenings about twice a month from 6:45-8:30pm September through April. Additional events, such as volunteering and retreats, are throughout the year. Class attendance and additional expectations are required and are given upon the beginning of the year. These expectations help to prepare the teens adequately for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

If your teen was in Confirmation 1 last year, you may register them for Confirmation 2 this year so they may finish their preparation. If your teen was not registered 2021-2022, then they cannot register for Confirmation 2 this year as our program will be transitioning.

Changes to the Confirmation Program at St. Philip Neri

After evaluation, surveys, and great discernment, St. Philip Neri has decided to make some changes to the Confirmation Preparation Program. Starting in the 2023-2024 school year, 10th graders will be registered in a one-year program, meeting three times a month, to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

We understand that change and transition can be difficult, but we look forward to the fruits that will be born from meeting more frequently and building better relationships with the teens. Please pray for our parish over the next few years as we adjust to this new layout.



St. Philip Neri Catholic Church

A SPIRIT OF CARING AND GIVING

What do you need to know?

- **Teens registered in Confirmation 1 last year (2021-2022)** will finish out their preparation this year (2022-2023) the way we have currently been meeting – twice a month on Sunday evenings.
- **Teens who will be in 9th grade this year (2022-2023) will NOT register for Confirmation this summer** but will be expected to attend at least 4 Life Nights over the year in order to maintain involvement in the parish. In spring of 2023 look for information about registering your teen for this one-year preparation program for 10th grade. There will be a required meeting before you are able to register your teen in 2023.
- **If your teen attends Catholic School, is a rising 10th grader, and was not registered in Confirmation 1 last year,** you can still register them this year for Confirmation 2, as being in Catholic School takes place of last year's Confirmation 1 program.
- The proposed program for 2023-2024 includes meeting around 20 times in the year and having the same expectations as always (sponsor form, saint, hours, retreat).
- We hope to be shifting to small groups of teens of the same gender, with the same desired approach style (intellectual, emotional, or practical) to learning about the faith.
- There will be two available sessions to choose from in the 2023-2024 school year, likely a Sunday morning session and Wednesday evening session.