



## Religious Education Department



Confirmation Program

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**2016-2018**

**[Year 2: 2017-2018]**

At St. Mary Parish the Rite of Confirmation is offered in the spring on an every-other-year rotation. Preparation for the sacrament is a two-year, joint-class program ordinarily beginning in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade years and continuing the following academic year when participants are 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Thus, students eligible to receive the sacrament at the next scheduled date must have begun the program in the fall of 2016.

Students enrolled in a parish sacramental preparation program are required by the Diocese of Toledo to be *concurrently* enrolled in *general religious education* either through a parish Religious Education Department, a Catholic school, or a verified homeschooling program. *This means that high school age Confirmation students not attending a Catholic school must be enrolled in the parish's monthly High School Catechesis class as well as the monthly Confirmation class.* Likewise, 8<sup>th</sup> graders not attending a Catholic school must attend Sunday morning YFC classes.

### PROGRAM COMPONENTS

#### ◆ FORMATION SESSIONS:

##### FOR PARENTS, SPONSORS, AND STUDENTS—OPENING Fall Meeting/Class

This required meeting/class will be held in the cafeteria. Sponsors who live locally are asked to attend. Special arrangements can be made for sponsors who live out of town. Please speak with Mrs. Mancha about any special circumstances.

•6 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 24, 2017

##### FOR STUDENTS—Monthly Classes

*Required monthly classes* will be held from 6 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. the first Sunday of each month, beginning in October, with exceptions as noted below. All sessions will be in the library, unless otherwise noted.

•Sunday, Oct. 1, 2017

•Sunday, Nov. 5, 2017

•Sunday, Dec. 3, 2017—Class will be from 5 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. & will include pizza.

•Sunday, Jan. 7, 2018—Saint name essays are due.

•Sunday, Feb. 11, 2018—Student letters to pastor requesting Confirmation are due. This is the *second* Sunday of February.

•Sunday, March 4, 2018

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✦ **RETREAT:**

**MANDATORY STUDENT RETREAT—Particular Information TBA**

•Sunday, March 25, 2018

✦ **SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:**

**PENANCE SERVICE FOR STUDENTS/FAMILIES AND CONFIRMATION REHEARSAL—Held in the Church**

We will be joined by Confirmation families of Resurrection Parish. Sponsors are welcome to attend.

•6 p.m. Sunday, April 8, 2018

✦ **WORKS OF CHARITY:**

**STUDENTS CONTINUE WITH THEIR CHARITABLE SERVICE—Parish, Family, and Community**

Students will participate in group projects and parish ministry. *Individual hours will not be recorded.* The Diocesan Catechetical Council has recently stated that “someone who does not put their faith into action in works of charity may not be ready to complete their Christian Initiation.” **Information TBA.**

✦ **INDIVIDUAL STUDENT INTERVIEWS:**

**FR. BEAVER, MRS. MANCHA, & DR. MANCHA MEET WITH CANDIDATES—To Ascertain Readiness**

*Per diocesan requirement,* each student is required to meet for a private, pre-scheduled conference with either Fr. Beaver, Mrs. Mancha, *or* Dr. Mancha. These one-on-one meetings are for the purpose of determining the candidate’s readiness for the sacrament (and therefore the completion of his/her initiation into the Church). **Interview sign-up will take place at the Sept. 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. Interviews will be Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 24 & 25.** Students should reflect upon and be ready to discuss their...

- understanding of the Sacrament of Confirmation
- openness to receiving the gifts of the Holy Spirit
- willingness to live out the fruits of Confirmation in the context of the Church
- general readiness to accept the responsibilities of a fully initiated Catholic
- charitable service, which will be “verified” during this interview



The Confirmation ceremony (to include confirmandi of both St. Mary and Resurrection parishes) is at **7 p.m. on Thursday, April 12, at St. Mary Church.** Principal celebrant will be Bishop Daniel Thomas. **Plan to arrive by 6:15 p.m.** A reception will follow.

**For more information:**

Contact Mary T. Mancha, coordinator of sacramental preparation, at the parish office (419-589-5464/419-589-2114) on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings.