

ST PIUS X PARISH
CONFIRMATION PROGRAM
2010-2011

Preparation for Confirmation should aim at leading the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and a more lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit – his actions, his gifts, and his biddings – in order to be more capable of assuming the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life. To this end, catechesis for Confirmation should strive to awaken a sense of belonging to the Church of Jesus Christ, the universal Church, as well as the parish community. **The latter bears responsibility for the preparation of the confirmands** (CCC 1309).*

Although Confirmation is sometimes called the “sacrament of Christian maturity,” we must not confuse adult faith with the adult age of natural growth, nor forget that the baptismal grace is a grace of free, unmerited election and does not need “ratification” to become effective (CCC 1308).

Confirmation is a gift and is offered to those who have been properly prepared and who freely choose to be confirmed. **Parishes have the responsibility to provide adequate opportunities to prepare for celebrating this sacrament.**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance at a Catholic high school for at least two years prior to the sacrament.

OR

2. If not enrolled in a Catholic high school, attendance for at least two years prior to the sacrament at weekly Parish School of Religion (CCD) classes. These classes are held on Sunday mornings except for the first Sunday of each month when they are held at 6 PM along with the CYO meeting. Please pick up an information sheet about this program.

PARISH ENROLLMENT REQUIREMENTS

1. You must be a member of St. Pius X Parish OR you must obtain a letter of permission (release) from the pastor of the parish in which you reside. This letter must be forwarded to the Confirmation coordinator or rectory of St. Pius X.
2. If you are a member of St. Pius X Parish and you will, for whatever reason, be celebrating the sacrament of Confirmation in another parish, you must obtain a letter of permission (release) from the pastor of St. Pius X, Very Reverend Patrick Williams.

DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS (These must be presented at the MANDATORY INTRODUCTORY MEETING ON AUGUST 31, 2010 AT 7:00 PM IN CHURCH.)

1. A copy of the candidate’s Baptismal certificate
2. A letter of permission (release) if not a member of St. Pius X Parish.
3. A completed registration form (attached) with the registration fee (\$25.00).

THESE MAY BE BROUGHT TO THE RECTORY AT ANY TIME BEFORE THE MEETING.

* Catechism of the Catholic Church

PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the religious educational requirements, called remote preparation, Confirmation preparation also consists of a deeper, more explicit program specifically designed for the Confirmation candidate. This is called proximate preparation.

The following are the requirements:

1. Attendance at the Introductory Meeting for candidates, parents, and sponsors:
TUESDAY, AUGUST 31, 2010 7 PM CHURCH
2. Four seminars (approx. 90 minutes each) on four Sunday evenings: Date TBA
You will be expected to attend the 5PM Mass as a group on these evenings.
3. A one-day retreat – Date TBA. There will also be Mass and practice for Confirmation on this day, so your sponsors should be in attendance.
4. A service project or accumulation of 20 community service hours. Note: There is a service hour form attached to this packet. The form must be completed and signed by both the coordinator of the service organization and a parent. **A typed reflection paper answering the question on the service hour form must be attached.**

YOU MAY USE SERVICE HOURS YOU HAVE COMPLETED FOR YOUR SCHOOL. YOU MUST HAVE THE SIGNATURE OF THE SERVICE COORDINATOR AND A PARENT.

You are encouraged to work on/complete your service hours this summer.

5. Interview of you and your family in your home with one of the parish priests, to be scheduled beginning in early fall.
6. A typed paper with your chosen Confirmation name, a brief biography of the saint you have chosen, and a brief reflection on why you chose this saint.
Note: Because of the intimate connection between Baptism and Confirmation, it is completely appropriate (but not necessary) to keep your Baptismal name as your Confirmation name. The name you choose should have significance to both you and the Church.

You are encouraged to choose a name and work on the paper this summer.

7. Choosing of a sponsor. Your sponsor should be at least 16 years old, a confirmed practicing Catholic who can act as a spiritual and moral role model for you. Your sponsor may be one of your Baptismal godparents, but not one of your parents.
Date Due: TBA
8. Participation in the life of the parish community: regular Mass attendance, reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, involvement in parish ministries and activities.

PLEASE WATCH THE BULLETIN FOR DATES AND DEADLINES. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CALL Mrs. Kathy Schott at 288-7570.

YOU MAY TURN IN YOUR REGISTRATION, WITH DOCUMENTS AND FEE AT ANY TIME TO THE RECTORY BEFORE THE AUGUST 31ST MEETING.