

## Dear Parents:

We're excited to invite your son or daughter to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation with Holy Spirit Catholic Church. Our Confirmation program is designed to unite these young Catholics more solidly in Christ. It is our hope that your youth will begin a journey that empowers them to live as a disciple of Jesus in the world today, drawing closer to God through participation in the life of the Church.

With this hope in mind, there are many pieces to the Confirmation preparation process. Our preparation program consists of small group meetings, service opportunities, a reflection experience and candidate/sponsor meetings.

The small group meetings will take place in the home of our catechists. These 10 meetings are the catechetical backbone of the preparation process and attendance is very important. During the registration process, you will designate the evening that works best for your youth to attend these meetings: Mondays or Wednesdays. Small groups will meet weekly during the months of January, February, and March.

Serving others, as the Gospel calls us to do, is an important component of preparation as well. There will be service opportunities in September, October, November, and December. Candidates are required to participate in at least 3. These have been carefully chosen to encourage our youth to encounter Jesus in those on the margins of society.

Our reflection experience is designed to allow the youth to spend time deepening their relationship with Christ through prayer, worship, adoration, reconciliation, and Mass. Our Confirmation Reflection Experience is scheduled for November 19 & 20. It is an overnight youth conference sponsored by the Diocese and will be held at the Adams Point Conference Center in Blue Springs, MO. A retreat/reflection experience is a diocesan required element of Confirmation.

Each candidate will choose a sponsor for their journey. The role of the sponsor is to serve as a Catholic mentor for the candidate throughout the process and hopefully beyond. There are two meetings at church for candidates and sponsors to attend together. The remaining three meetings are times the candidate and sponsor get together on their own.

Please plan to attend an informational parent meeting which will provide a program overview, expectations, necessary paperwork, and calendar. This meeting will be offered 4 times. It is required that a parent attend one of the informational meetings for their youth to be registered in the Confirmation program. These will be held in the AB meeting rooms. If your child was not baptized at Holy Spirit, please call the church of baptism prior to the informational meeting to get a copy of their baptismal certificate to bring with you. We ask you to carefully look over the commitment required to prepare to receive this sacrament and help your child prayerfully discern if they are ready to make this commitment.

Monday, August 15 @ 6:00PM Sunday, August 21 @ 9:30AM Thursday, August 18 @ 7:00PM Thursday, August 25 @ 6:00PM

Blessings,

Brigeete Kurtenbach Director of Youth Ministry Holy Spirit Catholic Church

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PS: This mailing is sent according to birthdates, and you may be receiving it in error. Confirmation is for freshman and sophomores in high school.