

# Preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation



## What is Confirmation?

A sacrament (when God gives us grace) in which the Holy Spirit is given to baptized Catholics in order to make them stronger and more able to live out and share their faith as followers of Jesus.

## When was the First Confirmation?

You can read the exciting story of when the Holy Spirit first came upon the disciples (known as Pentecost) in the New Testament book of Acts chapter 2. The disciples received an amazing power from the Holy Spirit that propelled them forth to live their faith and boldly share it with others.

We are present day disciples of Jesus and the Sacrament of Confirmation gives us the power to live out our faith, share it with others, and continue growing in faith!

## What Happens During Confirmation?

The Bishop will lay his hands on your shoulders, anoint your head with Holy Chrism Oil, and say "Your Confirmation Name, be sealed with the Holy Spirit!" And God, who has the power to create the entire universe, raise the dead, and give sight to the blind, will pour His Holy Spirit into you--**in the amount you are willing to receive**--to strengthen you with these gifts:

- Knowledge: Helps us to know God's will
- Understanding: Helps us appreciate the truths of our faith
- Wisdom: Helps us to see the world, others, and ourselves with God's eyes
- Right Judgment: Helps us to choose what is right
- Courage: Gives us the strength to do what is right, even when it's hard
- Piety: Helps us to strive for holiness and closeness with God
- Wonder and Awe: Gives us a sense of how AWESOME and powerful God is

## What do I Need for Confirmation?

- \* **A Sponsor:** Ask someone Catholic in your life that has an active faith life and that you have an easy time talking with. Find someone who will support you, discuss faith, & pray for you.
- \* **A Saint Name & Saint Report:** Pick a name from a canonized Saint that embodies the kind of person you'd like to become. Pick a Saint that shares some of the things you are interested in and passionate about. This Saint will pray for you all throughout your life! You'll also need to write a one page report explaining why you chose this Saint (due Feb 25 or 26).
- \* **A Letter requesting permission to be Confirmed:** In your one page letter to Fr. Robert Basler, you will explain what Confirmation means to you, why you desire to receive it, how you will continue in your faith afterwards, and ask for his permission. (due March 18/19)

# Confirmation Action Plan

## Goal #1: Grow in Knowledge of Faith

- Actively participate in every JHYM Session
- Ask questions and seek out answers (from your coaches, parents, sponsor, priests, youth ministers, or books or internet)



## Goal #2: Grow in a Relationship with God

- Pray every day. Listen for God through Scripture, prayers, music and conversations.

Write out when & how: \_\_\_\_\_

- Attend Mass with your family or friends each weekend. (St. Jude Mass times are 5:00 pm on Saturday nights, 7:00 am, 9:00 am, and 11:00 am on Sunday mornings, and at 6:30 pm for the evening teen-friendly LIFE Mass. **If you struggle getting to Mass each week, write down what tends to prevent you from going:** \_\_\_\_\_

Write out how you can prioritize Mass more: \_\_\_\_\_



## Goal #3: Choose a Sponsor & a Saint

- Discuss with your parents and God (pray about) who to ask.
- Ask him/her to be your sponsor
- Turn in my Sponsor Form (due Jan 21 or 22)
- Research Saints and choose one you can relate to and take their name as your Confirmation name
- Write and turn in a one page Saint Report (due Feb 25 or 26)

## Goal #4: Meet & Discuss with your Sponsor

- Type out your letter to Fr. Robert Basler requesting permission to be Confirmed and turn it in by MARCH 18 or 19. (Guidance will be provided at the second Confirmation Prep Session in January)
- Discuss the Scriptures & questions in the Sponsor & Candidate guide book
- Attend the Confirmation Rehearsal together (dates TBD) Dates to be determined; we are awaiting dates from the bishop. Look for those no sooner than December).

