



ST. PETER CATHOLIC CHURCH
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
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May 30, 2017

Praised be Jesus Christ!

Dear Parents and Students,

Peace be with you.

Congratulations! You are receiving this letter because our records indicate that your teen may be eligible for the Sacrament of Confirmation according to Archdiocesan standards. Confirmation is one of the seven Sacraments of our Catholic Faith; and, along with the Eucharist, Confirmation completes the Sacraments of Initiation begun at Baptism. Per the Archdiocese of Milwaukee, the Sacrament of Confirmation is given during the junior year of high school. Teens who are at least 16 years old or entering 11th/12th Grade in the Fall of 2017 are eligible to receive the sacrament of Confirmation in the Spring of 2018.

Sacramental years are exciting and busy. In an effort to quell undue anxiety, you will find in this letter the information needed to participate in the St Peter Confirmation Preparation process; please mark your calendars with all the important dates.

Confirmation Candidates are expected to attend Mass every Sunday and Holy Days of Obligation because the Eucharist is the source and summit of our Christian Life. In the Eucharist we find the nourishment, strength and unity with Christ to live an authentic Christian life. And, according to the Third Commandment, God requires us to attend Mass.

Orientation for Confirmation begins in the spring of the sophomore year, with programming beginning in early fall. It is now time to start discerning who your confirmation sponsor will be and it is time to choose a confirmation saint name. Our program includes the catechetical elements of Community, Worship, Service, and Discernment guiding young people to grow in and discern their faith as they choose to become Disciples of Christ.

Peace be with you!

Eileen Belongea, Director of Youth Ministry

Specific elements required of Confirmation preparation

Proof of Baptism: If you were not baptized at St. Peter, you must submit a copy of your baptismal certificate along with your Confirmation registration form.

Confirmation Sponsor: To be confirmed you need a sponsor. Your sponsor has the responsibility of assisting you to live up to your baptismal vocation. Your sponsor must be:

- Mature enough to fulfill his or her duty and be of help to you
- A member of the Catholic Church who has received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist
- A Catholic who manifests commitment to Jesus and the Church through regular participation in Sunday Mass and through service in the family, parish and community
- Free from any impediment, or obstacle, as defined by Church law, which would prevent him or her from serving as your sponsor
- Not be the father or mother of the one to be confirmed
- Sponsor information and forms can be found on our website: www.stpeterslinger.org/christian_formation/resources.php
- Sponsor forms are due *no later than* **September 11, 2017**

Parent and Student Orientation Meeting: Required for all students and Parents

- **September 11, 2017; 7:00 – 8:30 pm, St. Peter School Gym**
- You will receive all updated information about Confirmation Preparation
- Overview of classes and requirements for preparation

Confirmation Name/Saint Paper: Fundamentally, we are all created to be saints! For this reason, the Church urges us to embrace a Confirmation saint to be a guide and intercessor on our life's journey to heaven. Choosing a Confirmation saint is an important aspect of the experience of preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is important to understand the life of that particular saint (or saints) to allow the relationship between you and the saint to flourish all the more, especially during these preparation months. Part of aiding in this process is the requirement of a Confirmation Saint paper.

- Saint Paper specifications can be found on our website: www.stpeterslinger.org/christian-formation/parent-materials/
- The Saint Paper is due **October 1st**

Confirmation Retreat: Per Archdiocesan regulations, every confirmation student must complete an overnight confirmation discernment retreat. If our retreat date is a major conflict for you, please let us know as soon as possible so we can assist you in finding another retreat (unfortunately at your own expense).

- St. Peter and Resurrection Confirmation Retreat will be held at Resurrection Parish; **Date TBD**

Confirmation Sponsor Candidate Luncheon and Presentation Mass:

- **Saturday January 13th, 2018, 2:00 – 6:00 pm**
- Required for all candidates and sponsors; if a sponsor cannot attend, a parent must attend in their place
- Includes Presentation Mass where Father will bless the Sponsors and Present the Confirmation Candidates to the congregation so they may join you in prayer as you continue preparation for this Sacrament

Letter of Intent to the Bishop: The Church teaches us that the unifying figure in each diocese or Archdiocese is the bishop or Archbishop. Therefore, the Bishop remains the principle celebrant of the Rite of Confirmation, as a sign of unity for all those being confirmed into the faith in his particular diocese. For this reason it is important that each candidate express his or her desire to be confirmed, in writing, to the bishop. In the letter we share who we are and a little about ourselves, why we wish to be confirmed, perhaps even our struggles and doubts about the process, as well as whom our confirmation saint is and why we chose that particular saint.

- Letter of Intent is due no later than **January 22, 2018**

Confirmation Interviews: Candidates will be assigned a private final interview with a member of the Confirmation Team to ensure their desire and preparedness for the Sacrament of Confirmation and their commitment to live as Disciples of Christ.

- Interviews will be held on **February 5th, 2018, 7:00 – 8:30 pm**

Confirmation Practice: This is a mandatory practice for all confirmation candidates and their sponsors; if a sponsor cannot attend, a parent must stand in their place.

- Date TBD based on Confirmation Date assigned by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee

Confirmation Mass: will take place at St. Peter Parish in conjunction with Resurrection and St. Lawrence Parish.

- Date and time TBD by the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.
- It will most likely be a 2 PM Sunday Mass in early March

To enroll in St. Peter's Confirmation Program: Please enroll in our Religious Education Program, complete the enclosed Confirmation Information Form, submit a copy of your Baptismal Certificate (if you were not Baptized at St Peter), and pay the Confirmation Fee of \$80. Religious Education registration forms are available at our website.

You may mail these forms and the Confirmation fee of \$80 to:

St. Peter Parish
Confirmation Program
208 E. Washington St.
Slinger, WI 53086

If you have already enrolled in the Religious Education Program and have paid your fee, thank you! Just complete the enclosed form and mail it in.

Please know we appreciate your faith in us as an integral part of your child's faith formation.

For more information, please contact Eileen Belongea, Director of Youth Ministry at eileen.belongea@stpeterslinger.org or 262-644-8083 x17.