



February 9, 2009

Immediate Preparation for Confirmation

▶▶▶ *IMPORTANT INFO: PLEASE READ CAREFULLY*

Mark your Calendars!

- **Feb. 18** Spring Session begins
- **March 4** Letter of Request DUE
- **March 20** Stations & Sonar Concert 7pm
- **March 21-22** Liturgy Team for all masses
- **March 22** St. Joseph Faith Festival, 10-2
- **March 25** Penance Service, 6:30-8pm
- **March 31** NET Retreat, 5:30-9pm
- **April 1** Service Record & Reflection Due
- **April 15** Choose your Saint
- **April 22** Contact me if you will ride the bus
- **April 26** ALL Mass Notes completed
- **April 26** (*this has moved from May 3) Candidate/Sponsor/Parent Meeting @ 4:15pm in Parish Center, Mass of Sending 5:30pm with dessert reception to follow
- **April 29** Last day of Confirmation class
- **May 7** Confirmation, 7pm at Cathedral of St. Paul

Confirmation Course: Preparation for Eternity

Are you ready to receive a strengthening of the Holy Spirit and to be sent forth as Christ's witnesses?

I am excited to lead you in your final preparation before you are confirmed and fully initiated into the Catholic Church!

In order for our class to run smoothly, here are some things you should note:

- Class begins promptly at 6:30pm on February 18th in the Parish Center. Please be on time!

- **CHANGE OF TIME:** Class will end at 8pm (instead of 7:45pm) so we can devote the last 15 minutes to prayer. Families are welcome to join us in the church.
- Please bring a notebook and pen/pencil to every class!
- Students will be expected to complete daily prayer reflections that are assigned each week.



- Please follow the policies of our program: Cell phones must be OFF during class, contact me if you unable to attend class so the suitable make-up work can be assigned; be respectful at all times.
- I am in need of a set-up crew to help me set up before class (at 6:15) and to clean up after class (until 8:15). Let me know if you can help.

St. Joseph, pray for us!

St. Joseph Youth Weekend

As part of St. Joseph's 150th year celebration, the weekend of March 20-22 will be dedicated to the youth of St. Joseph's parish!

On Friday March 20 at 7pm the Confirmation 'Mission' class will lead us in 'Shadow Stations.' Then the band, Sonar, will lead us in a time of music, prayer and scripture to get ready for Easter.

All of the masses during the weekend of March 21-22 will

be lead by Liturgy Teams composed of youth: The Confirmation students will be lectors and ushers for all the masses. You are also invited to sing in the youth choir. If you are interested in one of these roles for one of the four masses (Sat. 5:15, Sun. 8:30, 10:30 or 5:15pm), please contact me or sign-up after Confirmation class.

On Sunday, March 22, the Confirmation students in the

Immediate Preparation Course (that's you!) will be leading a St. Joseph Faith Festival for the whole parish in the school from 11:30-1pm. **Please meet in St. Joe's School at 10am on Sunday, March 22 to set-up and plan to stay until 2pm.** This carnival-style faith festival will be for families to learn more about our patron, St. Joseph, whose feast day is March 19.

Interview

All Candidates for Confirmation are required to have an interview with either Fr. Blake, Erin or myself.

Interviews will be done in groups of 3 and will last for approximately 30 minutes. Please check your schedules and sign-up for a time at Confirmation class.

Interviewer	Date	Time
Fr. Blake	Sunday	4 or 4:30
	March 1, 15, 22, 29	(before 5:30 Mass)
Erin	Sunday	11:30
	Feb. 22,	(after 10:30 Mass)
	March 1, 15, 29	
Stephanie	Wednesday	8pm
	March 4, 11	(after class)
	April 1, 15	
Stephanie	Tuesday	3pm
	March 3, 10	(after school)

Letter of Request

In order to receive permission to be confirmed, you must write a one page formal letter to Father Blake. Here are some things to include in this letter:

1. Tell him a little about yourself (what you are involved in or like to do) and about your family
2. Tell him how you were involvement at St. Joseph's before entering the Confirmation program (faith formation or Catholic school etc)
3. Tell him about your preparation for Confirmation: what you have learned through your classes, service, mass and prayer time and especially how you have grown in your relationship with God
4. Tell him how you hope to be a witness for Christ after you are confirmed
5. At the end, formally ask Father for permission to be confirmed.

*At the bottom, please sign and date your letter. Letters must be typed. **Due on Wednesday, March 4, 2009**

NEW REQUIREMENT: Choosing a Saint

Archbishop John C. Nienstedt has asked that all Confirmation Candidates choose a Saint name. Here are some excerpts from his letter which can be found on our website:

www.stjosephwaconia.org

"All of us need heroes! ...all of us need role models that we can look up to and emulate..."

It is my wish that each Confirmation candidate will choose the name of a real, legitimate saint who is well known to that individual. It may be the saint of one's baptismal designation, or the

saint's name your parents or grandparents carry, or a saint whose life you have read and whose example you wish to follow. But the name you choose should link you with the communion of saints in heaven with whom we worship God, the Father, every time we participate in the Mass...

Most internet websites provide incorrect or inadequate information about the saints. The Vatican does provide a more authoritative website at www.vatican.va and is a wonderful resource for learning about the saints.

Choosing a name for Confirmation is an important step in the process of preparation. I ask each candidate to pray, study, and choose a saint in whom he or she can place their confidence not just for today, but for many years to come"

Please choose your Saint by Wed April 15.



If you and your family plan to ride the bus to Confirmation in St. Paul, please contact me by Wed. April 22.



What to Wear to the Mass of Sending & the Confirmation Mass

Gentlemen: dress shirts & ties, dress pants & shoes

Ladies: dress, skirt or dress pants PLEASE BE MODEST, this means no strapless or spaghetti strap tops, no cleavage and skirts must be about knee-length. You are beautiful!

Questions? Contact:

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