



CONFIRMATION 2024

- Why Confirmation?
 - "Every baptized person not yet confirmed can and should receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Since Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist form a unity, it follows that "the faithful are obliged to receive this sacrament at the appropriate time," for without Confirmation and Eucharist, Baptism is certainly valid and efficacious, but Christian initiation remains incomplete." -CCC 1306
- Why is there a formation process to Confirmation?
 - "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 special responsibility for the preparation of confirmands." CCC 1301
- How do I know I am ready?
 - "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
- What does Formation look like?
 - "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 special responsibility for the preparation of confirmands." (CCC 1309)
- Overall Program
 - Weekly BLAZE nights
 - Once a month Confirmation classes on Adore nights. (see schedule below)
 - Classes begin at 3:15 and conclude at the end of Adore
- Attend November Retreat. This years Retreat is Nov. 3-5th, 2023.

- Attend either option 1 or 2 for Fall Reflection + Winter Reflection (see schedule below)
- **Expiations:**
 - Teens can have two unexcused absences for these afternoons. Failure to attend beyond two will result in submitting a five paragraph essay on the topic that was missed.
- What a Confirmation Class will look like:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ games ○ a lesson ○ small groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5PM mass as a Confirmation community, ○ quick dinner, and then conclude with ○ community prayer in Adoration
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- **The Role of the Parents:**

- The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that parents are the primary educators and formators of their children. Therefore, the first time the teen hears about the faith should be in the home, not at faith formation.
 - "Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children." (CCC 2223)
 - "Through the grace of the sacrament of marriage, parents receive the responsibility and privilege of *evangelizing their children*." (CCC 2225)
 - "*Education in the faith* by the parents should begin in the child's earliest years. This already happens when family members help one another to grow in faith by the witness of a Christian life in keeping with the Gospel. Family catechesis precedes, accompanies, and enriches other forms of instruction in the faith. Parents have the mission of teaching their children to pray and to discover their vocation as children of God. The parish is the Eucharistic community and the heart of the liturgical life of Christian families; it is a privileged place for the catechesis of children and parents." (CCC 2226)
- I will never go against a parents idea in what is best for their child, provided that the child is safe and having his/her basic and spiritual needs provided for.
- Parents are expected to attend the Days of Reflection and strongly encouraged to attend Adore with their entire family. This is a beautiful way for the family to learn and pray together.
- Parents are expected to be practicing the Catholic faith according to the **Precepts of the Catholic Church** which are:
 - Attend Mass on Sundays and days of obligation.
 - Confess your sins at least once a year.
 - Receive the Eucharist at least once a year.
 - Observe days of fasting and abstinence.
 - Provide for the needs of the Church.

- **Mentors and Sponsors:**

- Mentors and Sponsors must be a practicing the Catholic faith according to the **Precepts of the Catholic Church** which are:
 - Attend Mass on Sundays and days of obligation.
 - Confess your sins at least once a year.
 - Receive the Eucharist at least once a year.
 - Observe days of fasting and abstinence.
 - Provide for the needs of the Church.
- Mentors will meet with teen 5 times between now and April. You will be provided with topics and discussion points for these meetings.

- **FAQ:**

- What if one parent is non-Catholic? Totally fine! Child can still participate in the program, so long as that parent is encouraging the child for the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- Can mentor and sponsor be the same person? Yes! Actually encouraged! Mentors are for those whose sponsors are under 18 or do not have their sponsor close by and are unable to meet up.
- Does a Mentor have to be Safe Environment trained? Yes. Everyone who will have direct contact with the teens need to be trained.

- What is considered an unexcused absence? Sickness of teen, surgery, family emergency. Sports are NOT an excused absence.
- Upcoming Dates + Events:
 - 8/27/23 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30
 - 9/10/23 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30
 - **9/17/23 – OPTION 1 – FALL REFLECTION – 2:30-4:45 (Teen, Parents, Sponsors, + Mentors to attend)**
 - 9/17/23 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30
 - **9/23/23 – OPTION 2 – FALL REFLECTION – 2:30-4:45 (Teen, Parents, Sponsors, + Mentors to attend)**
 - 9/24/23 – Confirmation Class + ADORE – 3:15 – 8PM
 - 10/1/23 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30
 - 10/15/23 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30
 - 10/22/23 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30
 - 10/29/23 – Confirmation + ADORE – 3:15 – 8PM
 - **November 3-5th – RETREAT – ALL WEEKEND**
 - 11/12/23 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30
 - **NO BLAZE NOVEMBER 19TH OR 16TH DUE TO THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY!**
 - 12/3/23 – Confirmation + ADORE – 3:15 – 8
 - 12/10/23 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30
 - 12/17/23 – BLAZE 3:15 or 6:30
 - **12/24/23 – CHRISTMAS BREAK!**
 - **12/21/23 – CHRISTMAS BREAK!**
 - 1/7/24 – Confirmation Class + ADORE – 3:15-8
 - **1/14/24 – OPTION 1 – WINTER REFLECTION – 2:30-4:45 (Teen, Parents, Sponsors, + Mentors to attend)**
 - **1/20/24 – OPTION 2 – WINTER REFLECTION – 2:30-4:45 (Teen, Parents, Sponsors, + Mentors to attend)**
 - 1/21/24 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30
 - 1/28/24 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30
 - 2/4/24 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30
 - 2/11/24 – Confirmation Class + ADORE – 3:15 – 8
 - 2/18/24 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30
 - 3/3/24 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30
 - 3/24/24 – Confirmation Class + ADORE – 3:15 – 8
 - 4/7/24 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30
 - 4/14/24 – JUST **ADORE** THIS NIGHT! NO CONFIRMATION CLASS – 6:30-8
 - 4/21/24 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30
 - 4/28/24 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30
 - **5/1/24 – Group A Confirmation Rehearsal – 6:30 – 8**
 - **5/2/24 – Group B Confirmation Rehearsal – 6:30 – 8**
 - **5/4/24 – 10 AM – Confirmation Group A**
 - **5/4/24 – 1:30 PM – Confirmation Group B**
 - 5/5/23 – BLAZE – 3:15 or 6:30