

St. Anthony of Padua



"I have called you by name;

You are mine"

- Isaiah 43:1

Confirmation Packet *2018 - 2019*

Sacramental Preparation for the Rite of Confirmation



TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1 INFORMATION ABOUT THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION
- 2 GUIDELINES FOR THE CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PROGRAM
- 3 CANDIDATE AND PARISH COVENANT
- 4 NAME REPORT & SAINT REFLECTION GUIDELINES
- 5 SERVICE TO OTHERS "MAKING A DIFFERENCE"
- 6 SERVICE TO OTHERS RECORDING LOG
- 7 PERMISSION FORM**
- 8 PARENT VOLUNTEER FORM**
- 9 FAIR ABILITY TO PAY FORM**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: September 2, 2018

Please return registration forms along with a copy of the Baptism Certificate (*if not on file*)

Late fee of \$25.00 applied after above date

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION



... Confirmed by the gift of the Spirit, that they [the Confirmandi] give witness to Christ by lives built on faith and love ..." - General Intercession from the *Rite of Confirmation*

Confirmation brings an increase and deepening of the baptismal graces: It roots us more deeply in the divine affiliation, which makes us cry, "Abba Father!"

- It unites us more firmly to Christ and increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us
- It renders our bond with the Church more perfect (whole)
- It gives us a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the Faith by works and actions as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross

"Recall then that you have received a spiritual seal, the spirit of wisdom, understanding, the spirit of right judgment and courage, the spirit of knowledge and reverence, the spirit of holy fear in God's presence. Guard what you have received. God the Father has marked you with this sign; Christ the Lord has confirmed you and has placed his pledge, the Spirit, in your hearts."

(1302-1303 Catechism of the Catholic Church)

How do I know if I'm ready?

Can a person ever be ready, worthy or deserving of a sacrament?

- You need to be open to how God will strengthen you and continue to be present in your life
- You can make an effort to be prepared to celebrate Confirmation in a way that shows sincerity
- You can participate all the way, making your responses come alive and keeping your eyes and ears ready to see and hear what God is doing in your life

The Good News is ... Our Parish Community, your parents and sponsors, as well as the Confirmation Team are all here to help you prepare.

What is required of me in this journey to Confirmation? You are asked to...

1. **Select** a Sponsor who will walk with you and help you in your journey to celebrate Confirmation. Each candidate is asked to choose an adult member of the greater Catholic community to act as a sponsor during the Confirmation journey. The Sponsor represents the Catholic community and should be seen as a life-long role model and guide for the Candidate.

Sponsors selection guidelines:

- Sponsors must be a Confirmed Catholic - recommended above 21 years of age
 - Sponsors should be active in their faith and Christian life. Active participation means that the sponsor regularly attends Mass and is involved in the life of their parish and most importantly their faith formation
 - A Sponsor is someone actively involved in your life. Parents cannot be designated as their child's sponsors
2. **Attend** sessions, rituals, retreats, and rehearsals prior to the celebration of the sacrament as designated on the calendar. Parents and Sponsors will be asked to participate in certain session activities and rehearsal.
 3. **Experience** a process of group meetings that will help you to grow in faith
 4. **Celebrate** Weekly Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
 5. **Reflect & Write** a "Name Report" on the life of a Catholic saint that will be your model.
 6. **Complete** a minimum of **30 hours** of community service each year.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

- Mike Peterson, Youth Minister & Confirmation Coordinator, ext. 13 ~ or ~ mpeterson@saopp.org

GUIDELINES FOR THE CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PROGRAM



It is the goal of the Confirmation Preparation Program to nurture, enhance and deepen the religious education process which was begun in the elementary years and bring it to the maturity level of a fully initiated adult Christian.

As emphasis is placed on understanding the past, living the present and planning for the future as members of the Catholic Church. The primary objective will be to understand and bring to life through an experiential learning process, the mission Christ calls each one of us to live out as a Disciple of His.

The program is divided into a two year study period. The first year will be called Phase1 and the second year is called Phase2. It is during this time that we will invite all candidates to explore and challenge their faith to make sure the decisions they are about to make are not entered into lightly.

Requirements for Acceptance

- Families must be registered and supporting members of our parish community
- Students must have been enrolled in a Catholic School or Religious Education program for at least two years prior to the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation
- For students not meeting the above requirement - a summer catch-up session is offered. Please contact the Confirmation Office directly for more information.
- For young adults who are out of sync with the diocesan guidelines for Confirmation please contact the Confirmation Coordinator directly. We will do our best to accommodate & help any high school student wanting to begin the preparation process.

Summary of Program Requirements

- 1) Attendance at Group sessions and Reflection activities
- 2) Completion of Service Work requirement (30 hours per year)
- 3) Confirmation Name Report or Saint Reflection (due at end of Phase 1 year)
- 4) Retreat Attendance
- 5) Completion of "Why I Wish to be Confirmed" report (Phase 2)
- 6) Candidate Interview(s)
- 7) Attendance at the Confirmation Rehearsal & Sponsor Day – with Sponsor or Parent
- 8) Most Importantly ... Attendance & Participation in our **WEEKLY Parish Mass**



CANDIDATE AND PARISH COVENANT

.... A covenant, in its most general sense, is a solemn contract or similar undertaking

Candidate

I understand that deciding to enter the Confirmation preparation program is an important decision requiring study, prayer and purposeful participation.

I will do my best to take this decision seriously and will participate and support my companions on this journey by asking questions and sharing my thoughts and opinions. I will strive to be engaged in my words and actions.

I have been told about and understand that a retreat is required. I agree to meet this requirement. If a serious problem should arise with attending the retreat, I will talk this over with the Confirmation coordinator and we will come to a resolution together.

I understand that if I am going to miss a group meeting, I will need to inform the Confirmation coordinator. The Coordinator will send me the materials necessary to make up the session - this includes a written reflection due with-in 1 week of missing the session.

I have been informed of, understand, and agree to the service ministry portion of the program that includes 30 hours of service each program year.

I will do my best to pray every day to encourage my growth in and understanding of the Holy Spirit. Further, I will participate in Mass each week. I understand that doing so will help me celebrate more fully in the Sacrament of Confirmation.

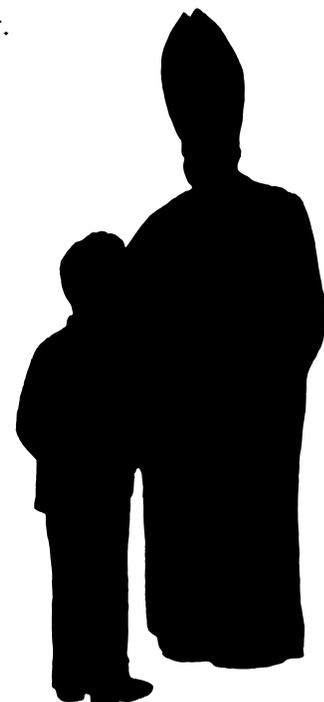
Parish

The parish will support you with the materials and information necessary for the preparation program.

The program coordinator, catechists, parish staff and the parish community will pray for you and your fellow companions so that you may continue to grow in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The program coordinator, catechists, Confirmation team, and Friars are here to help you grow in your awareness of how the Holy Spirit is active in your life.

The parish community promises to support your endeavor with the most powerful force in the universe - Prayer.



NAME REPORT ~&~ SAINT REFLECTION



History behind the Confirmation Name

The tradition of selecting a saint's name for Confirmation grew out of a pre-Vatican II practice that asked Confirmandi to select a Saint's name to be invoked during the Rite of Confirmation. Some of your parents and grandparents may have been required to do this. However, since Vatican II, this practice is no longer a requirement of the Rite of Confirmation. The Church now invites Candidates to keep the name given to them at Baptism or select a new name.

The Church strongly suggests that you use the name your parents gave to you at Baptism. The reason is that Confirmation is the fullness or completion of the Sacrament of Baptism. Neither the Rite of Confirmation nor the Code of Canon Law refers to the custom of selecting a Confirmation name.

The Rite simply refers to the candidate being "called by name." The presumption is that the Candidate is called by the name given at the time of Baptism. The Baptismal promises your parents made on your behalf when you were a baby are renewed at Confirmation.

The Saint Reflection or Name Report

Whatever name you decide on, your own name or that of a favorite saint, we ask that you explore how this holy person, this saint, offers you witness to walk more closely with Christ during the Confirmation preparation process.

Find out if you were named after a beloved family member or favorite saint; or, research the roots of your name as a derivative of a Christian name.

If you intend to take another name for Confirmation, tell us either:

-  For Confirmation, I am taking the name of ... because **OR**
-  For Confirmation, I am affirming my Baptismal name of ... because

Guidelines for writing your Name Report / Saint Reflection (1 page)

Pray, reflect and let the Holy Spirit guide you in your search.

- Start with: For Confirmation I am taking/affirming the name...
- Provide a brief summary of their life. (1 paragraph)
- What did they do with their lives that made them worthy of sainthood?
- Why did you select this saint?
- How can the life of this saint be a model of faith and commitment to you throughout the Confirmation process?
- How can the life of this saint be a model of faith and commitment to you throughout the Confirmation process?

Resources: Here are some good places to start:

- <http://americancatholic.org>
- <http://www.catholic.org/saints>
- <http://www.catholic-forum.com/saints/indexsnt.htm>

Send by: 1) Send as an Email attachment to Confirmation Youth office.

2) Drop off in the Confirmation office (due date is at the end of Phase 1 year – see separate form for more)

SERVICE TO OTHERS



“MAKING A DIFFERENCE - BEING MELLOW OF HEART”

The rationale behind this requirement is to encourage the Candidates for Confirmation to become mellow of heart and spirit. Sanctity has to do with gratitude. To be a saint is to be fueled by gratitude; nothing more, nothing less.

Sanctity is as much about having a mellow heart as it is about believing and doing the right thing. A Catholic theologian, Gustavo Gutierrez, OP, suggests that to have a healthy spirituality, we must feed our souls in three ways: through prayer, through the practice of justice and through those things in our lives (like great friendships, creativity and healthy leisure) that help keep our soul mellow and grateful. For Gutierrez, our task as Christians is to transform the world through love and justice. And, only one kind of person transforms the world spiritually—one with a grateful “Mellow” heart.

To serve, then, is a true gift for both the recipient and the giver. It is important not only to listen and understand the Word of God, but also to apply the lessons learned. This is essential to living as a Christian and following Jesus’ footsteps.

The connection between Confirmation and service is this: That each confirmed Christian has a calling and a responsibility to serve as a living example of Jesus’ teachings – to serve one another with mellowness of heart. God calls us to serve and we say, “Here I am, Lord!”

This is also an opportunity for the candidates to explore ways in which they can be of service to our parish and the community at large.

Requirements:

1. Minimum of 30 hours of service to the community
2. Hours are due on or before Confirmation Sponsor Day
3. Candidate may document their hours on the sheet included in this packet
4. All documented service hours will be honored
5. Service should be directed to people, i.e. human-to-human interaction
6. It is the Candidate’s responsibility to fulfill the requirements of this project

Guidelines:

1. Service should reflect work done beyond the usual chores and duties done at home
2. Service should be directed to people, i.e. human-to-human interaction
3. Service should not have any financial rewards
4. Service should be done with a willing, mellow heart and carried out in a generous spirit

Reflection questions:

- What was your service project(s)?
- Was it a new experience?
- Was it difficult/easy? Do you think you made a difference?
- What did you learn about yourself in doing these projects?
- How has this service experience enhanced your understanding of Confirmation?

Confirmation Packet 2018 - 2019

Please return the three (3)
Confirmation Registration forms with
a copy of your Baptismal Certificate
back to the Youth Office to be processed.



*** Don't forget to complete the
... **ON-LINE Q -& - A** Registration Form

2018/2019 YOUTH MINISTRY PERMISSION FORM

I hereby give my child, _____, permission to participate in all Youth Ministry activities, trips and programs, sponsored by St. Anthony's of Padua Parish for the program year beginning July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

PARENT/ GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

General Information

Child's Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____
(STREET) (TOWN) (ZIP)

Home Telephone #: _____

High School Attending: _____ Grade in Sept. '18: _____

Father's Name: _____ Cell Phone # _____

Mother's Name: _____ Cell Phone # _____

Medical / Emergency Information & Release

In the event my child becomes ill, is injured or required emergency medical attention of any kind, and I cannot be reached by telephone, I hereby authorize the adult chaperone to make the necessary decisions concerning emergency treatment. I also give permission for my child to be transported to the nearest medical facility or hospital for treatment.

PARENT/ GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

If a parent cannot be reached, please contact the emergency person listed below:

Contact: _____ Tel. # _____

Relationship: _____

My child wears Contact lens YES _____ NO _____

My child's last Tetanus shot was on _____

Please list any allergies to Medications your child has: (If **NONE** check here _____)

Please list any medications your child takes on a regular basis: (If **NONE** check here _____)

Is there any other health/ physical information we should know about your child: (ex: Asthma, Food Allergies, ADD/HD, etc.)

Family Physicians Name: _____ Office Tel. # _____

Medical Insurance Company: _____

PARENT VOLUNTEER FORM



Due to the large number of teenagers involved in every aspect of the Youth Ministry Program, parents will be needed to volunteer at least once during each program year.

Please number the “**TOP TWO**” areas that you would be interested in helping with. Before the need arises, at the start of our program year, you will be contacted with your assignment and date we will need you to help with. **THANK YOU VERY MUCH!**

(1 = First choice; 2 =second)

_____ YOUTH MASS CO-COORDINATOR

_____ CATECHIST - Small Group Leader *(\$75.00 off registration fees)*

_____ OVERNIGHT - RETREAT CHAPERONE

_____ FUNDRAISER / SERVICE PROJECT CHAPERONE

_____ LARGE GROUP SPEAKER Topic _____

PARENT's NAME: _____

CHILD's NAME: _____

REGISTRATION FLEXIBLE PAYMENT INFORMATION



Frist let me say **THANK YOU** for your continued support of our parish community. Here in St. Anthony's we strive to provide the young people of our parish with the best possible Youth Ministry and Confirmation Preparation programs available. We also embrace the fact that you, the parents and guardians, are the primary teachers of the young, and we are your support network. With this knowledge I remind all, **it is essential to our faith as a Catholic that we attend weekly liturgy & share our gifts!**

As you already know, we depend 100% on the donations of our parishioners. This precept of providing for the needs of your parish community (tithing) has been with us since the days of Jesus. The custom of supporting your parish is inspired by the example of Christ who became poor to make us rich (2 Cor 8:9). Unfortunately, the contributions of our generous parishioners who attend Mass each week are not enough to cover the complete costs for our program.

To address this situation, we have implemented a **ONE FEE - FLEXIBLE PAYMENT** policy where **ALL** program costs are grouped together so we are not asking you for addition money throughout the year. This fee can be paid in full with your registration forms or if your family needs extra time it may be paid in 3 "Flexible Payments" that you control.

Here are the program details & fees: *(separate from the religious education grades K – 8)*

- 1 Child **\$350.00**
- 2 Children **\$450.00**
- 3 or more **\$500.00**

*** Fees are inclusive to the Confirmation Program ***

❖ Registrations submitted after September 3rd will incur a \$25.00 late fee.

- The above totals include **ALL** program materials, retreat fees & transportation, guest speaker fees, lock-in costs, Sponsor day & Sacramental costs
- Every family needs to offer their time and talents by volunteering in one area of parish life
- Program Retreat fees are non-refundable after the registration deadline
- Discounts Offered to all families!!!

Discounts:

- ❖ Volunteer Catechists & Small Group leaders minus \$75.00
- ❖ Supporting families with a Parish Envelope number minus \$50.00
- ❖ Religious Education families with at least 1 child in CCD grades K-8 minus \$25.00

Service Projects:

At times throughout the program year we will collect items and/or funds for the needy, our parish community and Catholic Charities. Participation and donations are not mandatory. You decide which charities and how you would like to contribute.

Program Participation:

We recognize the cost for our program, while in-line with our neighboring parishes, might seem overwhelming for some families. For this reason, we have provided an option of making flexible program payments. We ask all to complete the Payment Worksheet – remembering **NO** child will ever be left out for financial reasons!

PAYMENT WORKSHEET



Family Name: _____

Envelope ID # _____

Number of Children in Confirmation Program: _____

please make all checks payable to St. Anthony's Church

PHASE 1 PHASE 2 *(circle one)*

Student(s) Name: _____

Discounts:

Catechist / Group Leader **(-75.00)**

Religious Education family **(-25.00)** grade: _____

Contributing Family **(-50.00)** envelope number _____

YOUR TOTAL COST: _____

Paid in Full

Flexible Payment *** \$100.00 deposit due with registration ***

***Final Payment due on/or before November 1, 2018

Amount Enclosed: _____

Registration submitted after September 2nd must include the \$25.00 late fee

For Office Use Only

For Office Use Only

Received: _____

Follow Up: _____

Payments: _____

Final: _____