

High School Youth Ministry at St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church FAQ

What ministries do you offer for teens in high school?

We offer two different programs for high school teens: Awaken and Confirmation Preparation



What is Awaken?

Awaken is our weekly gathering for high school teens (9-12th) on Sundays following the 5pm Mass, usually 6:00-7:30pm September-May, and in July. Awaken is a place where teenagers can explore the relevance of a relationship with Jesus and find a community of peers and leaders to walk alongside during the best, worst, and just plain busy, parts of high school. No need to commit to come every week – just join us when you're able to.

Can teens bring friends to Awaken?

Sure! High school friends are welcome any Sunday. They do not need to register in advance.

If a teen is preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, can they attend Awaken? What about teens that attend a Catholic High School; can they attend Awaken as well?

Yes! The high school youth group, Awaken, is separate from Confirmation preparation. All teens in grades 9-12 are encouraged to participate weekly, including teens who have been confirmed.

What is the Confirmation Preparation program for high school teens at St. Michael?

The immediate preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation consists of tracks that meet in groups of 6-8 teens once a month. Teens must be entering the 10th, 11th or 12th grade year of high school and completed one year of formation (Awaken) at a Catholic parish or completed one year of Catholic high school before registering.

When is the first Confirmation prep. meeting?

The teen wishing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation and their parents must attend an informational meeting on 10/22/18, 12/5/18, or 1/8/19 at 7pm. All teens and parents are required to attend one of them.

When are the Confirmation preparation sessions?

Confirmation preparation will take place during monthly sessions which begin January 2019. Each track meets once a month—Teens pick one track at the time of registration and remain with that option for the duration of the year. Our goal is for teens to choose a track and grow with their small group of 8-12 peers for a year. All sessions must be attended in their entirety from beginning to end.

Can a teen miss a Confirmation preparation session?

Teens are required to attend each of the monthly sessions during the track for which they are registered. Should a serious conflict arise, the teen should contact the Director of Youth Faith Formation before the session takes place. If a teen fails to attend a session for an entire month, their status in preparing for Confirmation may be reevaluated. Note: Awaken is not Confirmation preparation, and therefore cannot be used as a make-up.

I still have more questions. Whom should I ask?

If you have any additional questions, feel free to email: youth@stmichaelchurch.net

How does a teen prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Michael?

- Teen must be a baptized sophomore, junior or senior in high school
- Teen must have been enrolled in Awaken and/or a Catholic High School the previous year
- Register online at stmichaelchurch.net/Awaken before January 8, 2019
- Provide a copy of Baptismal Certificate by January 8, 2019
- Attend the parent and teen information session on 10/22/18, 12/5/18, or 1/8/19 at 7pm
- Attend one of the following Confirmation tracks and attend all sessions for that track. Please see registration link for the actual dates of each track.*
 - Tracks 1&6 – One Wednesday a month 7:00-8:45 pm
 - Tracks 2&7 – One Thursday a month 7-8:45 pm
 - Tracks 3&8 – One Monday a month 7-8:45 pm
 - Track 4 – One Tuesday a month 4:30-6:15 pm
 - Tracks 5&9 – One Tuesday a month 7-8:45 pm

We are looking for families to host some of these in their own homes. Contact us for more information at youth@stmichaelchurch.net Please see registration form for actual track dates
- Attend at least one of the following weekend high school retreats:
 - Fri. November 2, 2018 4:30pm – Sun. November 4 2018 1pm (New Ulm, TX)
 - Fri. February 15, 2019 4:30pm – Sun. February 17 2019 1pm (New Ulm, TX)
 - Fri. June 21, 2019 8am – Sun. June 23 2019 6pm (STEUBENVILLE LONESTAR – Dallas, TX)
 - Fri. November 1, 2019 4:30pm – Sun. November 3, 2019 1pm (New Ulm TX)

School retreats will not fulfill the Confirmation retreat requirement
- Participate in acts of service through St. Michael the Archangel that incorporate the Works of Mercy (Matthew 25:31-46)
- Choose an adult sponsor who is a confirmed, practicing Catholic, other than your parent. (i.e. a teen's Catholic adult mentor, baptismal godparent, small group leader at church etc.)
- Choose a Confirmation name (the baptismal name of the teen or the name of a canonized Saint)
- Attend the sessions and rehearsal with sponsor on November 10, 2019 from 2-5pm
- Attend the Rite of Confirmation Mass November 17, 2019 (Arrive by 3:30 pm; Mass is at 5:00 pm.)

***What are the topics of the seven Confirmation Prep. sessions?**

On the day of Confirmation, candidates are given an increase of the gifts of the Holy Spirit that they received on the day they were baptized. (Acts 1:8; CCC 1285, 1303) This will allow the Confirmed, if they choose, to “share more completely” in the mission of Jesus.

The seven sessions will help each teenager paint a picture for themselves of what “S.T.E.P.S.” they will follow in order to “share more completely in this mission” once they receive the Sacrament of Confirmation completely in the mission of Jesus Christ...” (CCC 1294)

January – Introduction to S.T.E.P.S.

February – Service

March – Trust

April – Evangelize

May – Prayer

September – Sacraments

October – Review of S.T.E.P.S.

11/10 Session with Sponsors – Teenagers Go over their next S.T.E.P.S. with their sponsor

Let us know if you have any questions, we are praying for and looking forward to hearing from you!

[Stmichaelchurch.net/awaken](http://stmichaelchurch.net/awaken)