



August 1st, 2015

The Holy Sacrament of Confirmation: Parent Letter

Dear Parent:

Thank you for continuing with your child in his or her Confirmation journey. We are introducing an exciting new Program called *Chosen: Your Journey Toward Confirmation*. The goal of the Program is to offer your child a powerful, life-changing, experience as he or she prepares to receive the Holy Sacrament of Confirmation.

It is our hope that *Chosen* will not only offer your child a thorough knowledge and understanding of the Catholic Faith, but will also **win over their heart** at this critical time in their life. The Program has been carefully designed to address and answer your child's fundamental questions about life, and to challenge him or her to embrace a life of Faith.

Let's face it, our world is full of distractions and detours that can easily set a young person on the wrong path. Nothing can take the place of a strong Faith in God—not friends, money, or education—it is our Faith that gives us our identity and our direction in life. The Church recognizes that you, as parents, are the primary educators of your children in matters of Faith and morals.

Just like in Driver's Education, you are the passenger in the car that your child is driving (Confirmation); they are in control of the vehicle (their Confirmation journey and final decision). As a parent, you are there to: show them the road map; assist them along the journey; provide guidance and direction; encourage and support them, especially when they might have doubts about receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation; and, most importantly, pray for them!

Remember—Faith formation begins at home—**YOU** are the most important example and role model for your child. If your child sees you go to Confession, they will want to go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation; If your child sees you go to Holy Mass, every Sunday, they will want to attend Holy Mass; if your child sees you volunteer for Catholic Social Justice outreach, your child will want to be part of making a difference, especially with the poor and marginalized.

To learn more about the Program and your role in preparing your child for Confirmation, we invite you to attend a Parent Information Session on: Saturday, Oct. 11th, 2014, held in St. Albert the Great Hall, from 3:30PM to 4:30PM. The Meeting will not only inform you about the Program, but will also offer you ideas and tools to confidently engage and encourage your child during their preparation.

Finally, Pope Francis says it best to our Youth: "Be active members! Go on the offensive! Play down the field, build a better world, a world of brothers and sisters, a world of justice, of love, of peace, of fraternity, of solidarity."

Please know, we [the Core Team and Pastoral Staff] are praying for you and your child. Once again, thank you for saying "YES" to continuing with your son or daughter on their Faith journey!

If I can be of assistance, please contact me: msullivan@dsj.org or (650) 494-2496 Ext. 21

With best wishes and an assurance of prayer, I am,

Joyfully yours in Christ,

Michael X. Sullivan,
Director

OFFICE *of* YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY—CATHOLIC COMMUNITY *of* PALO ALTO