



Confirmation Program Responsibilities 2011-2012

Individual Meeting

Each candidate will be asked to set aside time for an opportunity to meet with either the Youth Minister or Program Coordinator. At least one parent/guardian is asked to accompany the Candidate. This gives everyone an opportunity to begin knowing each other on a more personal level, understand the Candidates' responsibilities and to ask any questions.
Deadline: August 31, 2011

Mass & Life Night

Our goal is to help the Confirmation Candidate build a deeper relationship with Jesus and to learn how to be a stronger disciple. This will be done by attending weekly Mass and Oneight (LIFE) Nights. All Confirmation Candidates are to sign in weekly at Mass. Sign in sheets are found in the Sacristy. Candidates are free to choose any Mass schedule during the weekend, however we do ask that all Candidates and Parents attend the *5PM Mass on the first Sunday of every month*. Our 5PM Sunday Mass is dedicated to youth every Sunday and we encourage you to attend this Mass if possible. There are certain Masses outside of the weekend Masses that we ask all Candidates to attend, please check your schedule for those particular dates. All candidates will have an opportunity to rotate through different parts and ministries involved with the Mass. Please refer to the Mass Schedule to see which Youth Mass you are responsible for and what role you will take part in. If you cannot make it to a Mass that you are scheduled to serve, it is your responsibility to find a replacement.

In order to successfully complete the program no more than 3 Oneight/LIFE Night Sessions can be missed.

Retreat & Day of Reflection

Candidates are asked to attend a three day Retreat and a Day of Reflection.

The Retreat is scheduled for January 13-15, 2012 and will be held at the LaSalette Retreat Center in Attleboro, MA.

Transportation will be provided to and from the facility. More information will be shared as final arrangements are made. The Confirmation day of reflection is scheduled for March 10, 2012 from 12 – 6:30PM. (A total of 2 Reflection Days must be completed between 8th and 9th Grade).

If the candidate has missed their own 8th Grade Day of Reflection they have 2 opportunities to make up the day: They can either attend the High School Youth Convention on Sunday, October 16 from 11-6PM at Bishop Stang or they can attend the 7th Grade Day of Reflection on Sunday, December 11 from 12-7:30PM

Service Projects

As part of our Christian responsibilities, the candidate is responsible for completing (30) thirty hours of community service. All Community Service Opportunities will be provided by the Parish. We are open to any ideas or suggestions that you may have that can be open to the entire program. We do ask that at least 5 out of the 30 hours be completed with family. Please refer to the "Service Projects" form for additional information.

Deadline: April 2012

8th Grade Day of Reflection Project

Candidates will be responsible for organizing, planning, and executing the EDGE 8th Grade Day of Reflection. All candidates will be involved and will participate in the day in some aspect, leading, speaking, running various activities, etc. Candidates are expected to arrive at 11:15AM on May 20, 2012. The day will conclude with the 7:30PM Mass.

Parents

Life Teen, following the teachings of the Catholic Church, recognizes the importance of parents in the lives of teens. Pope John Paul II called the family the "domestic church" and parents "the spiritual leaders of their families". The influence of parents on the faith lives of teens cannot be denied and so throughout the year we will provide opportunities for you to enrich your own spiritual lives and participate actively with your children. We will share dates and times for Parent Life Nights and Reflection Days as arrangements are made.

Sponsor

Candidates will explore what a Confirmation Sponsor is and why the Church asks that one is present during the ceremony. All Candidates will need a suitable sponsor and will need to submit the paperwork by their interview date. We will also provide opportunities for the Sponsor to grow in their own faith lives throughout the year. Please refer to the "Sponsor Form" for additional information.

Deadline: August 30, 2011.

Confirmation Name

Each Candidate will be asked to pray about choosing a Confirmation name. We choose a name as a sign of growth in our faith. This name that is chosen will represent the direction you feel your faith life is taking and will show the need for strength and guidance. It is important that the Candidate has an understanding of the Saint or person they have chosen to use for a Confirmation name. The Candidate will be asked to write a brief summary why they chose the name they did and about the person who's name they chose.

Deadline: October 2011

Letter

All Candidates will be asked to write a letter to the Pastor sharing their thoughts on two questions: What does Confirmation mean to you? Why do you feel you're ready to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation? Each question should be answered in five to seven sentences.

Deadline: April 2012

Exit Interviews

Each candidate will be asked to set aside time for an opportunity to meet with either the Youth Minister or Program Coordinator. At least one parent/guardian is asked to accompany the Candidate. This gives everyone an opportunity to discuss the growth that has been made throughout the year, what being Confirmed now means to the Candidate, why the Candidate feels they are ready to be Confirmed, and what the Candidate plans on doing now that they are being Confirmed. All paperwork and responsibilities should be completed and turned in at this time.

Deadline: April – May 2012

Diocesan/Other Events

Throughout the year, there may be events that are required or recommended that the Candidate attend. The Diocese does require that every Confirmation Candidate attend an annual Diocesan Event on Chastity. This year the event is being held at St. Anthony's of Padua in New Bedford, MA on Saturday, December 5 at 5PM. More information will follow.