

## **St Jude Church - 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Preparation Year 2**

The Confirmation program at St. Jude Church is a two-year program offered to young people beginning in their freshman year of high school. During this time of preparation, Confirmation candidates are invited to journey together and explore and enrich their faith by following Christ and being open to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The Year 2 Confirmation program meets on Monday evenings generally once per month. *Classes are held 7:15 – 8:30 PM.*

### **Curriculum**

Students use the Decision Point program by Matthew Kelley. This dynamic and engaging program prepares students for Confirmation through short video clips and discussions on topics that are integral to their faith journey. Throughout the course students are encouraged to explore and put into practice their Catholic faith within the context of their personal experience. The video clips are available online at [dynamiccatholic.com/confirmation](http://dynamiccatholic.com/confirmation). After each class students are encouraged to review the videos and then complete journaling questions found at the end of each lesson in their student handbook.

### **Service Hours and Reflection**

Prior to the Confirmation retreat in 10<sup>th</sup> grade, students are required to complete a minimum of 10 hours of service and write a short reflection on their experience. A full description of the service requirement and the Service Summary and Reflection Form are emailed to each student and also available on the parish website at [www.stjudenorfolk.org](http://www.stjudenorfolk.org).

### **Confirmation Retreat – Saturday, February 2, 12:30 to 9:00 PM**

All Confirmation candidates are required to attend a retreat. *If you cannot make the retreat at St. Jude in its entirety, you must make arrangements to attend an alternative retreat.* Please contact Toby Burrell immediately if you cannot make the St. Jude retreat.

### **Confirmation Name – Due February 1**

Choosing a Confirmation name is not a requirement. Many students are happy to stay with their baptismal name. If you are interested in choosing a Confirmation name, consider your values, ideals, goals, strengths and weaknesses. Consider choosing a saint who complements these characteristics. Perhaps the saint you choose had strengths that you would like to develop or perhaps they had weaknesses that they overcame in life that you would like to overcome as well. Consider this saint to be your own patron saint.

If you decide to stay with your baptismal name (either your first or middle name) please do some research on your saint and perhaps a little bit about why your parents chose it for you beyond a family connection. The Internet is an excellent resource to gather information about saints.

### **Confirmation Sponsor – Due Feb 1**

The Church encourages that the Confirmation Sponsor be a Godparent from Baptism. This choice symbolically strengthens the connection between Baptism and Confirmation. However, it is not mandatory to choose a Godparent, as there are many reasons why this may not be possible or even desirable.

There are a few requirements, however. Your Confirmation sponsor must be

- A confirmed and practicing Catholic
- May not be one of your parents (though a parent may stand in as a “proxy” if your sponsor of record is unable to attend the day of Confirmation.)

When choosing your Confirmation Sponsor, particularly if it is not one of your Godparents, please consider your values, your goals, your strengths and weaknesses. As with the saint you chose, try to ask someone who complements these qualities in you and someone who is an excellent example of what it means to be a Catholic Christian in today’s world.

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation, Interviews, and Letter to the Bishop**

Reconciliation opportunities, the schedule for interviews, and guidelines for the letter to the bishop will be discussed at the meeting for parents and students in January.

### **Required Parent and Student Meeting – February 11 at 8:30 PM**

Attendance at this meeting is critical in preparing for Confirmation. At least one parent is asked to come with their son/daughter.

Questions? Please contact Toby Burrell at [tburrell.stjude@gmail.com](mailto:tburrell.stjude@gmail.com) or call the Religious Education Office at 508-359-6150.

See checklist below....

## **Confirmation 2018-2019 Important Dates and Check List**

Feb 2	Confirmation Retreat – 12:30PM- 9 PM
Feb 2	Confirmation Name and Sponsor's Name - Both
Feb 11	Parent and Student Meeting (required) 8:30 PM
Feb 19	Reconciliation #1
Feb 20	Last day to turn in Service Hours Summary and Reflection
March 12	Confirmation Rehearsal 7:30PM – 8:30PM
March 15	Confirmation – 7:30Pm - 10 AM and 2 PM

- **Letter to the Bishop**  
More information at the February 11 meeting
- **Interview**  
Sign up information at the February 11 meeting
- **Baptismal Certificates** – If your student did not receive their First Communion at St. Edward, then we may not have a copy of their Baptismal Certificate. This is required prior to Confirmation.