

CANDIDATE OVERVIEW: 2009-2010

Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist are the Sacraments of Initiation. Although Confirmation is sometimes called the “sacrament of Christian maturity” *Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1308*, this can be misleading. Some young people might mistakenly think “becoming an adult in the Church” might mean they have completed learning about their faith. In reality, Confirmation should deepen our understanding of and participation in our Catholic faith and community and begin our journey of adult education and formation. Confirmation completes and seals our Baptism. Through the fullness of the Spirit’s gifts, we are led to Eucharist through which we become the Body of Christ.

Preparing for the reception of the sacrament is far more than an intellectual quest, though you are asked to attend classes. The whole person—mind, body, heart, and spirit—must be addressed. Therefore, Confirmation preparation is much like going on a journey. The process should be seen as part of your larger (life-long) faith journey. You, by virtue of your Baptism, have been initiated into the pilgrim people of God.

Expectations of the Candidates:

- (1) To enter the journey with a willing heart and an open mind.
- (2) To commit yourself to consistent personal prayer throughout the journey.
- (3) To accept the responsibility to learn more about the faith.
- (4) To reflect on your relationship with God.
- (5) To become a witness to the gospel values and moral precepts of the Church.
- (6) To willingly engage in community service.
- (7) To support and encourage other candidates on the journey.
- (8) To share the Confirmation journey with parents, sponsor, and Confirmation team with commitment and openness.
- (9) To attend the Rite of Enrollment, Confirmation sessions, Confirmation practice, and Confirmation. *The seven classes and saint name project should be completed by May 2009.*
- (10) To participate in the Confirmation journey as outlined below.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM (following Confirmation Candidate/Sponsor/Parent Meeting)

- (1) **Attend the Confirmation Session** with your Sponsor on Sun., May 17, at 4:30 p.m.
- (2) **Attend the Rite of Enrollment** (with your Sponsor), Sun., May 17, 6:00 p.m. Mass.
The Rite of Enrollment immediately follows the Confirmation Candidate/Sponsor/Parent Meeting. Candidates and sponsors will sit together.
- (3) **Meet with your sponsor for the equivalent of four one-hour meetings** between the Rite of Enrollment and Jan. 10, 2010.
- (4) **Complete 15 service hours** between the Rite of Enrollment and January 10, 2010.
Some ideas for service are attached. *Your sponsor will return a completion form listing the sponsor meetings and service hours to the Parish by January 10, 2010. This form is included in the sponsor’s packet although service hours do not need to be completed with the sponsor.*
- (5) **Attend the Four Confirmation Sessions.** (noted on the enclosed calendar--Please don’t forget to sign in for all sessions) Note: **Candidates are to attend all sessions.**
- (6) **Attend the Confirmation Practice & Confirmation (tentatively Feb. 2010) at the assigned Mass**—assignments will be made by the September session).
- (7) **Keep in contact with the Director of Religious Education** with questions, concerns, problems, etc. **Let us know of any address, phone, e-mail, or sponsor changes immediately.**

Important Information For You To Know:

Name of Sponsor: _____ Phone # of Sponsor: _____

Address of Sponsor: _____ E-mail of Sponsor: _____

Director of Religious Education: Bette Scaringe 893-1837; scaringeb@gs.ptdiocese.org

Candidate Overview from can/spons mtg.doc