

Confirmation Overview Calendar for 2012-2013

Program

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

Confirmation Catechists:

<u>Sun: 4:45-5:45</u>	Todd Gardner & Marguerite Wilcox Pat Phelan & Mary Anne Camarda
<u>Sun. 7:30-8:30:</u>	Bill Bibby & Karen Jay; Cindy Doheny & Susan Williams Jerry & Margaret Haynes & Robin Stanford,
<u>Wed. 7:00-8:00</u>	Mona Dahlke & Mary Forrestall Debra Herman & Beth Sturman

Confirmation Overview

***Note:** The Confirmation Program will be reviewed at the Sunday, Jan. 22, Parents & Candidates Session*

Diocesan Policy is that candidates **must be in Grade 9 (or above) to be confirmed.** Therefore, candidates must be in Grade 8 or above in their public/private school to begin the Confirmation process.

A copy of the student's **baptismal certificate is due** before or by **Jan. 22** (at the Parents & Candidates Beginning Session).

Candidates **attend 8 classes** where they will focus on catechesis about the sacrament of Confirmation: community, sacraments, symbols and rituals, the Holy Spirit, service, and ongoing discipleship. These subjects are presented as being not only applicable to Confirmation, but are intrinsic to our lifelong faith journey, of which Confirmation is a special part. A calendar is included in this packet.

Candidates will select a **Confirmation name**, complete a name project on their Confirmation name, and present the project to their class. **To help show the relationship between Baptism and Confirmation, they are encouraged to use their baptismal name;** or if they wish, another name may be chosen, provided it is the name of a saint or holy person of the Church. **A Confirmation Saint Name Project Guideline (green page) is included in this packet.** Parents are invited to the name project presentations (see the calendar).

Candidates will **choose a sponsor**, complete the Confirmation Sponsor Name Form 2012-13, and return the form to the Religious Education Office by the first class.

Sponsors: (see other side)

Sponsors:

The sponsor must be a fully initiated, practicing Catholic adult. Sponsors who are not registered parishioners (must have been registered for at least three months) at Good Shepherd must return the certification of participation form from their parish. The sponsor is someone who can share the on-going living out of Confirmation through at least some periods of development and growth. **A sponsor simply supplements the primary catechetical responsibility of parents in the Confirmation process.** Sponsors will attend the Meeting on May 20 for an overview of their responsibilities and to prepare for the Rite of Enrollment at the 6:00 p.m. Mass that day (May 20.). The sponsor will attend the Rite of Enrollment, complete four meetings (or the **equivalent** of four hours) with their candidate, oversee the candidate's service hours, and attend the Confirmation practice and Confirmation.

Canon law recommends using godparents as Confirmation sponsors, but this is not always possible. Again, we strongly recommend the sponsor be over 21; however, the **minimum** age is graduation from high school (graduating the spring the candidate begins the Confirmation process).

Note: According to Canon law, a parent cannot be the Confirmation sponsor for their child. **Parents of other Confirmation candidates are excellent possibilities for Confirmation sponsors.** This has worked well in the past.

See the Confirmation Sponsor Information 2012-2013 and Confirmation Sponsor Certification (pink page, front and back,) in this packet for more information.

Candidates will attend the Candidate/Sponsor/Parent Session and the Rite of Enrollment on May 20 (see calendar).

Candidates will attend all Confirmation Sessions. There will be approximately three one-hour (approximately) sessions after the summer break before Confirmation the following spring. Calendars with dates of these sessions will be distributed either at the candidate/sponsor/parent meeting on May 20 or mailed later in the summer. **Candidates are expected to attend all sessions.** Parents and Sponsors are encouraged to participate in the sessions as specified. If both student and sponsor participate, the Confirmation Sessions **after** the Rite of Enrollment may be used **toward** the four one-hour sponsor meetings (1 session = 1 meeting).

Candidates are strongly encouraged to attend a retreat during this time of preparing for Confirmation. You will be receiving more information about retreats.

Candidates will perform 15 **service hours** between the Rite of Enrollment (May 20, 2012) and January 10, 2013. Information on and ideas for service hours will be distributed at the May 20 candidate/sponsor meeting. Sponsors should encourage the candidates with their service hours.

A completion form for the service hours and the sponsor/candidate meetings must be returned to the Religious Education Office **by the sponsor** by January 10, 2013.