

11th Grade Christian Formation Team

Pastor: Fr. Roman Stikel | (262) 694-6018

Parish Address: 7307 40th Avenue | Kenosha, WI 53142

Director of Youth and Adult Ministry:

Sandy Schwalbe | (262) 925-4157 sschwalbe@stmarycatholic.org

Christian Formation Administrative Assistant:

Open Position | (262) 925-4150

11th Grade High School Catechists:

Yolanda Alanis | yrv615@yahoo.com

Dan Johnson | danandpattyjohnson@gmail.com

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A copy of this handbook can be found on our parish website at www.stmarycatholic.org.

NOTES	



St. Mary Catholic Church 11th Grade High School Christian Formation

Welcome. In this booklet, you will find a description of the Christian Formation program at St. Mary Catholic Church, class schedules, and confirmation requirements. This year, you/your son or daughter will complete your/their final year of confirmation preparation; but remember, the Sacrament of Confirmation is not the end of your/their Catholic formation, it is more the BEGINNING to their lifelong discipleship!

Program Description

CHOSEN | The Journey toward Confirmation | (as Stated in the Parent Guide)

CHOSEN will lead your teen on a journey through the Catholic Faith in all its richness and vitality. Over the course of twenty-four engaging lessons, your son or daughter will not only learn about the Faith, but will be invited to experience a personal encounter with Jesus Christ, using a combination of videos, workbook material and group discussions. The goal of the CHOSEN program is to win over the hearts of youth at this critical time in their lives and to keep them firmly planted in the faith community of the Church. The program is about living out our Catholic Faith and teaching us more about growing our love for God and becoming Disciples of Christ.

The video presentations in this program feature some of the top youth ministers in the Church today and have been filmed on location throughout the country and internationally. A dynamic and engaging workbook is used throughout the program and contains at-home pages and activities that are an essential part of the **CHOSEN** learning experience. As the candidate's parents, you play an essential role in guiding your child through this process. *See Parents Guide on page 8.* Also note on page 8, two additional books used in the **CHOSEN** program.

Recently, we introduced a Catholic Social Teaching program to all 11th Grade students, called **CONNECTED**. Please see page 9 for more information about this program.

Policies and Procedures

Mass Attendance: By attending and participating as a family in the Eucharistic celebration, parents help guide their student to grow in his/her faith. **Students are required to attend Mass and participate in the Liturgy each weekend.**

Scheduled Classes: Classes follow the 10:30am Mass on Sundays from **11:30am – 12:45pm.** Students are encouraged to attend the 10:30am Mass prior to the session start time and go directly to the school for classes to begin promptly at 11:30am. **See pages 12 and 13 for the 11th Grade Schedule.**

Materials: Students are expected to be prepared for class by bringing their Connected or CHOSEN Workbook, their Bible, and their willingness to listen and participate during class. Bibles are handed out in 6th grade or the first year that a student begins the High School Christian Formation Program. Students receive their CHOSEN Workbook in their first year of St. Mary's High School Christian Formation Program. If a student has not brought their books for 2 weeks in a row, they will be asked to repurchase their books. The cost of a new Workbook is \$20.

Classroom Behavior: It is expected that all Teens will conduct themselves as God would expect. It is important to work together for the common good in creating an effective learning environment. All youth have the responsibility to engage in behavior that is in the best interest of themselves, their peers and the catechist. Please remember that our catechists are volunteers; they deserve respect and cooperation. At the same time, each student deserves respect, understanding and a classroom conducive to learning. Mutual respect is expected.

Policies and Procedures continued...

Open Door | **Parent Policy:** Parents are invited to visit their son's/daughter's class. If you wish to sit-in on a class, please let the Director and the Catechist know one week prior to the beginning of the class you wish to attend.

Electronic Devices: Cell phones can be a distraction to students while attending formation classes or other formation activities and it is because of this that students are asked to turn their phone off and keep them out of their sight while attending class and various activities. Phones may be used during activities upon request of the catechist.

Service Project Hours: Students are required to earn ten (10) hours of service during each of their three years in the program for a total of thirty (30) hours of service by the time they are Confirmed. Service hours can be in the categories of Family, Church, and Community. See also pgs. 18 & 19. SJCA students are required to earn ten (10) service hours.

Teens are required to fill out an **Individual Service Project form** (found in classrooms, High School office and on our parish website) and turn it into the Christian Formation Office to have their hours recorded. Students are advised to turn in the form Immediately after performing the service hours, as we use this form to log service hours. Forms can be turned in via mail, email or before or after class by placing them in the "in bin" found in each classroom and outside the High School Office in the school. **Without this form, service hours cannot be accurately logged.** It is always a good idea to keep a copy for your records. Please send the form to the attention of the Christian Formation Assistant or sschwalbe@stmarycatholic.org.

Attendance or Leaving Class Early: Attendance to all classes is mandatory. All Religious Education classes must be attended, with serious family difficulties being the only exception. Exceptions should be discussed with the Director prior to missing class. No other activities - sports or leisure - should be viewed as more important. Youth learn their priorities from the example of adults. In the event that a class is missed, students are expected to complete the makeup work for that specific class. Please see Page 20 for guidelines on how to complete make up work. All make up work is required to be complete one month prior to your Teen's Confirmation in Spring.

Attendance or Leaving Class Early Continued: Please contact Director via email or phone if a student requires an early dismissal to any class. Teens must also bring a note stating the time they need to leave and present it to their Catechist prior to class.

Program | **Event Fees:** One half of the total program fee is due upon registration, with the balance due by February of the following year. Special event fees are due upon registration. Families with special financial circumstances or needs should contact the Director. All students will have access to our faith formation program.

Permission Slip Policy: A yearly General Permission Slip can be filled out to cover any off campus event for the year. If the event is off church property, students are required to have a permission slip to attend. General Permission Slip forms can be downloaded from our church website at www.stmarycatholic.org.

Group | Individual Pictures and Release of Phone Numbers: Throughout the program year, photographs of the youth participating in various events may be taken. Some of these photographs may be used in the bulletin, on fliers or bulletin boards, parish website, or other media, etc. In addition, requests from St. Mary committee chairpersons or other volunteer coordinators are received for the names and phone numbers of teens, and families to help in many parish programs and/or events. Please be sure to fill this portion in on the registration form.

Class Cancellation: On Sundays when the weather is not safe for traveling, families will be informed via ROBO call. When possible, a decision to cancel classes due to inclement weather will be made by 5:00pm the Saturday evening prior to classes. You must always use your best judgment. In the event that classes are not "cancelled" and you feel it is not safe, please call the Director of Youth Ministry to inform her that your student will not be at class. Your safety and the safety of our youth is always our primary concern.





PARENT'S GUIDE Parents/Guardians will have received this guide during the 9th/10th Grade Parent Meeting. This guide not only instructs parents in their integral role with their child's Confirmation preparation, but is an opportunity to revisit and rekindle their own faith. It includes an overview of a parent's role, guidelines for supporting their teen's journey of faith, tips for talking with their child, and more. The "Conversation Starters" in this book are invaluable. Please use the schedule found in the center of the Handbook for appropriate CHOSEN lessons.

Additional copies of this book are available for FREE.



SPONSOR'S GUIDE

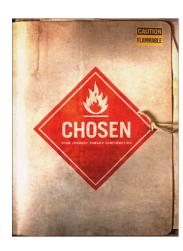
Your Teen's Sponsor will receive this valuable handbook while attending the Candidate/Sponsor Commitment Mass/Meeting on **Sunday, January 14, 2024.** See Schedule in the center of the Handbook for more information.

Additional copies of this book are available for FREE.

STUDENT'S WORKBOOK

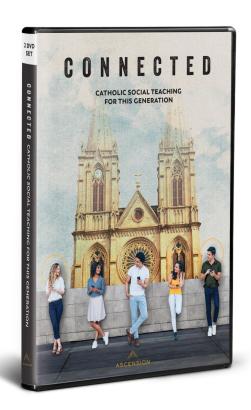
Your 11th Grade Student received this workbook in their first year of the program. If your Teen is new to the program this year he or she will receive the CHOSEN workbook at their first class. This Workbook should be brought to all classes along with their bible.

Additional copies of this workbook are available for \$20.



CONNECTED

Catholic Social Teaching for This Generation



It sometimes seems that we live in a broken and hurting world. Teens today see division, anxiety, and tension all around them. *Connected: Catholic Social Teaching for This Generation* brings Christ's healing message to a world that sorely needs it through the topics that are most important to teens right now. It addresses:

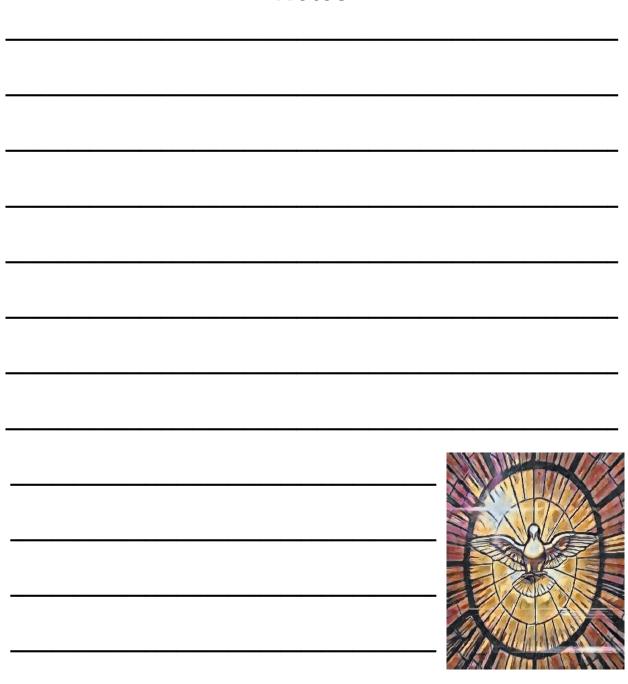
- **Session 1 -** God's Creation and Stewardship
- **Session 2 -** The Dignity of Human Life
- **Session 3 -** Solidarity, Race and Responsibilities
- **Session 4 -** Poverty and the Dignity of Work
- Session 5 Family: The Foundation of Society

CONNECTED offers a unique presentation that blends glimpses of Catholic organizations at work in the world today, with accessible and attractive explanations of Church teaching, as well as engaging stories of the saints. This combination cuts through the noise to touch the hearts and enlighten the minds of your teens.

-Taken from Ascensionpress.com

This is a five session video-based program where each student will have a workbook to use for the duration of the CONNECTED program. We ask that workbooks are not written in.

Notes



Important Dates

11th Grade Parent/Teen Meeting Sunday, October 1, 2023 11:30am-12:30pm Bell Hall
Formation Classes Begin Sunday, October 15, 2023 11:30am-12:45pm (excluding SJCA)
Confirmation Information Sheet Due Sunday, December 3, 2023 Handbook Page 14
Candidate's Saint Paper Due Sunday, December 3, 2023 Handbook Page 15
Candidate/Sponsor Commitment Mass and Meeting to follow 10:30am Mass Sunday, January 14, 2024.
Confirmation Retreat Sunday, February 4, 2024
Candidate Questionnaire for the Bishop Due Sunday, February 18, 2024 THIS QUESTIONNAIRE MUST BE TYPED. Handbook Page 16
Sponsor's Letter to Fr. Roman Due Sunday March 17, 2024 Handbook Page 17
Formation Classes End Sunday, April 7, 2024 (excluding SJCA)
Teen Confirmation Interview Sunday, April 21, Monday, April 22 or Tuesday, April 23, 2024. Interviews take place with Fr. Roman or one of our Deacons. Times and locations TBD.
Confirmation Mass Rehearsal Thursday, May 9, 2024 6:00pm In Bell Hall and Church

Confirmation Mass
Tuesday, May 14, 2024 | 7:00pm | Bishop Haines

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ST. Cath

2023-2024 11th Grade Christian Formation Schedule

11th Grade St. Mary Catholic Church	Lesson Plan	11th Grade St. Mary Catholic Church SJCA
Beginning with 10:30am Mass	Blue indicates	Attendance required as stated below
tollowed by class from	Blue Letter Sunday	
11:30am-12:45pm		
	October 2023	
Sunday, October 1	Parent/Teen Meeting	Required Attendance.
0	Bell Hall 11:30am	22
Sunday, October 8	110	
Sunday, October 15	Connected	Please join us for Mass.
TO SOMIT OPERING IN 435 TORIOWEN BY FILST CIASS		10:30am Opening Mass Please joins us for Mass
Sunday, October 22	Connected	
Sunday, October 29	Connected	na
	November 2023	13
Sunday, November 5	OFF	na
Sunday, November 12	CHOSEN 17	na
Sunday, November 19	CHOSEN 18	na
Sunday, November 26	OFF	na
	December 2023	33
Sunday, December 3	MOVIE	Sunday, December 3 Movie CHURCH Attendance Optional.
Saint Paper and Confirmation Information Sheet form Due	1:00-3:30pm	
Sunday, December 10	Circle of Grace	na
Sunday, December 17 Everyone, please volunteer for	SERVICE	Everyone, please volunteer for the Giving Circle this week.
the Giving Circle this week in lieu of Class.	Giving Circle	
Sunday, December 24	CHRISTMAS OFF	na
Sunday, December 31	HAPPY NEW YEAR OFF	na
	January 2024	
Sunday, January 7 Confirmation Retreat form	CHOSEN 19	Na Confirmation Retreat form due
due Sunday, January 14	Candidate/	Sunday, January14
Caudidata (Cananas Camaitanas NAnna mith	Sponsor	Candidate (Connect Formitment Mace with Mooting to follow

Sunday, January 14	Sponsor Sponsor	Sullday, Jaliual y14
Candidate/Sponsor Commitment Mass with Meting to follow after Mass	Commitment	Candidate/Sponsor Commitment Mass with Meeting to follow after Mass
10:30am Mass with Bell Hall After Mass	Mass	10:30am Mass with Bell Hall After Mass Required attendance.
Sunday, January 21	OFF	na
Sunday, January 28	CHOSEN 20	na
	February 2024	4
Sunday, February 4	Confirmation RETREAT	Sunday, February 4 Required attendance.
Confirmation Retreat St. Mary Church Campus	St. Mary Campus	Confirmation Retreat St. Mary Church Campus
Begins 9:00am—6:00pm (includes 10:30am Mass)	9:00am-6:00pm	Begins 9:00am—6:00pm (includes 10:30am Mass.
Sunday, February 11	OFF	na
Sunday, February 18 Bishop Questionnaire Due	CHOSEN 21	na Bishop Questionnaire Due
Sunday, February 25 Fr. Michael Courchaine	SPEAKER CHURCH	Fr. ??? 1-2:30pm Fr. Michael Courchaine
1-2:30pm	1-2:30pm	Required attendance.
	March 2024	
Sunday, March 3 Stations of the Cross & Adoration	STATIONS OF THE	Stations of the Cross and Adoration 1:00pm—2:30pm
	CROSS & ADORATION	Positive Action of the
	1-2:30pm	ייכן מווכם מונכווממווכני
Sunday March 10	OFF	na
Sunday, March 17 Fr. Roman Letter Due	CHOSEN 22	na Fr. Roman Letter Due
Sunday, March 24	CHOSEN 23	na
Sunday, March 31	EASTER OFF	na
	April 2024	
Sunday, April 7	CHOSEN 24	
10:30am Closing Mass with last class to follow.	Closing Mass	10:30am Closing Mass Please joins us for Mass
Sunday, April 21, Monday, April 22, and Tuesday, April 23 Student interview with Fr. Roman or	Candidate Interviews	Sunday, April 21, Monday, April 22, and Tuesday, April 23 Student interview with Fr. Roman or Deacon Time
		and Location TBD. Required attendance.
	May 2024	
Thursday, May 9, 2024 Confirmation Mass Rehearsal 6:00pm Church	Church	Thursday, May 9, 2024 Confirmation Mass Rehearsal 6:00pm Church Required attendance.
Tuesday, May 14, 2024 Confirmation Mass	Confirmation Mass	Tuesday, May 14, 2024 Confirmation Mass
7:00pm Arrive by 6:15pm		7:00pm Arrive by 6:15pm

Candidate's Confirmation Information Sheet

It all begins this year, with filling out the Confirmation Information Sheet. Students are asked to complete this form and turn it in no later than **Sunday**, **December 3**, **2023**. Forms are available in the church office, in the school office and online at stmarycatholic.org.

	Confirmation Information Sheet	
	t. Mary Catholic Kenosha, W	
	Date	
Confirmand Information		
Please state name as you would like it t	to be recorded in our Church Records and	on the Confirmation Certificate, etc
Name		
	City/State/Zip	
E-mail Address	Phone Number	
Date of Birth	City/State of Birth	
Parish	Date of Backers City/State	
Confirmation Saint Name		
Please attach Saint Paper		
Parent Information	.01	
Demonstral N		
Parent(s) Name Mothers Maiden Name	ATTIP	
Mothers Maiden Name	4	
Address		
E-mail Address	Phone Number _	
Sponsor Information		
Address	City/State/Zip	
E-mail Address	Phone Number _	
Sponsor's relationship to Candidate		
Received the Three Sacraments of Initiati		
Sponsor's Home Parish	City	State
	urn this sheet in by Sunday, December 4, 2	

Candidate's Saint Paper

Your Saint Paper should be one **full page**, **double spaced** using **times new roman #12 font**. This paper should be written in your own words, making it personal. **Be sure to proofread your paper and include your name!** The Saint Paper is due **Sunday, December 3, 2023**.

Include the following information about your Saint in your paper:

- Why have you chosen this Saint to be your Confirmation Saint?
- Where was your Saint born?
- * How and where did your Saint grow up?
- What is the family history of your Saint?
- What was your Saint's education?
- Tell us about your Saint's conversion experience. When did they come to be a follower?
- * What is your Saint's philosophy?
- What is your Saint a patron of?
- What is your Saint's feast day?
- * How, when, where did your Saint die? Where are they buried?

Several Saint Resources

There are many other resources including the Milwaukee Archdiocese's website.

https://gnm.org/saints-find/

https://catholicsaints.info/

https://www.catholic.org/saints/

Candidate's Questionnaire for the Bishop

Candidates are required to complete this form and turn it in no later than **Sunday, February 18, 2024. Forms must be typed** and turned in before or after class or emailed to svatter@stmarycatholic.org. This form outline is also available on our parish website at stmarycatholic.org.

Candidate Questionnaire for the				
Reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation				
Student's Name (PLEASE Type):				
Parish:				
Confirmation Name:				
Why I chose this name as my Confirmation Name:				
Who I chose for my sponsor and why:				
Volunteer service projects that I have done in prepathem:	prile or Confirmation and what I have learned from			
I wish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation bec				
How have you grown in your faith life? How do you	plan to live it in the future?			
List one thing from your personal life that you woul	d like the Bishop to know about you.			
I am freely choosing to be confirmed into the Catho	olic faith. (Circle one) YES NO			
Signature:				

Sponsor's Letter to Fr. Roman

This letter to the Fr. Roman is due by **Sunday**, **March 17**, **2024**. It should be typed, double-spaced, font size #12. Sponsors are asked to mail their letters to St. Mary Catholic Church 7307 40th Avenue Kenosha WI 53142, attn: Christian Formation Administrative Assistant or sschwalbe@stmarycatholic.org. Below, is an example of what may be included in the Sponsor's letter to Fr. Roman.

1. Your candidate's maturity or growth of faith.

discuss any or all of the following...

- 2. Your candidate's willingness to continue to grow in faith.
- 3. Your candidate's willingness to serve God.
- 4. Any other matter that you think may show that your candidate is ready for Confirmation.

Sincerely,
Sponsor Name
Type and sign your name



Service Hours

As mentioned on page 6 this handbook, Teens are required to earn ten (10) hours of service during each of their three years in the program for a total of thirty (30) hours of service by the time they are Confirmed. Service hours can be in the categories of Family, Church, and Community. Below are ideas or examples of service hours.

- Soup Kitchen | This typically takes place at Christ the King Church 5934 4th Avenue Kenosha every first Tuesday of the month. Students are asked to help serve a meal to those in need. 4:15pm-6:15pm **Due to COVID-19, this event has been placed on hold.** Updates about this event to follow.
- Attend Eucharistic Adoration | Spend some quiet time with Jesus | fill out an Individual Service Project Form | Contact Sandy Schwalbe for more information.
- Help with the Giving Circle | Dates and times of this event TBD but will likely take place early December 2022. More information about this to follow.
- Music | Do you sing in your High School Choir or play an instrument in your High School band or orchestra? Have you ever thought about becoming a Cantor? Call the Parish Music Director) at (262) 925-4159 for more information.
- Become a Greeter or Usher at any of our four (currently offered) masses during the weekend. Altar Server during non-COVID19 times. Contact Sandy Schwalbe for more information.
 - Volunteer at your school as allowed.
 - Events as they come up | I will typically contact all families as needed. Watch for emails!
 - Be creative! Try to make service hours a family event, if possible. If you are unsure about an activity, please contact Sandy Schwalbe.
 - College Boxes | Help pack college boxes for St. Mary students at college | Date and time TBD

Service Hours continued...

Shalom Center | aka Soup Kitchen | Each first Thursday of the month, join us at the Shalom Center located at 4314 39th Avenue, Kenosha (enter at Door #4) from 4pm to 6:30pm. Students can earn service hours (and parents/guardians who are welcome) serving ready-made meals to Shalom Center

clients and those in need from our community. The Shalom Center is the longest running meal program in the community, providing meals without missing a day, since 1982! You can be a part of the great program. Watch for sign up Genius links via email.

interested.

Schwalbe if



Giving Circle | Dates and times of this event will be available in November.
 Students can earn service hours by making Christmas a brighter time of the year

for families in need in the Kenosha Community. This can be an Individual event, done with a group of friends, or by families. Volunteers choose and wrap already purchased gifts for families in need. Help will also be needed for set up and take down. Watch for a sign up genius link via email.

• Crossroads Care Center | Spend time participating in a variety of activities with Crossroads residents. This event will take place one Saturday a month, starting back up in January 2024. Watch for sign up Genius via email. Seeking a volunteer Adult Supervisor for this event. Contact Sandy

How to complete Make up assignments

Attendance to all scheduled classes is required, however, if a class is missed students are required to make up their work. Students should be called in as absent to Sandy Schwalbe at (262) 925-4157 or sschwabe@stmarycatholic.org prior to class time. I will let your student's Catechist know.

All completed make up assignments should be placed into the "turned in" bin during class time, emailed to the administrative assistant, or mailed to our parish office (attn: Christian Formation Administrative Assistant) at St. Mary Catholic Church 7307 40th Avenue Kenosha, WI 53142. Three times during the Formation Year, students will receive a letter about missed classes where make up work is required. *In the absence of the CF Administrative Assistant, assignments may also be sent to sschwalbe@stmarycatholic.org.

- For CHOSEN LESSONS | Make up assignments for the CHOSEN program consists of watching the videos online (a CHOSEN link for online access will be provided to all students in the program), and by completing the work in the workbook. The following pages should be completed and turned in for missed classes:
 - 1. The **Watch It** page.
 - 2. The **Challenge of the Week** | students are to choose to write (full paragraph) about one challenge of the week.
- For MOVIE | Students will be given access to the movie and will be asked to complete a list of discussion questions. The movie should be watched and the discussion questions should be completed and turned in to the Administrative Assistant.
- For CONNECTED | Students will be given access to CONNECTED Videos to complete the necessary work.
- ALTARATION | Students will be given access to ALTARATION videos to complete assignments from the workbook. Contact Administrative Assistant.
- OTHER ABSENCES | Makeup work will be provided as needed.

A note about attire for Sponsors and Confirmand for Confirmation Mass

As every candidate knows, a Sacrament is an outward (visible) sign instituted by Christ to give grace. Therefore, it is important that we focus on both the outside appearance and the internal conversion during all of our Sacramental ceremonies. At the Sacrament of Baptism, we wear special gowns, the Sacrament of First Communion, we wear white dresses or suits, at our Marriage we wear formal gown or tuxedos. It is with the same consideration that we consider our outward appearance during the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Please apply the following guidelines for Confirmands and their Sponsors while selecting Confirmation attire.

Appropriate attire for Women: Dress, skirt and blouse, pantsuit or dress pants with a blouse. The dress should be knee length or longer. Chest, back and shoulders must be covered. Dress shoes. Think Sunday best.



Appropriate attire for Men: Dress pants, dress shirt and tie with dress socks and dress shoes. Suit or sport jacket are appropriate, but not necessary. No jeans or sneakers. Think Sunday best.

Helpful Suggestions: The liturgical color for Confirmation is red (and white), to

signify the Holy Spirit who confirmed the apostles on Pentecost and gave them courage to practice their faith. You may consider wearing some red or white. Also, when fixing your hair, your forehead must be uncovered for Anointing from the Bishop. Thank you!

Notes:		
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Parent Meeting Opening Prayer:

Loving God, you are the giver of all we possess, the source of all of our blessings. We thank and praise you.

Thank you for the gift of our children. Help us to set boundaries for them, and yet encourage them to explore. Give us the strength and courage to treat each day as a fresh start.

May our children come to know you, the one true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.

May your Holy Spirit help them to grow in faith, hope and love, so they may know peace, truth, and goodness.

May their ears hear your voice. May their eyes see your presence in all things. May their lips proclaim your word. May their hearts be your dwelling place. May their hands do works of charity. May their feet walk in the way of Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord.

Amen.

Parent Meeting Closing Prayer:

Loving God,

Pour out your blessing Upon our beloved children,
That during this time of Sacramental preparation
They may grow closer to you,
And come to know your special love for them.
May this time of preparation be a time of blessing
For our families and our community,
And unite us all in your great love. Amen.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

IN THE CHURCH

THURSDAYS FROM 5:00PM - 8:00PM
OR
FRIDAY MORNINGS AFTER 8:00AM MASS UNTIL 10:00AM

What should I do during Adoration?

- 1. Read from your Bible or Prayer book
- 2. Listen to Praise and Worship music (with your headphones, of course!)
- 3. Pray the Rosary
- 4. Be okay with Silence Listen
- 5. Be patient Start small even ten minutes!

TAKE A BREAK FROM ALL THE CHAOS!

What is Eucharistic Adoration?

It's a form of prayer that began centuries ago. The word Adoration means to pay hommage to someone. The same Jesus whom we receive in the Eucharist at Mass is the same one we worship in Adoration. Adoration is a time to sit face to face with Jesus and deepen and strengthen our relationship with Him.