

St. Joseph Catholic Church
Office of Faith Formation
1115 College Ave 501 327 6568

Parents,

Thank you so much for all of you who were able to come with your child to the Confirmation Reception! We had a great turn out. If you have a child who was not able to attend, but is still interested in beginning preparation for Confirmation, please let me know by contacting me at choyt@sjparish.org

Attached you will find information about the **Confirmation Retreat** coming up November 4-5th. Please be aware that your candidate is more than welcome to attend the retreat next year if this date does not work. Attached you will find a *Parent Letter*, a *Code of Conduct form*, and the actual *Registration Form*. The **Parent Letter is for your eyes only--not the candidate!**

If your child is able to attend this retreat, please return the Registration Form, Code of Conduct and Fee by Friday, October 13th (we need it by this time so that we can order T-shirts).

Finally, if you as a parent want to take a more active roll in this retreat, we are looking for parents willing to help us in these two ways just on Saturday, Nov 4th.

Noon-2:30pm Lunch and Small Group Activity Chaperones (need 6)-- you will help monitor cafeteria during lunch and then will be assigned to "man" one of the many activities at Ferncliff (150ft slide, canoes, hiking trail, sand volley ball etc).

6:00-10:00pm Dinner Chaperones and Shuttle Drivers for Reconciliation--you will help monitor cafeteria during dinner and then get to experience the high point of the retreat which will be the witness talk, skit, Adoration and Reconciliation. You will shuttle small groups to the building where Reconciliation will be going on--Bishop Anthony Taylor will be hearing confessions!

If you are able to help at either of these times, or have questions, please let me know!

Sincerely,

Caryn Hoyt

Parent Information for the Ignite: Confirmation Retreat

Multi-Parish Confirmation Retreat: Nov 4-5, 2017

Ferndcliff, West Little Rock

The *Ignite: Confirmation Retreat* is **Saturday November 4th - Sunday November 5th** at the **Ferndcliff Camp and Conference Center** in Little Rock. Please drop your child off at the St. Joseph Activity Center parking lot no later than 6:45AM on Saturday morning. The bus will depart at 7:00AM for Little Rock. On Sunday morning, we will travel back to St. Joseph by bus to attend 10:30AM Mass together. The retreat will be complete at the end of 10:30AM Mass on Sunday. We hope that this retreat will be a pivotal moment in your child's faith; we put a lot of work and prayers behind it, but need your support and prayers too!

What to Bring

Weather appropriate and modest clothing (we will be outside for some activities)

Linens/sleeping bag, pillow

Appropriate sleepwear

Clothes for Mass

Toiletries/towel/flip flops.

Cell Phones! Cell phones will be collected at check-in before boarding bus. The kids will have access to them only for emergencies. If you need to contact them for an emergency, please call me at (501) 733-1582.

Please bring a snack to share based on the first letter of your last name: (AVOID PEANUT PRODUCTS)

A-C – Breakfast Drinks (milk, OJ, etc.)

D-N – Breakfast foods (fruit, granola bars, pop tarts, donuts)

O-Z – Snack items (chips, crackers, fruit, cookies)

What NOT to Bring

Inappropriate clothing

Bad Behavior! If a youth disobeys the rules we will be contacting their parents to come get them, regardless of the hour.

Directions to Ferndcliff For Your Information (We will provide transportation to and from retreat)

Head West on Financial Centre Pkwy and continue onto Chenal Pkwy (3.2 Miles). Use the left 2 lanes to turn left onto Kanis Rd (6.4 Miles). Turn left onto Ferndcliff Rd (1 Mile). Destination will be on the Left. (We will have signs!)

Palancas

Parents, I would like for you to write your youth "Palancas." Palancas are special letters encouraging your child in the faith, letting them know you love them, and letting them know how proud you are of them. We will be handing out Palancas on Saturday night during Adoration. I encourage you to ask grandparents, other family, and their sponsors to also write palancas! This is a **BIG secret** – so don't let them know anything about it! Please drop the palancas by the office by Wednesday October 25th or email them to me at choyt@siparish.org and I will print them.

Please turn in your completed Registration and Code of Conduct Forms, along with the registration fee, to the Parish Administration Office by Friday, October 13th. If you have any questions, please email me at choyt@siparish.org.

Sincerely,

Caryn Hoyt

Confirmation Retreat Code of Behavior

Multi-Parish Confirmation Retreat: Nov 4-5, 2017
Ferncliff , West Little Rock

As a candidate for Confirmation, I promise to uphold the following expectations at this retreat:

- **“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.” (Matt 22:37)**
 - To love my God I will try my hardest to listen to the talks, and pay attention during prayer. God is speaking to me through the talks, exercises, games, peers and prayer. Therefore, **I will approach this retreat with an open heart and mind**, doing my best to welcome the presence of the Holy Spirit and the awareness of whatever message He may try to communicate to me. I promise to be genuinely prayerful and to participate fully in the events and activities of this retreat.
- **“Love your neighbor as yourself.” (Mark 12:31)**
 - I understand that the retreat team put a lot of work into doing everything they could to make this retreat fun, informative and meaningful. So I promise to love the retreat team and those around me by:
 - Trying not to distract myself or others by **bringing any distracting or illegal items**, such as toys, masks, fireworks, alcohol or drugs.
 - **Staying in my assigned sleeping room/cabin.**
 - **Being respectful to all chaperones, small group leaders, and retreat staff**, obeying their directives without talking back or arguing.
 - **Listening attentively to all speakers**, and not distracting the other retreatants.
 - **Loving and respecting all other retreat attendees.**
 - **I will not go anywhere on the retreat site without the supervision of an adult.** I will make sure the retreat team members know where I am at all times so they can help keep me safe. I will not swim in the Ferncliff lake.

As I make these promises, I ask God to give me the grace to be open to His plans for my life -- plans He reveals to me in prayer, in my talents and aspirations, and in the encouragement of those who know and love me. I place myself in the loving embrace of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in asking for help in fulfilling this commitment.

I have read the above and agree to this Code of Behavior and its expectations.

STUDENT NAME (PRINTED)

STUDENT SIGNATURE

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME (PRINTED)

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE