Confirmation at St. Anne Catholic Church

* Those who have been baptized continue on the path of Christian initiation through the sacrament of Confirmation. In this sacrament, they receive the Holy Spirit, who was sent upon the apostles by the Lord on Pentecost.
* This giving of the Holy Spirit conforms believers more perfectly to Christ and strengthens them so that they may bear witness to Christ for the building up of his body in faith and love. They are so marked with the character or seal of the Lord that the sacrament of Confirmation cannot be repeated.
* By signing us with the gift of the Spirit, Confirmation makes us more completely the image of the Lord and fills us with the Holy Spirit, so that we may bear witness to him before all the world and work to bring the Body of Christ to its fullness.

Description

The Sacrament of Confirmation strengthens the baptized with the gifts of the Holy Spirit through the holy anointing to imitate Christ and to spread and defend the Catholic faith.

Goals

* To lead the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and a more lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit—his actions, his gifts, and his calls—in order to be more capable of assuming the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life. **BELIEVE WHAT YOU PROFESS**
* To awaken a sense of belonging to the Church of Jesus Christ, the universal church, as well as the parish community. **LIVE WHAT YOU BELIEVE**
* To enliven the full, conscious, and active participation in the celebration of the Mass, the highest form of worship in the Catholic Church. It is the perfect sacrifice created by Jesus. Through the priest, we offer Jesus, Body and Blood, to the Father, just as Jesus offered Himself to the Father on the Cross. In an unbloody way, we make present Christ’s death and resurrection and offer God our praise, sorrow for our sins, and deepest thanks. **CELEBRATE FULLY**

The process

* Five meetings, in the church, at 10:00 am, on the following Sundays:
	+ October 23rd
	+ November 13th
	+ January 22nd
	+ February 12th
	+ March 26th
* Opportunities for Christian Service (times and places TBD)
* At-home reflection, in keeping with Whole Family Catechesis
* The Celebration of Confirmation with Bishop Konderla
	+ Rehearsal: 8:15 am, Sunday, May 21st, 2023
	+ Mass: 9:00 am, Sunday, May 21st, 2023
	+ Reception: Following Mass

Expectations

* St. Anne Catholic Church
	+ Credible and faith-filled witnesses
	+ Joyful sharing of the faith
	+ Commitment to being present for our young people
* Parents
	+ At-home reflection, prayer, and follow up
		- Using Decision Point, published by The Dynamic Catholic Institute and available [here](https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/decision-point-program-pack/DPNT-001-PP-01.html).
		- Praying with, and for, your young person
	+ Willingness to learn alongside your young person
	+ Commitment to the process and welcome (and highly encouraged to attend) at all meetings
* Young people
	+ Openness to Christ and how He is working in, with, and through you
	+ Commitment to the process and present at all the meetings
	+ Choosing a sponsor that inspires and is a practicing Catholic
	+ Choosing a patron saint with whom you can relate, and praying to him/her
	+ Attentiveness to the messages you will hear and respect for those God is using to communicate them
	+ Download the Decision Point App; watch the videos at your leisure (It’s free!)

Non-negotiables

* Witnessing Christ, alive within you, to neighbors and strangers alike
* Attendance at Mass on weekends and Holy Days of Obligation, preferably at your home parish
* Attendance at all Confirmation Meetings (October through March)
* Going to Confession before the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation
* Praying (RAPT)\* daily, for yourselves and others

\*RAPT, the four forms of prayer: Repentance, Adoration, Petition, and Thanksgiving

Personnel

* Heidi Adams, Coordinator, St. Anne Confirmation Process
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* Fr. Matt Gerlach, Pastor
	+ frmatt@stanneba.org
* Fr. Daniel Gormley, Associate Pastor
	+ frdaniel@stanneba.org
* Laura Jones, Director of Parish Operations (for Sacramental records)
	+ ljones@stanneba.org
* Deacon Kevin Malarkey, Director of Faith Formation and Education
	+ deaconkevin@stanneba.org
* Others, TBA

Next Steps

* Fill out registration form, if not already completed
* Provide a copy of the baptismal certificate for each candidate
* Young people, begin discerning who will be your sponsor
* Parents, buy [Decision Point](https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/decision-point-program-pack/DPNT-001-PP-01.html) and download the App yourself
* Pray for one another and for hearts on fire for Christ and His Church
* We’ll see you in Church next weekend!