

Dear 7th Grade Sacred Heart Parents,

The coming year holds an opportunity to grow in faith as a family since the parish offers you a preparation process for the celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation. As the Director of Religious Education for Holy Trinity parish, I have responsibility for the preparation for Confirmation. I look forward to partnering with you to prepare your teen for this sacramental celebration.

Sacramental preparation is accomplished through a partnership that involves parents, school religion teachers, GIFT catechists, sponsors, and me. We all have our part to play. Acknowledging the primary role that parents play in the faith life of their child, a portion of the preparation process is entrusted to you. I meet with parents prior to beginning the process to coach you on the “how-to” of your work at home with your teen, to review your own understanding and experience of the sacrament, and to answer any questions or concerns you may have. Classroom teachers and catechists teach the content of the preparation in school and GIFT.

In this mailing, you will find a **Sacramental Registration Form**. **I ask that you complete it and return it to me by September 1st**. Because Baptism is the first of our sacraments to be celebrated and is the gateway to all the others, I must verify your child’s baptismal status. If your child was baptized at another Catholic Church I must have a copy of the certificate along with the Sacramental Registration Form.

Also included below are essential dates for parent meetings and sponsor/candidate events so that you are able to plan ahead. I do know how busy and full your lives are and that participating in this preparation process may create some conflicts with athletics and other extracurricular activities. I ask you to be generous in setting your priorities. In return, I pledge you my respect for your time: all meetings will begin and end on time and I will be as organized and attentive to detail as possible. I will also ask you to do things that are realistic, meaningful, and help to make clear the connection of the sacrament to daily life in a family. You will have the opportunity to evaluate the process after the sacrament is celebrated and I will listen and learn from your feedback.

Participating in the preparation of your child for a sacrament is a powerful opportunity to renew your own understanding and appreciation of God’s grace. Sacramental preparation is my favorite part of my ministry and I look forward to sharing this special milestone in the faith life of your young teen.

Sincerely,

Therese Carroll-Caruso
Director of Religious Education

7th Grade Events

1. Parent/Student meeting – September 19, 2018 at 7 PM
Parents meet in Church and youth meet in the Multipurpose Building
2. Rite of Enrollment ceremony – September 29 & 30, 2018 at any weekend Mass (except Sunday at 6:30 PM)
3. Sponsor/Candidate retreat – October 28, 2018 from 3:30 to 6:15 PM in the Multipurpose Building
Parents join candidates and sponsors for 6:30 PM Mass. FREE chili supper following Mass.

Note: Confirmation Service Passports due April 28, 2019

Questions? Contact Therese or Jill at 897-5207 or tcaruso@htparish.org or jgreer@htparish.org