

Confirmation! Continuing the Journey



Why receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?

Just as bodies and minds grow, the soul also needs to grow in the life of grace. The sacrament of Confirmation builds on the sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, and Holy Communion, completing the process of initiation into the Catholic community. This sacrament is called Confirmation because the faith given in Baptism is now confirmed and made strong. You and your teen have been chosen by God to continue walking in faith with Jesus Christ and His Church! The Confirmation journey will be tailored to accommodate your teen's schedule. Our hope is that the preparation time for this sacrament becomes an opportunity for growth in faith and a time to strengthen relationships within the church community.

God bless, **Dana Robles (951) 689-1131 ext. 240 drobles@sbdiocese.org**

What should I know about the Confirmation program?

- 1) Youth must be entering 9th through 12th grade to enroll.
- 2) Parent and youth must schedule a "Confirmation Journey" meeting to choose sessions.
- 3) Practice the Catholic faith; attend Sunday Mass with frequent reception of the Eucharist.
- 4) Communication: Regular updates will be delivered through the "Remind" text system. The parish bulletin (page 5) will also have Confirmation updates each week.
- 5) The total cost of the program is \$225. A payment schedule may be arranged.
- 6) It is the responsibility of the parent to be the primary guide of the youth toward the sacrament. The Faith Formation Ministry is here to support you with resources for your family's continued growth toward a deeper relationship with Christ and the Church!
- 7) Youth must choose a Patron Saint;
<http://lifeteen.com/blog/biggest-best-list-confirmation-saints-guys-girls>
register your Saint name at www.st-thomas-riverside.com/Confirmation
Youth must choose a sponsor; *sponsor form is included in this packet*
- 8) Parent/Sponsor and youth will be asked to focus on the Spiritual/Corporal Works of Mercy.
- 9) Absences: One excused absence is allowed per session. *Session will be repeated if more than one absence. A homestudy component may be added with approval of the Pastor.*
- 10) We encourage participation in additional Youth Ministry activities to enhance faith and grow in relationship with Jesus and the St Thomas community. Text @99k9gf to 81010 for YM news
- 11) The Church welcomes parent participation! Your teens will remember the importance you place on your faith and commitment to the Church community.
- 12) PRAY DAILY! Pray for the youth and all those *servicing* the youth at St Thomas the Apostle.

The Path to Confirmation - Complete Each Module

Module A: Choose and Complete 2 of the following faith enrichment sessions.

“Altaration” 5 weeks An exploration of the Mystery of the Mass using video and workbook.

Session: Fall or Winter Day: Sunday 12:30-2:00 or Monday 6:30-8:00

“Jesus and the Parables” 5 weeks Experience life lessons the way Jesus taught! Hands on projects.

Session: Fall or Winter Day: Sunday 12:30-2:00 or Monday 6:30-8:00

“Prayer and Tradition” 5 weeks Looking at ancient, yet relevant, traditions and basic Catholic teachings.

Session: Fall or Winter Day: Sunday 12:30-2:00 or Monday 6:30-8:00

“7 Deadly Sins/7 Lively Virtues” 10 weeks (counts as 2 sessions)

An examination of sin and virtue and how it affects us today. Emphasis on the grace received in Confession.

Session: Fall and Winter Day: Sunday 12:30-2:00 or Monday 6:30-8:00

Module B: Choose and Complete 1 of the following Youth Ministry Events.

Let’s Talk 7 weeks A look at some of the most misunderstood Catholic teachings. Gather for fellowship and food and find the answers to those nagging questions about your faith! Conclude with the All Saints Fest.

Fall Sunday 6:15-8:15pm

The Passion Experience 7 weeks An in depth study of the sacrifice of the crucifixion. Fellowship with other youth while preparing to present the Passion Gospel at all Masses on Palm Sunday weekend.

Winter / Spring Sunday 6:15-8:15pm (concludes with an overnight retreat)

Module C: Complete the year of sacrament reception.

Confirmation Journey 5 weeks This session is designed to foster a discussion of what the sacrament means in the life of the youth! Emphasis on the Works of Mercy and Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Session: Fall or Winter Day: Sunday 12:30-2:00 or Monday 6:30-8:00pm

Signing of the Senses Mass for youth and sponsor **Date and Time:** _____

Retreat Youth should attend the year of sacrament reception **Date and Time:** _____

Living Out Your Faith

Parent or Sponsor, Spend time with your youth creating and implementing a plan to "Live out the Faith" by choosing a work of Mercy and acting on it! Reflect on the experience below.

The Works of Mercy are based in Scripture and Tradition.

Scripture Corporal Works come from the teachings of Christ in the Gospel of Matthew 25: 31-45

Tradition Spiritual Works are rooted in teachings of Christ and the Apostles

<http://lifeteen.com/blog/51-creative-ways-to-show-mercy-this-year/>

www.usccb.org search for spiritual and corporal works of mercy

<http://dynamiccatholic.com/year-of-mercy/reflections/category/spiritual-works-of-mercy/>

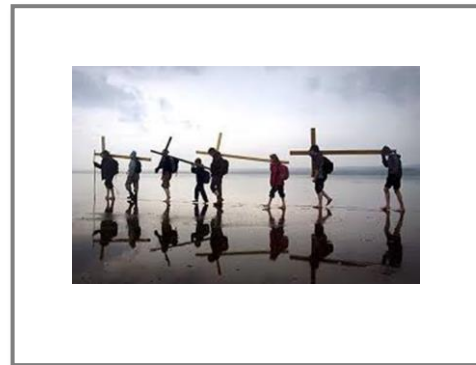
<http://dynamiccatholic.com/year-of-mercy/reflections/category/corporal-works-of-mercy/>

The Corporal Works of Mercy

- *Feed the Hungry
- *Give Drink to the Thirsty
- *Clothe the Naked
- *Shelter the Homeless
- *Visit the Sick
- *Visit the Imprisoned
- *Bury the Dead

The Spiritual Works of Mercy

- *Admonish the Sinner
- *Instruct the Ignorant
- *Counsel the Doubtful
- *Comfort the Sorrowful
- *Bear Wrongs Patiently
- *Forgive All Injuries
- *Pray for the Living and the Dead



Write a reflection; How were you affected by carrying out a Work(s) of Mercy?



1. *Surrender to Christ.* Everyday recommit to putting God first in all areas of your life.
2. *Give up your burdens to Jesus in daily prayer.* You cannot do it alone!
3. *Go to frequent Reconciliation.* Unburden your soul of sin and you will gain peace and joy.
4. *Be thankful for your blessings.* You can gripe about the problems in life OR focus on all of the blessings – even if they seem small. Express your gratitude in prayer.
5. *Stay out of the “Catholic Cafeteria Line”.* This means fully accept the teachings of the Catholic Church. What you may not understand now will be revealed to you over time if you continue to seek out God’s truth. Words from Bishop Barnes – “Do not leave the church because of disagreement with this or that, be okay to STRUGGLE with your unbelief.”
6. *Start with the end in mind.* Are your actions serving God each day? We will all experience the four last things; death, judgement, heaven and hell. Make your goal, Heaven!

“ **Joy and Peace.** ⁴Rejoice^[a] in the Lord always. I shall say it again: rejoice! ⁵Your kindness^[b] should be known to all. The Lord is near.⁶ Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. ⁷Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.”

Phillipians 4: 4-8



Youth Confirmation

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When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and a tongue rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages as the Spirit gave them the ability. Acts 2: 1-4

