

CONFIRMATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Confirmation is one of the sacraments of initiation and the beginning of a new chapter in your journey as a follower of Jesus Christ. Recall the apostles, who, after the descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, were empowered to be Christ's witnesses "in Jerusalem, throughout Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). The same outpouring of the Holy Spirit awaits you! What exactly will the Holy Spirit do for you, a baptized Christian, through the sacrament of Confirmation? According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Confirmation will

- Increase and deepen the grace you received at your Baptism.
- Root you more deeply as a son or daughter of God the Father.
- Unite you more firmly to Christ.
- Increase the gifts of the Holy Spirit in you.
- Strengthen your bond with the Church.

It is expected that candidates for the sacrament of Confirmation will take their preparation seriously. After all, you are preparing not to "graduate" from the Catholic Church but to live your life as a disciple of Jesus Christ. At Holy Family Parish we expect that you will

- Attend Mass every Sunday and on holy days.
- Receive the sacrament of Reconciliation at least once before your Confirmation.
- Cultivate a habit of daily prayer.
- Attend all six Confirmation group sessions.
- Participate in at least one service day at Peter Maurin Center.
- Attend at least one parish retreat/conference.
- Serve your parish, community, and the poor.
- Be respectful to your small group leaders and fellow candidates.

If you do not meet these expectations, you indicate to the Church that you are not ready to commit to a life of discipleship. In such a case, the youth minister or a priest will counsel you to wait to receive the sacrament.

After attending the Parent & Teen Meeting, you will schedule an entrance interview via Sign Up Genius. Please bring the following items with you either to the entrance interview or to the first group session:

- Baptismal Certificate (if not baptized at Holy Family)*
- Candidate Commitment Form
- Materials fee of \$35 (includes *100 Saints Every Catholic Teen Should Know*)**

If you have any questions about Confirmation preparation, please contact us. Be assured of our prayers as you begin the journey toward Confirmation.

In Christ,

Abby Gresser, Youth Minister
Kathy Chadsey, Secretary

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*To obtain a copy of your baptismal certificate, call the parish where you were baptized and ask the office staff to send a certificate with the parish seal to the Holy Family Rectory Office at 3450 Sycamore Drive, Stow, OH 44224.

**If this fee is a financial burden, please let us know. Checks may be made payable to Holy Family Parish. You may pay online by going to <https://www.holyfamilystow.org/confirmation>.

2023-2024 Important Dates

Event	Date	Time	Place
Entrance Interview	Sign Up Genius will be emailed	30 minutes	Room 3
Turn in Sponsor Form	Sunday, October 8, 2023	--	online
Turn in Confirmation Name Form	Sunday, January 14, 2024	--	online
Confirmation Group Session I	Sunday, October 8, 2023	1:00-2:30 pm	LCH
Confirmation Group Session II	Sunday, November 12, 2023	1:00-2:30 pm	LCH
Confirmation Group Session III	Sunday, December 10, 2023	1:00-2:30 pm	LCH
Confirmation Group Session IV	Sunday, January 14, 2024	1:00-2:30 pm	LCH
Confirmation Group Session V	Sunday, February 11, 2024	1:00-2:30 pm	LCH
Confirmation Group Session VI	Sunday, April 14, 2024	1:00-2:30 pm	LCH
Peter Maurin Center	Sunday, September 17, 2023	10:00 am-2:30 pm	Offsite
Peter Maurin Center	Sunday, November 19, 2023	10:00 am-2:30 pm	Offsite
Peter Maurin Center	Sunday, January 21, 2024	10:00 am-2:30 pm	Offsite
Peter Maurin Center	Sunday, March 17, 2024	10:00 am-2:30 pm	Offsite
Peter Maurin Center	Sunday, May 19, 2024	10:00 am-2:30 pm	Offsite
Peter Maurin Center	Sunday, July 21, 2024	10:00 am-2:30 pm	Offsite
Life Teen Retreat	March 1-3, 2024	7 pm Friday— 12 pm Sunday	Camp Carl in Ravenna, OH
Steubenville Youth Conference	July 12-14, 2024	10 am Friday— 2 pm Sunday	Franciscan University of Steubenville
Exit Interview	August 2024; Sign Up Genius will be emailed	30 minutes	TBA
Practice with Sponsors	TBD—Fall 2024		Church/LCH
Confirmation Mass	TBD—Fall 2024		Church/LCH

CANDIDATE COMMITMENT

"For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope."—Jeremiah 29:11

As a baptized Catholic, I am preparing for reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation, by which I will be more perfectly bound to the Catholic Church and enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the Faith as a witness of Christ.

As a candidate for Confirmation, I promise the following:

- I will attend Mass every Sunday and on holy days.
- I will receive the sacrament of Reconciliation at least once before my Confirmation.
- I will cultivate a habit of daily prayer.
- I will attend all six Confirmation group sessions.
- I will participate in at least one service day at Peter Maurin Center.
- I will attend at least one parish retreat/conference.
- I will serve my parish, my community, and the poor.
- I will approach my Confirmation journey with an open mind and an open heart.
- I will be respectful of the leaders and facilitators of the programs and show appreciation for their time and effort.
- I will show respect to those in my class who are on the journey with me.

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.

Name of Candidate (Print)

Signature of Candidate

Date

Witnessed by: _____

Signature(s) of Candidate's Parent(s)/ Legal Guardian(s)

