CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PROCESS FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

Confirmation is one of the Sacraments of Initiation, along with Baptism and Eucharist, all of which complete your membership in the Church. Confirmation is a celebration of the conscious awareness of the Holy Spirit in your life and choosing to make a commitment to work with that Spirit as an intentional disciple of Jesus Christ. Confirmation, along with other Sacraments, are gifts of God’s grace freely given. Preparation for Confirmation requires a decision and desire to cooperate with the grace of the Holy Spirit. To be confirmed is a choice you will make over the course of the next year before the actual celebration of Confirmation in Spring 2018 and should be discussed with your parents and sponsor.

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church 1309:
“Preparation for Confirmation should aim at leading the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and a more lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit—his actions, his gifts, and his biddings—in order to be more capable of assuming the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life. To this end catechesis for Confirmation should strive to awaken a sense of belonging to the Church of Jesus Christ, the universal Church as well as the parish community. The latter bears special responsibility for the preparation of confirmands.”

Through weekly Mass attendance, daily prayer, participation at Confirmation group sessions and Life Teen, Stewardship, and attendance at a parish retreat the candidate will move to a more personal relationship with Christ, familiarity with the Holy Spirit and deeper commitment to Christ’s Body, the Church. The catechesis for Confirmation presented at Confirmation group sessions, small group discussions and participation in Life Teen at the parish will awaken a sense of belonging to the Church universal as well as the parish community. A detailed schedule can be found on the next page.

To begin the journey toward Confirmation the teen candidate and a parent must register and attend one of the informational sessions Sunday, May 21st 7-8:30pm or Monday, May 22nd 7-8:30pm in rooms 3/4 of the lower church hall. To register, email Barbie Byrne at byrne@holyfamilystow.org and indicate which session the teen and parent will attend. After attending the information session teens will schedule an Entrance Interview via a Sign Up Genius link. Teens will bring the following forms with them to their entrance interview:

_____Participation/Emergency Medical Form (Keep original & send copy)
_____Candidate Commitment Form (signed by teen & parent)
_____Baptismal Certificate (copy) if not Baptized at Holy Family
_____Sponsor Form (It is important to choose a sponsor to journey with you through the process)
_____Check made payable to Holy Family for $30 for Chosen books and access to videos

We will be using the Chosen Confirmation series. Parents will be emailed a link and a code to access the videos that go along with the book. Parent and/or sponsors will complete the lessons not covered in the group sessions. If your child attended public school for 7th and/or 8th grade and did not attend PSR they will receive an additional workbook from the Director of Religious Education.

If you have any questions about the Confirmation Preparation Process, please call Barbie Byrne, Pastoral Associate at (330) 688-6412 x 271 or email me at byrne@holyfamilystow.org. Please be assured of my prayers as you begin the journey toward confirmation.

Barbie Byrne, Pastoral Associate (330)688-6412x271 byrne@holyfamilystow.org
Kathy Chadsey, Secretary (330)688-6412x274 chadsey@holyfamilystow.org
### 2017/2018 CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PROCESS SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Date-</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Place</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parent &amp; Candidate Introduction Meeting</td>
<td>Sunday, May 21st</td>
<td>7-8:30pm</td>
<td>Room 3/4 Lower church hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lesson 1</td>
<td>Monday, May 22nd</td>
<td>7-8:30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Entrance Interview</td>
<td>June 19-29 Sign Up Genius</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
<td>Youth Room ¾ Lower church hall</td>
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<td>will be emailed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation Group Session #1</td>
<td>Monday, September 11th</td>
<td>7-9pm</td>
<td>Youth Room ¾ Lower church hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attend one of these Lessons 9 &amp; 10</td>
<td>Wednesday, September 13th</td>
<td>6-8pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation Group Session #2</td>
<td>Monday, November 6th</td>
<td>7-9pm</td>
<td>Youth Room ¾ Lower church hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attend one of these Lessons 12 &amp; 13</td>
<td>Wednesday, November 8th</td>
<td>6-8pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation Group Session #3</td>
<td>Monday, January 22nd</td>
<td>7-9pm</td>
<td>Youth Room ¾ Lower church hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attend one of these Lesson 15</td>
<td>Wednesday, January 24th</td>
<td>6-8pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation Group Session #4</td>
<td>Monday, March 5th</td>
<td>7-9pm</td>
<td>Youth Room ¾ Lower church hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attend one of these Lesson 21</td>
<td>Wednesday, March 7th</td>
<td>6-8pm</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Life Teen attend at least 1/month</strong></td>
<td>Sunday’s 9/10-4/29</td>
<td>12:30-2pm</td>
<td>Youth Room ¾ Lower church hall</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Breaks for holidays</td>
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<tr>
<td>Retreat (approximate cost for retreat)</td>
<td>January 5th-7th</td>
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<td>CVNP Steubenville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Life Teen Retreat ($75)</td>
<td>June 16-18 2017 or June</td>
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<td>2018 tba</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steubenville Youth Conference ($235)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stewardship</td>
<td>On your own-reflection due</td>
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<td>@ exit interview</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exit Interview</td>
<td>April 9-19, 2018(subject to</td>
<td>20 minutes</td>
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<td>change)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Practice with sponsors</td>
<td>Sunday prior to Confirmation</td>
<td>7-8:30pm</td>
<td>lower church hall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lesson 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>Confirmation</td>
<td>Late April/May 2018</td>
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**Preparation includes active participation in Life Teen** which aims to draw teens closer to Christ throughout their high school years and compel them to continue their life as an intentional disciple committed to Christ and his Body, the Church wherever life takes them next. The Life Teen schedule may be found on the parish website [www.holyfamilystow.org](http://www.holyfamilystow.org).
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 all holy days of obligation.
- I will commit to daily prayer, praying especially for growth in my personal relationship with Jesus Christ - That I may love him and desire him more and for courage to live everyday as an intentional disciple of Jesus Christ.
- I will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before my Confirmation.
- I will approach my Confirmation journey with an open mind and an open heart.
- I will attend and will fully participate in all Chosen Confirmation group sessions.
- I will attend and will fully participate in Life Teen Activities monthly.
- I will attend a retreatconference with my parish.
- I will accept more responsibility in my family, parish, and community by putting my talents and gifts at the service of others in my parish, community and for those in need.

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)
PARTICIPATION/EMERGENCY MEDICAL FORM

Participant name________________________________________________________T-shirt size______________
Home address________________________________________________________________________City________State____Zip________
Home phone_________________Teen cell phone_________________ok to text teen?  Y or N
Teen email_________________________Date of birth_________School______________H.S. Graduating Year_____
Parent/Guardian Name_________________________Parent email________________________
(__________)(Name)cell phone__________________________
If we cannot be reached in case of emergency please call__________________________________________
Address__________________________________________________________________________Phone________________________

CONSENT FORM AND LIABILITY WAIVER

I, as the parent or legal guardian of __________________ do hereby grant permission for my child to participate in Holy Family Youth Ministry activities. I agree by my signature to release, absolve, indemnify, and hold harmless, the Holy Family School and Parish, its employees and agents, The Roman Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, their successors and assignees, from all debts, claims, demands, costs, expenses, damages, actions, and causes of actions, and I waive all claims of any kind against those mentioned.

Parent/Guardian Signature_______________________________________Date________________

AUTHORIZATION FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT

I, as parent or legal guardian of ____________________do hereby give my consent for Holy Family Staff and the Youth Minister, or other adult representative, in the event that all reasonable attempts to contact me have been unsuccessful, to seek medical attention and treatment deemed necessary by Dr ______________________ Phone__________________
I give my permission to transfer my child to ______________________hospital or any hospital reasonable accessible. Our insurance carrier is ______________________This authorization does not cover major surgery, unless the medical opinion of two other licensed physicians concur on the necessity for such surgery and are obtained before surgery is performed.
Please list allergies and medical conditions_____________________________________________
List any medications and dosage child is currently taking________________________________________
Parent/Guardian Signature___________________________________________________Date_____________

PHOTO RELEASE FORM

As a participant in the Holy Family Youth programs, I hereby give Holy Family Church my permission to use my likeness in photo or video form and my name in publicity, both within internal communication of the abovementioned parishes for use in communication pieces, and to area news media in all forms without limit as to time.

I further release them from liability for what I might deem a misrepresentation of me by virtue of alterations, optical illusions, or faulty mechanical reproduction.

Participant Signature __________________________________________________________DATE

Parent of Legal Guardian signature (If participant is under age 18) DATE
My Stewardship Reflection

Please write a paragraph describing how you lived your call to discipleship and how the experience affected the way you view the world and your relationship with Jesus Christ. There are three different areas of service; parish, community and those in need. Remember to bring this completed reflection page with you to your Confirmation Exit Interview.

Parish — Programs, ministries, activities in the parish. Serve in the liturgical ministries at Sunday Mass. (Lector, Commentator, Usher/Minister of Hospitality, Life Teen Music Ministry), Stations of the Cross, Palm Braiding for Palm Sunday, decorating the church for Christmas & Easter

Community

Those In Need
As a candidate for the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation, you have two options concerning the choice of a Confirmation Name:

1) You may choose your present Baptismal name (your regular first name). This shows the Sacramental connection with the first and second part of your initiation into the Catholic Church – Baptism and First Eucharist. To choose your Baptismal name for Confirmation would demonstrate the growth in your faith from Baptism and you now wish to make this formal through the Sacrament of Confirmation.

2) You may also choose the name of a person who inspires you or a saint’s name. This would symbolize a new beginning in your faith life and a connection with that person or saint. This would be especially appropriate if you are now making a renewed commitment to your faith through the Sacrament of Confirmation. Your commitment would be symbolized with the taking of a new name to show that you are in some ways a new person. This new name would be used after your present middle name and before your family name.

The name chosen would represent the direction you feel your faith life is taking, or would represent a strength or attribute you feel you need. It is important and necessary to know something about the person or saint before you decide on that name. The option of taking a new name is not to be used because you like the sound of the name, how it fits with your other names, or because it is the name of a nice friend or relative. The name you choose should have meaning for you, it should represent someone who inspires you to be more like Christ in living out your faith. You should spend some time praying about your choice of a Confirmation name, talking to someone (your parents or your Sponsor) about your choice, and, in the case of a saint, researching that person’s life.

http://www.americancatholic.org, click on Saints, has some good information on saints.

Any questions about your choice of a Confirmation name should be directed to Barbie Byrne at 330.688.6412, ext. 271 or byrne@holyfamilystow.org.

Complete the Confirmation Name Form and return it by September 15, 2017.
Confirmation Name Form for ____________________

Please print neatly

Confirmation Name: ______________________________________________________________

Whether you are choosing to keep your Baptismal name or take a new name as a Confirmation name, please write two paragraphs about your choice:

☐ If you choose to keep your Baptismal name, the first paragraph is to be about why you are choosing to keep your Baptismal name. The second paragraph is to be about the person or saint for whom you are named and why. (This may require some research on whom you are named after.)

☐ If you choose to take a new name, the first paragraph is to be about the particular person or saint whose name you are choosing. The second paragraph is to be about why you are choosing this name. What significance or meaning does this saint hold for you? What do you hope to gain by modeling yourself after this person or saint?

PARAGRAPH 1: _________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

PARAGRAPH 2: _________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________________

Complete the Confirmation Name Form and return it by September 15, 2017.
Your Confirmation Sponsor will be an invaluable assistant to your parents in handing on the faith to you. A Confirmation Sponsor is all of the following:

- **An active, practicing Catholic** who has already celebrated the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist and if married, is married validly in the Church. The Church recognizes that a person can only hand on what they have already celebrated and live. (If your Sponsor is not a member Holy Family Parish in Stow, he/she will have to ask his/her Catholic Parish for a **Sponsor’s Certificate** which should be attached to the Confirmation Sponsor Form when it is submitted.) Is **not one of your parents**.

- May be a male or a female (does not need to be the same gender as you).

- **Mature, more informed and more experienced in the ways of our faith** and culture than you (the candidate), who can give you a clearer perspective on living a life of faith in Christ.

- **An older sibling might not be the best choice** - you want someone who will take this seriously and will be there for you! It is suggested that in choosing an older sibling, that they be at a maturity level capable of interacting and guiding the candidate at the retreat and throughout the process.

- A person who already has a relationship of trust with you, in whom you can confide and with whom you can speak freely.

- Willing to share his or her faith with you and assist your parents as the first examples of ones who live their faith as an example to you.

- Willing to talk and walk with you on your faith journey; to give time to you before Confirmation and to make a commitment to **continue the faith journey long after the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation**.

- Able to be at the practice the Sunday, April 30th before Confirmation and the celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation May 7th at 2:00pm. **Please have your sponsor mark their calendar for these dates.**

You should spend some time praying about your choice of a Confirmation Sponsor. It is also a good idea to talk with someone (your parents, priest or youth minister) about your choice.

Any questions about your choice of a Confirmation Sponsor or a Sponsor’s eligibility to be a Sponsor should be directed to Barbie Byrne (330)688-6412 ext 271 or byrne@holyfamilystow.org. Complete the Confirmation Sponsor Form (attached) and **return it at your entrance interview**.

*Remember . . . If your Sponsor is not a member Holy Family Parish in Stow, he/she will have to ask his/her Catholic Parish for a **Sponsor’s Certificate** which should be attached to the Confirmation Sponsor Form when it is submitted.*
Confirmation Sponsor Form for ___________________

Please print neatly

SPONSOR INFORMATION

First Name: ___________________________ Sponsor’s Last Name: ___________________________

Address: __________________________________________________________________________

City: ___________________________ State: ___________ Zip Code: _________________

Phone: _______________ email: __________________________________________

Parish: ___________________________________ City: ________________________________

Remember . . . If your Sponsor is not a member Holy Family Parish in Stow, he/she will have to ask his/her Catholic Parish for a Sponsor’s Certificate which should be attached to this form prior to it being submitted.

What relation is your Sponsor to you? _________________________________________________

Describe your relationship with your Sponsor? __________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________

Why do you think your Sponsor is a good example to you of one who lives faith in Christ?

________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________

Return this form at your Entrance Interview.
Sponsor certificates, if needed, should be obtained by the sponsor by contacting the parish in which they are a registered member.