

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 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 power that gave the apostles the courage to share the Gospel of Christ and suffer persecution and martyrdom awaits you! What exactly will the Holy Spirit do for you, a baptized Christian, through the sacrament of Confirmation?

- 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
- Help you bear witness to the Christian faith in words accompanied by deeds (CCC 1303)

How should you prepare to receive this power from the Holy Spirit? According to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, "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" (1309).

Through weekly Mass attendance, daily prayer, participation at Confirmation group sessions and Life Teen, stewardship, and attendance at a parish retreat, the confirmand (that's you!) will move to a more personal relationship with Christ, familiarity with the Holy Spirit and deeper commitment to Christ's body, the Church. A detailed schedule can be found on the next page.

After attending the Parent & Confirmand Meeting, you will schedule an entrance interview via a Sign Up Genius link. Please bring the following forms with you to the 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. You should complete the lessons not covered in the group sessions with your parent and/or your sponsor.

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 (330) 688-6412 x271

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Kathy Chadsey, Secretary (330) 688-6412 x274

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2018-2019 CONFIRMATION PREPARATION SCHEDULE

Session	Date	Time	Place
Parent & Candidate Meeting Lesson 2	Sunday, May 6 th Monday, May 7 th	7-8:30 pm 7-8:30 pm	Rooms 3/4 LCH
Entrance Interview	June; Sign Up Genius will be emailed	20 minutes	Rooms 3/4 LCH
Confirmation Group Session #1 Attend one of these Lesson 9: Baptism	Tuesday, September 18 th Thursday, September 20 th	7:30-9 pm 6-7:30 pm	Rooms 3/4 LCH
Confirmation Group Session #2 Attend one of these Lesson 10: Confession	Tuesday, October 16 th Thursday, October 18 th	7:30-9 pm 6-7:30 pm	Rooms 3/4 LCH
Confirmation Group Session #3 Attend one of these Lessons 12 & 13: The Holy Spirit	Tuesday, November 27 th Thursday, November 29 th	7:30-9 pm 6-7:30 pm	Rooms 3/4 LCH
Confirmation Group Session #4 Attend one of these Lesson 15: The Mass	Tuesday, January 15 th Thursday, January 17 th	7:30-9 pm 6-7:30 pm	Rooms 3/4 LCH
Confirmation Group Session #5 Attend one of these Lesson 16: Marriage	Tuesday, March 12 th Thursday, March 14 th	7:30-9 pm 6-7:30 pm	Rooms 3/4 LCH
Confirmation Group Session #6 Attend one of these Lesson 21: Virtue	Tuesday, April 9 th Thursday, April 11 th	7:30-9 pm 6-7:30 pm	Rooms 3/4 LCH
**Life Teen attend at least 1/ month	Sundays 9/9/18-4/28/19 Breaks for holidays	12:30-2 pm	Rooms 3/4 LCH
Retreat (approximate cost for retreat) Life Teen Retreat (\$75) Steubenville Youth Conference (\$250) Search (\$80) Scholarships are available!	February 15-17, 2019 June 29-July 1, 2018 or Summer 2019 TBA Fall 2018 & Spring 2019	Overnight, weekend- long trips	CVNP Steubenville
Stewardship	On your own; reflection due at exit interview		
Exit Interview	April 2019	20 minutes	TBA
Practice with sponsors	Friday, May 17, 2019	7-8:30pm	LCH

Lesson 24			
Confirmation	Sunday, May 19, 2019	2 pm	Church
Mystagogy	Sunday, May 26, 2019	7:30 pm	TBD

**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 lives as intentional disciples 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.

THE CHURCH AT HOME

The family is, so to speak, the domestic church. In it parents should, by their word and example, be the first preachers of the faith to their children; they should encourage them in the vocation which is proper to each of them, fostering with special care vocation to a sacred state (Second Vatican Council, *Lumen Gentium*)

As the parent of a teen preparing to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, you have an indispensable role! You are your child's first teacher of the faith, a responsibility you have had since his or her Baptism. Your teen now looks to you to discover what it means to be a fully initiated Christian.

During this year of sacramental preparation, reserve time to pray as a family. The family is "the domestic church" and a sign of the Most Holy Trinity, for both the family and the Trinity are communions of persons (CCC 2205). It is within a family that God desires us to learn about His love for us.

Your teen will receive a *Parent's Guide* in his or her bundle of Confirmation books. Ask to see this booklet. It is a great resource and will help you accompany your son or daughter on the journey to Confirmation.

Finally, consider adopting some of the practices below in order to support your child and youth ministry at Holy Family.

How can I support my son or daughter's spiritual growth?

- Pray for your child every day.
- Arrange for your child to spend time with his or her sponsor.
- Use the Parent's Guide to have conversations with your child after each group session.
- Attend Sunday mass every week as a family.
- Go to Eucharistic adoration as a family.
- Volunteer at St. Bernard's or Peter Maurin Center as a family.
- Research the gifts of the Holy Spirit and talk about them with your child.
- Take your family to the sacrament of Penance on Saturday afternoon from 3:30-4:30 pm.
- Take your child out to dinner one-on-one.
- Talk to your child about the importance of discerning his or her vocation. Communicate to your child that you will support him or her no matter the vocation to which God calls him or her.
- Learn more about the Catholic faith by watching a video during a break in your day. (Check out Bishop Robert Barron, Father Mike Schmitz, Chris Stefanick, or Formed.org. Our parish code for Formed.org is HPREGN.)
- Talk to your child about how you use your gifts and talents to build the kingdom of God in your home, parish, and community.

How can I support Life Teen and the Confirmation program?

- Prepare a dessert, fruit, or salad for a Life Teen meeting.
- Volunteer to be a chaperone at a retreat.
- Send snacks to a retreat.
- Donate Walmart gift cards for Life Teen/Confirmation supplies.
- Ask for more information about joining Life Teen's Core Team or the Confirmation team.
- Donate to Life Teen's retreat scholarship fund to send a teen in need on a retreat.



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.
- 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 Confirmation group sessions.
- I will attend and will fully participate in Life Teen activities **monthly**.
- 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.
- I will attend a retreat/conference 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.

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)

FORMS FOR PARTICIPATION IN LIFE TEEN AND CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

Participant full name _____ Nickname _____

Home address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home phone _____ Teen Cell Phone _____ O.K. to text teen? Y or N

Date of birth _____ High School _____ Grade _____

Parent/guardian name(s) _____ Parent email _____

Parent work phone _____ cell phone _____

Emergency contact name & relationship to participant _____

Emergency contact phone _____

PERMISSION FORM AND LIABILITY WAIVER

I, as the parent or legal guardian of the child named above, grant permission for my child to participate in Life Teen and the Confirmation preparation program (the "Activity"). In exchange for and in consideration of the opportunity for my minor child to participate in the Activity sponsored by Holy Family Parish (the "Parish"), I agree to the following:

I understand the scope and nature of the Activity, that the Activity will take place on a recurring basis in the lower church hall, though other suitable locations on parish grounds may be used. I acknowledge that I have the opportunity to contact Abby Gresser at 330-688-6412 ext. 271 with any questions prior to submitting this form.

I recognize, as with any activity, the possibility and risk of injury associated with my child's participation in the Activity and that such injury can include, but is not limited to, serious bodily injury, permanent disability, paralysis, and death. I understand that such injuries can occur for any number of reasons which are both foreseeable and unforeseeable and which include, but are not limited to, my child's own actions or inaction, the actions or inaction of others (whether negligent, intentional, or otherwise), and equipment failure.

I and my spouse assume, for ourselves and on behalf of our minor child, all risks in connection with my child's participation in the Activity. To the fullest extent allowed by law, I, on behalf of myself, my spouse, my minor child, as well as our respective heirs and assigns, executors, all other legal representatives and any others claiming through us or on behalf of us, hereby agree to release, discharge, hold harmless and indemnify the Parish, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, the Bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, as well as their respective clergy, officers, employees, agents, representatives, attorneys, sponsors, and volunteers from and against all claims, judgments, liability (of any nature or extent) which in any way arise out of or relate to my child's participation in the Activity, whether foreseen or unforeseen, regardless of the cause (including, but not limited to, the negligence of any person).

I understand that it is my responsibility to carry appropriate medical insurance for my child and that such is not the responsibility of any other person or party, including, without limitation, the Parish or the Diocese of Cleveland

I give my permission for my child to attend the activity and agree to all terms and conditions stated above.

Yes

No

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

AUTHORIZATION FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT

This authorization enables the parent or legal guardian of a minor participant to authorize the provision of emergency treatment for the participant who becomes ill or injured while attending the activity sponsored by Holy Family Parish (the "Parish") and while in the care of or under the supervision of the Parish or its staff, employees, volunteers, agents and/or representatives when the parent or guardian cannot be reached. This must be signed in order for your child to participate.

In the event reasonable attempts to contact me at _____ (home phone number) and at _____ (cell phone number) have been unsuccessful, I, the legal parent/guardian of _____ (name of child) hereby authorize any of the staff, employees, volunteers, agents and/or representatives of Holy Family Parish (an "Authorized Party") to provide for, seek, and authorize medical treatment for him/her in the case of illness or accident from the closest and most appropriate licensed medical practitioner or hospital available.

This authorization does not cover major surgery unless the medical opinions of two licensed physicians/dentists concurring in the necessity for such surgery are obtained for the performance of such surgery.

Any and all information concerning the above named child's history including allergies, medications and physical impairments, has been reported in these registration forms. In the event of an emergency, I authorize any Authorized Party to share the completed registration information packet with persons related to the treatment of my minor child.

Please list allergies and medical conditions _____

Please list medications and dosage child is currently taking _____

I give my permission and agree to all terms and conditions stated above.

Yes

No

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

PHOTO RELEASE FORM

I (We) the parent(s) and/or guardian(s) of the minor child identified above hereby grant Holy Family Parish (the "Parish") and/or its agents consent to record (in writing or otherwise), photograph, audiotape, or videotape my minor child's name, image, likeness, or spoken words, in any form, and to display, release, exhibit, publish, or distribute the same, or any part thereof, for any lawful Parish use or purpose including, without limitation, use on the Parish's websites, social media sites, print and electronic media, marketing publications, public relations and communications materials and/or presentations, and any other uses as may not be contemplated herein, without further notice or compensation.

I further release the Parish, the Diocese of Cleveland, and the Bishop of the Diocese of Cleveland and their respective officers, employees, agents, representatives, and volunteers, from liability for what I might deem a misrepresentation of me by virtue of alterations, optical illusions, or faulty mechanical reproduction, and other claims, damages, loss, or causes of action related to the lawful use of any material obtained by the Parish in accordance with my consent.

Finally, in signing below I acknowledge that all recordings, audiotape, videotape, photographic proofs, photographic negatives, positives, and prints created pursuant to this Release shall constitute the sole property of the Parish.

I give my permission and agree to all terms and conditions stated above.

Yes

No

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature _____ 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 exit interview in April of 2019.

Parish (lector, commentator, usher, Life Teen music ministry, Stations of the Cross, decorating the church for Christmas & Easter, visiting homebound parishioners, etc.)

Community

Those in need



**HOLY FAMILY
PARISH**

About Your Confirmation Name



As a candidate for the sacrament of Confirmation, you have two options concerning the choice of a Confirmation name:

- 1) You may choose your Baptismal name (your regular first or middle name). This choice demonstrates the connection between Baptism and Confirmation, both of which are sacraments of initiation into the Catholic Church.
- 2) You may choose a new name, typically the name of a saint who you admire and whose life you wish to emulate. This choice would symbolize a new beginning in your life of discipleship and a connection with that saint. This new name would be used after your present middle name and before your family name.

The name you choose should represent the direction you feel your faith life is taking or the attribute you feel you need to continue growing in your faith. It is important and necessary to know something about the saint before you decide to take 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. 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.

Any questions about your choice of a Confirmation name should be directed to Abby Gresser.

Complete the Confirmation Name Form and return it by October 31, 2018.

The *Chosen* book has a "Hero of the Week" section in each lesson. These are biographies of the saints and are a great resource for you to use in choosing a Confirmation name. These are the saints whose biographies are in the *Chosen* book:

St. Anthony the Great (p. 10)
St. Francis de Sales (p. 20)
St. Thomas Aquinas (p. 30)
St. Teresa of Avila (p. 40)
St. Teresa Benedicta (p. 50)
St. Sebastian (p. 60)
St. Therese of Lisieux (p. 70)
St. Josephine Bakhita (p. 80)

St. Augustine of Hippo (p. 90)
St. Damien of Molokai (p. 100)
St. Joan of Arc (p. 110)
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton (p. 120)
St. Paul the Apostle (p. 130)
Bl. Miguel Pro (p. 140)
St. Elizabeth of Hungary (p. 150)
St. John Vianney (p. 160)

St. Catherine of Siena (p. 170)
St. Louis de Montfort (p. 180)
St. Francis of Assisi (p. 190)
Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati (p. 200)
St. Kateri Tekakwitha (p. 210)
St. Philip Neri (p. 220)
St. Maximilian Kolbe (p. 230)

By now, thus says the Lord who created you...and formed you...
"Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name
and you are mine."

Isaiah 43:1

over . . .



Confirmation Name Form for _____

Confirmation Name: _____

Whether you are choosing to keep your Baptismal name or to take a saint's 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 who you are named after.)
- If you choose to take a **new name**, the first paragraph is to be about the particular 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 saint?

PARAGRAPH 1:

PARAGRAPH 2:

Complete the Confirmation Name Form and return it by October 31, 2018.



**HOLY FAMILY
PARISH**

About your Confirmation Sponsor



Your sponsor will have three main roles:

1. To assist you in preparing for Confirmation
2. To present you to the bishop at the celebration of Confirmation
3. Along with your parents, to help you live out your Christian life faithfully long after the celebration of the sacrament

Your Confirmation sponsor must be 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**
- At least 16 years of age
- 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
 - An older sibling might not be the best choice. It is suggested that in choosing an older sibling, that he/she be at a maturity level capable of interacting with and guiding you throughout the process.
- A person who already has a relationship of trust with you and with whom you can speak freely
- Willing to share his or her faith with you
- Willing to make a commitment to continue assisting you in your faith journey long after the celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation
- Able to be at the practice before Confirmation and the celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation. Please have your sponsor mark his or her 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 someone's eligibility to be a sponsor should be directed to Abby Gresser.

Complete the Confirmation Sponsor Form (over) and return it at your entrance interview.

***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 _____

SPONSOR INFORMATION

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Parish: _____ City: _____

What relation is your Sponsor to you? _____

Describe your relationship with your Sponsor.

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

Return this form at your entrance interview in June. It is important to choose your sponsor at the beginning of the preparation process so you can have his or her support throughout the entire year

of preparation. Sponsor certificates, if needed, should be obtained by the sponsor by contacting the parish at which he or she is a registered member.