CONFIRMATION PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

ELIGIBILITY

In order to participate in the St. Matthew Confirmation Program, you should
be able to answer "yes" to the following set of questions:

Are you...
- *Participating* in Generations of Faith or a student at Notre Dame?
- Free and ready to accept in full the call of the Gospel for yourself?
- Ready to make a faith commitment to Jesus Christ and the Church?
- Baptized and an active member of this or another parish?
- In the 11th grade of school or older?
- Willing to fulfill all the requirements of the preparation program?
- Ready to be a positive, active Christian force in the world?

If you've answered "yes" to all these questions, you are ready to enter formal preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation.

Confirmation Preparation at St. Matthew Parish is divided into three separate areas of concentration:

I. GROUP MEETINGS AND RETREAT
Attendance at scheduled group sessions and weekend retreat is *required* of youths seeking to be confirmed. The meetings are **not** academic classes. They focus on sharing and contemplating a faithed vision of life. Each gathering is approximately 90 minutes in length and consists of presentations, discussions, activities, and prayer. Meetings will begin January of the junior year and extend into the fall of the senior year.

II. MENTORING
Much of the program is modeled after the Catechumenate. Candidates for Confirmation work together with Mentors or Sponsors, searching out and discussing key practices of the faith they profess. A minimum of four meetings with your sponsor will be necessary.

III. MINISTRY AND SERVICE
By virtue of our Baptism, all members of the Church are called to minister and serve. At Confirmation we are empowered and commissioned to take up the work of Christ in the world. It is with this in mind that confirmands are expected to participate in parish ministries **and** community service. This includes involvement in the parish's liturgical/catechetical ministry, as well as service work of your choosing.