

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 the weekend retreat are core expectations of youth seeking to be confirmed. These 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, exploring and discussing key parts of the faith we profess. There are several group meetings with Sponsors as well as individual work that you will schedule together.

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. Examples of parish service might include: helping with Generations of Faith, being part of the Liturgy of the Word for Children Team, sharing your gifts as a Choir Member/Musician, becoming a lector or usher, or serving on one of the parish committees.