



## Sacrament of Confirmation

Preparation for Confirmation is grounded in the Church's understanding that Baptism, the Eucharist and the sacrament of Confirmation together constitute the "sacraments of Christian initiation," whose unity must be safeguarded. It must be explained to the faithful that the reception of the sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace. For "by the sacrament of Confirmation, [the baptized] are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses to Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed [CCC: 1285].

The Continuing Christian Education (CCE) Process would like to extend an invitation to all youth in the 10th grade and higher and their parents to a Confirmation Orientation Meeting on Thursday, November 19th at 7 p.m. in the CCE building.

### Confirmation Schedule 2009-2010

Each candidate must schedule an interview with the DRE. All interviews will be complete by December 13, 2009.

November 19, 2009

*Orientation for Candidates & Parents*

December 17, 2009

*Orientation for Candidates & Sponsors*

January 14, 2010

*Invitation Session – Personal Uniqueness: Promise and Pain*

✓ To begin the preparation process on a positive note by creating a welcoming environment.

- ✓ To establish an attitude of openness and cooperation.
- ✓ To help the candidates reflect on and grow in appreciation of their uniqueness and dignity as persons.

January 28, 2010

*Invitation Session – Identity: Looking for the Real You*

- ✓ To help the candidates examine their own personality traits.
- ✓ To encourage the candidates to explore the influence of cultural stereotypes on self-image and self-acceptance.

February 7, 2010

*Rite of Affirmation @ 11am Mass with Sponsors*

February 11, 2010

*Invitation Session – Faith: More Than the Eye Can See*

- ✓ To inform the candidates that the experience of and reflection on matters of faith require a particular mind-set.
- ✓ To help the candidates reflect on their current images and understandings of God.
- ✓ To increase the candidates' awareness and conviction that exploring matters of faith can be engaging, exciting, and enjoyable.

February 25, 2010

*Invitation Session – Trusting in God*

- ✓ To invite the candidates to begin serious reflection on their attitudes toward and understandings of Jesus.
- ✓ To awaken the candidates to the fact that any real act of faith, including faith in Jesus and his message, involves some element of risk and, consequently, a degree of personal courage.

March 7, 2010

Pray the Rosary during the Lent before the 11 a.m. Mass.

March 11, 2010  
(Sponsors)

*Invitation Session – The Church: A Community of Disciples*

- ✓ To reinforce for the candidates the understanding of the Church as a community of believers committed to living out the vision and values of Jesus.

March 25, 2010

*Session 1 – Guided and Strengthened by the Holy Spirit*

- ✓ To deepen the candidates' understanding of and appreciation for the activity of the Holy Spirit.
- ✓ To explore with the candidates the connections between the work of the Holy Spirit and the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- ✓ To explore with the candidates the images of the Holy Spirit.

March 30, 2010

Chrism Mass, Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart at 7pm

April 2, 2010

Live performance of the Stations of the Cross

April 8, 2010  
(Sponsors)

*Session 2 – Prayer: Communion with God*

- ✓ To help the candidates appreciate the central importance of personal prayer in the life of a Christian.
- ✓ To introduce the candidates to practical prayer techniques they might use in their daily lives.
- ✓ To encourage the candidates to establish daily prayer

practices.

April 15, 2010

*Session 3 – Christian Morality: What Does Love Look Like?*

- ✓ To help the candidates explore in greater depth the moral vision of Jesus.
- ✓ To explore with the candidates the concept that for Christians, to live a moral life is to respond to the Gospel mandate to love as Jesus loved.
- ✓ To encourage the candidates to examine the Sermon on the Mount and other scriptural sources for living a life of love.

April 29, 2010

*Session 4 – Christian Service: Witnessing to God's Justice*

- ✓ To encourage the candidates to develop a personal understanding of justice rooted in faith.
- ✓ To provide the candidates with an understanding that justice requires their thoughtful action.
- ✓ To invite the candidates to become aware of and appreciate Catholic social teachings as a guide for social action.

May 13, 2010  
(Sponsors)

*Session 5 – Sacraments of Initiation*

- ✓ To help the candidates recognize the need within the Church for a process of initiating new members.
- ✓ To provide the candidates with an experience of, not just information about, the Church's initiation process.
- ✓ To deepen the candidates' understanding of the integrated nature of the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist.

May 27, 2010

*Session 6 – Baptism: Born in the Holy Spirit*

- ✓ To help the candidates understand the effects of Baptism and the sacrament's relationship to the candidate's faith journey.
- ✓ To explore with the candidates the multiple levels of meaning of the symbol of water in the sacrament of Baptism.
- ✓ To guide the candidates toward making the connection between original sin and forgiveness and the sacrament of Baptism.

June 17, 2010

*Session 7 – The Eucharist: Nourished Through the Holy Spirit*

- ✓ To explore with the candidates the primary symbols of bread and wine and their meaning in the Eucharist.
- ✓ To help the candidates examine the meal structure of the Eucharist.
- ✓ To guide the candidates toward an appreciation of the role of the Holy Spirit in the communal celebration of the Eucharist.

July 29, 2010  
(Sponsors)

*Session 8 – Confirmation: Sealed with the Holy Spirit*

- ✓ To explore with the candidates the symbols of oil and the ritual gesture of the laying on of hands and their meanings in the sacrament of Confirmation.
- ✓ To deepen the candidates' understanding of and appreciation for the activity of the Holy Spirit.
- ✓ To familiarize the candidates with the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.

✓ To help the candidates explore the connections between the work of the Spirit and the sacrament of Confirmation.

August 12, 2010

*Session 9 – Confirmation: Celebrating the Rite*

✓ To provide the candidates with an overview of the rite of Confirmation.

✓ To explore with the candidates the various Scriptures for the rite of Confirmation.

✓ To review with the candidates the ritual words and gestures of the rite.

August 20, 2010

Confirmation Rehearsal @ 7:00 p.m.

August 21, 2010

Confirmation Day of Prayer @ 9:00am

*(Sponsors)*

August 22, 2010

Confirmation Mass @ 11am with reception following