

# STUDENT CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2023-2024



As a community of faith we are all responsible to minister to and to call forth for ministry this entire group within the community. The confirmation preparation process is both individual and communal. Confirmation (typically 10th grade) draws us more deeply into God's power and love that lives within each of us and the Church. Having first experienced the Spirit of God through Baptism, we are drawn into a deeper, more intimate relationship with God the Father through a continuing unfolding of the gifts of the Spirit which gives us strength to boldly witness Christ.

Please let me know how I can help!

**Mike Stratman, Director of Youth Ministry** [mstratman@svdpc.org](mailto:mstratman@svdpc.org)



# IMPORTANT INFO

## **ELIGIBILITY**

Candidates are typically at least 15 years old (10th grade) by the time of receiving the Sacrament. They must be Baptized, received their First Communion, have been previously registered in Parish formation. Those with no previous formation may need to wait to begin Sacramental Prep.

We will assess each Candidate's readiness and willingness to receive the Sacrament. As the parent(s), you may obligate them to do the preparation however they must desire the sacrament in order to be admitted to receive the sacrament.

## **REGISTRATION**

Formation Registration can be found on the home page of our website - [www.svdppcc.org/faith](http://www.svdppcc.org/faith). There you must register for both Youth Group & Student Confirmation Preparation.

## **YOUTH GROUP**

Youth Group happens on Wednesdays from 6:30-8PM and Sunday from 5:30-7:00pm. Students can choose to attend Wednesdays or Sundays, or come on both days. We meet in-person in the basement of the JAC.

## **ASCENSION CHOSEN PROGRAM in person**

The Ascension Press, Chosen Confirmation program is returning to fully in person meeting in the basement on Sundays, from 4:00-5:00pm. Videos are still made available on-line in the event a class needs to be made up. No need to purchase anything else!

# PREP EXPECTATIONS & ATTENDANCE

Youth Group Night (Sunday 5:30–7pm or Wed. 6:30-8:00pm in the Basement). We take attendance at all Youth Group nights and keep track of the online Confirmation Sessions.

- Confirmation Candidates are expected to attend the weekly Youth Group.
- If serious circumstances beyond your control causes you to miss a session, be sure to email Mike and inform him. There is no make-up work required for missing a Youth Group session.
- An additional chapter will be added if an assignment is late or incomplete.
- If a Confirmation Candidate misses a majority of youth group and is not tending to their on-line preparation then we will suggest the candidate wait a year to be Confirmed.
- **Parent/student Confirmation Meetings:** Each meeting is designed with the purpose of giving students and parents the opportunity and space to share and learn their faith together. Additionally, it gives opportunity to ask any questions. There is one meeting per session.



# NEEDED DOCUMENTS & INFO

**Submit all information online - [www.svdpc.org/confprep](http://www.svdpc.org/confprep)**

## 1. Turn in a copy of your Baptismal Certificate.

- If you have misplaced your child's certificate you'll need to contact the parish where they were baptized and request the sacrament record.

## 2. Pick a Sponsor.

- If from another parish, obtain a letter from the Sponsor's parish stating that they are **Catholic, in good standing, and suitable to be a Sponsor for Confirmation.**
- Sponsors must be at least 16 years of age, fully practicing Catholics in full communion with the Catholic Church (must have received all sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist). Godparents may be your sponsor. Your parents cannot be your sponsor; however, they can stand in as proxy in the event that your sponsor cannot attend the Confirmation Mass.

## 3. Pick a Confirmation Name.

- We find people in scripture whose names were changed. This is an outward sign of an interior change!
  - ABRAM --> ABRAHAM "No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations." - Genesis 17:5
- Changing" your name shows a conversion of heart, and radiates God's goodness to the entire world. Throughout scripture, when someone was assigned a new name, it signaled a growth in Christian maturity to the world—choose a name of a Saint that has helped you grow in that Christian Maturity.

# GROUP PREPARATIONS & MASS

We are introducing preparations by grouping this year. This means your child will complete their sacrament preparation within four months. Each candidate is still expected to remain a part of the life of the youth group even when sacrament preparation is complete.

## **CONFIRMATION MASS DATE: TBD**

Typically our Bishop has given St. Vincent's a Confirmation Mass date in early August. This date is subject to change every year. You will be notified by email once we received word from the Diocese.

## **SUPPLEMENTAL MASS DATE**

We may also petition to the Bishop to have our Pastor celebrate a separate Confirmation Mass in addition to the Mass our Bishop will be celebrating. This separate Mass may or may not happen but we will let families know should we get permission to do so.

## **Communications:**

Communication from the Director of Youth Ministry in regard to Confirmation will be either in a email **from *Active works*, directly from SVDP, or Flocknotes.**

***Questions: Please contact Mike Stratman, Director of Youth Ministry at [mstratman@svdpcc.org](mailto:mstratman@svdpcc.org) or 817-478-8206 ext.214***



# GROUP 1: SEPT-DEC

## **Lesson Schedule for 2023-2024**

All Candidates must be registered with Ascension and have workbook in-hand by Sept 1. Lesson must be complete by...

Sept 3 - Lesson 1: "Why am I here?" (An Introduction to Chosen  
& Lesson 2: "What makes me happy?"

Sept 10 - Lesson 3: "What's your story, God?"

### **Sept 17 - Parent/student Confirmation Meeting**

Sept 24 - Lesson 4 & 5: How do I know God is real?" & "Who is Jesus?"

Oct 1 - Lesson 6: "Why be Catholic?"

Oct 8 - Lesson 7: "Where am I going?"

Oct 15 - Lesson 8: "How do I get there?"

Oct 22 - Lesson 10: "Why tell my sins to a priest?"

Oct 29 - Lesson 11: "How does God help when it hurts?"

Nov 5 - Lesson 12: "Who is the Holy Spirit?"

Nov 12 - Lesson 13: "What does the Holy Spirit do for me?"

Nov 20 - NO CONFIRMATION CLASS

Dec 5 - Lesson 14: How do I build the Kingdom?

Dec 12 - Lesson 24: "Where do I go from here?"

Dec 12 - Confirmation Interviews

## **Form Submission Deadlines**

Sept 24 - Baptismal Form

Oct 29 - Sponsor Form

Dec 12 - Confirmation Name Form

# GROUP 2: JAN-APR

## **Lesson Schedule for 2023-2024**

All Candidates must be registered with Ascension and have workbook in-hand by Jan 1. Lesson must be complete by...

Jan 14 - Lesson 1: "Why am I here?" (An Introduction to Chosen & Lesson 2: "What makes me happy?"

Jan 21 - Lesson 3: "What's your story, God?"

### **Jan 28th Parent/student Confirmation Meeting**

Feb 4 - Lesson 4 & 5: How do I know God is real?" & "Who is Jesus?"

Feb 11 - NO CONFIRMATION CLASS

Feb 18 - Lesson 6: "Why be Catholic?"

Feb 25 - Lesson 7: "Where am I going?"

March rd - Lesson 8: How do I get there?"

Mar 10 - NO CONFIRMATION CLASS

Mar 17 - NO CONFIRMATION CLASS

Mar 24 - Lesson 10: "Why tell my sins to a priest?"

Mar. 31 EASTER- NO CONFIRMATION CLASS

Apr 7 - Lesson 11: "Why have I been Chosen?"

Apr 14 - Lesson 12: "Who is the Holy Spirit?"

Apr 21 - Lesson 13: "What does the Holy Spirit do for me?"

Apr 28th Lesson 14 & 24 Why have I been Chosen & where do I go from here?

## **Form Submission Deadlines**

Jan 28 - Baptismal Form

Feb 25 - Sponsor Form

April 28 - Confirmation Name Form



# GROUP 3: MAY-AUG

## **Lesson Schedule for 2023-2024**

All Candidates must be registered with Ascension and have workbook in-hand by May 1. Lesson must be complete by...

May 5 - Lesson 1: "Why am I here?" (An Introduction to Chosen & Lesson 2: "What makes me happy?"

May 12 - NO CONFIRMATION CLASS

May 19 - Lesson 3 What's your story, God?

### **May 26 - Parent/student/Sponsor Confirmation Meeting**

June 2 - Lesson 4 & 5: How do I know God is real?" & "Who is Jesus?"

June 9 - Lesson 6: "Why be Catholic?"

June 16 NO CONFIRMATION CLASS

June 23 - Lesson 7: "Where am I going?"

June 30 Lesson 8 How do I get there?

July 7 - Lesson 10 & 11: "Why tell my sins to a priest?" Where is God when it hurts?

July 14 - Lesson 12: "Who is the Holy Spirit?"

July 21 - Lesson 13: "What does the Holy Spirit do for me?"

July 28 - Lesson 14 & 24: "Why have I been Chosen?"

July 28 - Confirmation Interviews

## **Form Submission Deadlines**

May 26 - Baptismal Form

June 23 - Sponsor Form

July 21 - Confirmation Name Form



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**My child is younger than 15 and has already received their first communion and baptism. Can he/she be eligible to receive Confirmation?**

Yes! Some parents opt to have their child Confirmed around the same time their friends get Confirmed but if a candidate exhibits maturity, a willingness, and a readiness to receive the sacrament, then he/she is eligible to start preparation.

**My child goes to Catholic School, does he/she need to do Sacrament Prep?**

Yes. Sacramental Preparation is catechetically and communally based whereas Catholic Schooling is academically driven.

**Are service hours required to get Confirmed?**

No, however exhibiting parish life involvement is part of our Christian duty. We are asking students to complete 15hrs of service.

**My child's Sponsor won't be able to attend the Confirmation Mass date. What can we do?**

This is normal. You'll need someone to stand-in as a proxy. The Sponsor may still be recorded as the Sponsor in our official records. Parents can stand-in as proxy.

**Can a parent be the Sponsor for their own child?**

No.

## FAQ CONT.

### **We belong to another parish. Can we have our child prepared and receive Confirmation here at SVDP?**

Yes! We'll need a letter from the Pastor where you belong stating he's aware and approves of your child's preparation and reception of the Sacrament at St. Vincent's.

### **What happens if my child goes through preparation but states they don't want to get Confirmed?**

We will simply delay the reception. Since the preparation entails *readiness* and *willingness* aspects, both are necessary for the reception of the Sacrament. You may require your child to attend preparation but we can not admit them to receive the Sacrament if they have no desire for God's grace. It'll be up to the Parents and the Director of Youth Ministry to remain in touch and reassess the candidates desire to be Confirmed.

### **What happens if my child goes through the preparation process, is *willing* to receive the Sacrament, but is not *ready* to receive the Sacrament?**

We will determine this in our post-preparation interviews. If they are not ready we will simply delay the reception. It's not uncommon for candidates to have more preparation in order to properly be disposed to the grace of the Sacrament.

**Questions: Please contact Mike Stratman, Director of Youth Ministry at [mstratman@svdpcc.org](mailto:mstratman@svdpcc.org) or 817-478-8206 ext.214**