

A detailed mosaic of Christ the Teacher, with a red halo and a red robe, holding a book. He is surrounded by several figures, including a woman in a green robe and a man in a brown robe, all set against a golden background with a decorative border.

2023-2024

CONFIRMATION HANDBOOK

Handbook *for* Parents
and Youth *of* St Wenceslaus



#seeyouonSunday

ST JOHN + ST WENCESLAUS + ST SCHOLASTICA

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introduction

WELCOME BACK!

We are excited for another year of Confirmation! Supported by the parents, our Parish, and School community, and in conjunction with weekly worship and daily prayer, our mission is to provide a carefully planned formation process. This will allow each youth to know God and bear witness to His love in their daily lives.

From every corner of their daily lives, our youth are being informed and influenced by messages that too often set them on the wrong track. Our mission is to help youth overcome these obstacles. We challenge our youth to experience all aspects of the program with an open heart and mind and see how we can grow together in fellowship with Christ. We hope each teen will develop their own personal relationship with Christ that will continue throughout their lives..

OPTIONS FOR FAITH FORMATION

Option A.

(Non - St. Wenceslaus School Students)
8th and 9th grade Confirmation programs.

Option B.

St. Wenceslaus School - 8th Grade Students
Confirmation program.

(Next year, you will follow Option A as your child enters 9th grade).

Within each option there will be a few mandatory onsite meetings and retreats and optional Youth Ministry opportunities.



*Confirmation***AT-A-GLANCE**

The purpose of the Confirmation Program at St. Wenceslaus is to provide an opportunity for the youth of the parish to grow in their relationship with Jesus and increase their knowledge and understanding of the Catholic Christian Faith. During this process, the youth will be prepared to receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit through the Sacrament of Confirmation. We do this in a community atmosphere, as well as via individual spiritual growth. Our desire is to actively engage the students in a dynamic learning environment.

HOW WE WILL COMMUNICATE WITH YOU



We will be using Flocknote and the Remind app almost exclusively this year.

This will be used to communicate program details. We will also utilize our social media platforms. ie Facebook, Instagram, and Youtube.

Sign-up information is on the following page.



9.24.23

*First day of
Confirmation
(Option A)*



HOW TO ACCESS YOUR VIRTUAL FORMATION

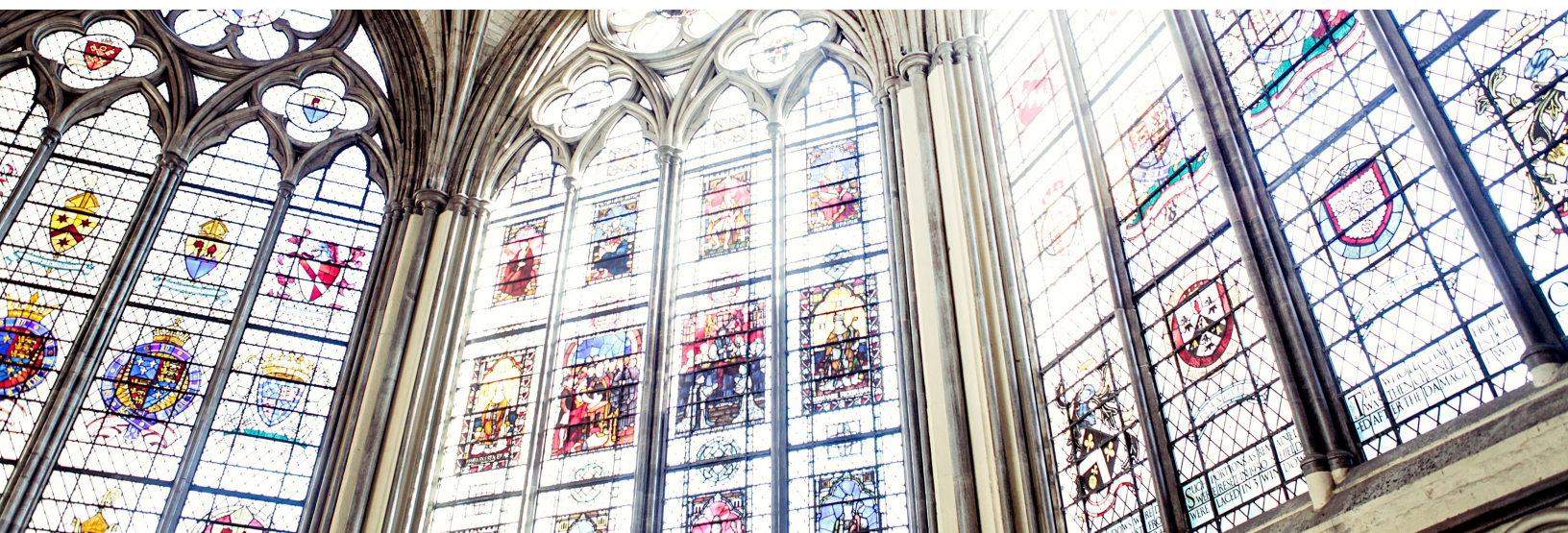
All information regarding Confirmation will be available on the Parish website:
NPCatholic.org/formation-for-grades-8&9



HOW IT WILL WORK

8th & 9th Grade Confirmation is 100% onsite whether through St Wenceslaus Faith Formation or the School.

Both programs will have mandatory meetings and retreats as well as Youth Ministry opportunities.



Communication: Social Media Accounts

ALL parents: Please sign up for Remind and Flocknote immediately:



Text: @e962he to 81010



Text: NPYOUTH to
84576



@NewPragueCatholicYM



www.lifeteen.org



@New Prague
Catholic

Our Website:
NPCatholic.org/formation-for-grades-8&9



WHAT TO EXPECT AT ST. WENCESLAUS CONFIRMATION

What will Confirmation look like this year? We know you have probably heard this from many people, but here are a few points we want to cover.



Drop off and pick up will be at the Parish Activities Center (PAC) doors.



We will serve a light breakfast to the Sunday Confirmation students. Please alert us to allergies.



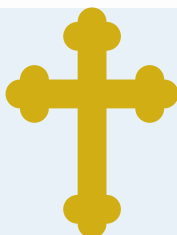
Confirmation Sundays run 8:45 am - 11:30 am, which includes 10:30 Mass.



Prayer is an essential component to our life of faith, and we encourage you to pray and grow together.



We will communicate via Flocknote and the Remind app. Please also see the bulletin, facebook, and instagram pages for updates.



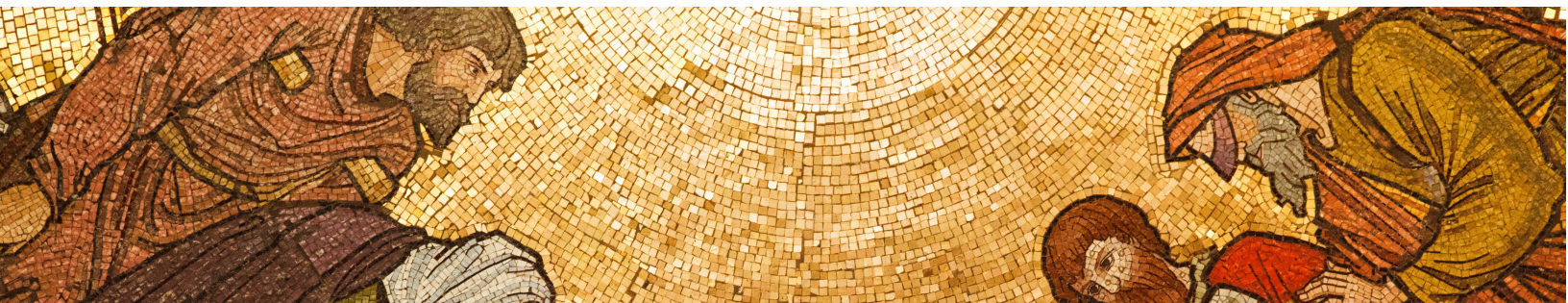
Time with the Lord is essential to preparation for Confirmation. There is a Mandatory Retreat. Dates can be found on Calendar.



Mass attendance is an obligation of the Catholic Faith and our program.



Community service is a mandatory component for Confirmation. A minimum of 10 hours for community and 10 hours for the parish is expected.



Confirmation Requirements

8th Grade Confirmation St. Wenceslaus School Families (Option B)

Your child will receive formation in their religion class and will not be attending the Confirmation sessions listed in the schedule (next page); however, they are expected to be at the following: Parent Meeting, Lifeline Mass, Sponsor Events, and the Purified Event. St Wenceslaus Confirmation students are required to fulfill all Confirmation and Youth Ministry requirements, as listed on page six. Youth Ministry events are parish-planned and sanctioned events. School students must also fulfill the mandatory 20 hours of community service, 10 in the community, and 10 for St. Wenceslaus Parish. School-sanctioned events can count toward community service hours.

8th and 9th Grade Sunday Confirmation (Option A)

Youth are to be dropped off by 8:40 am in front of the Parish Activities Center (PAC). Youth will be dismissed after the 10:30 Mass and will be picked up in the PAC lot. Makeup classes will be held the following Wednesday during Faith Formation from 6:30-8pm. Confirmation students will also complete the Personal Safety Lesson program as mandated by the Archdiocese and denoted on schedule as PSL.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL CONFIRMATION STUDENTS (Option A & Option B)

- Weekly attendance at Confirmation and/or Religion class and regular Mass attendance
- Sponsor Eligibility Certificate
- Sponsor interview
- Confirmation Retreat: One for 8th grade students, (school students will attend the SWS retreat or another approved retreat). 9th grade will attend two retreats.
- Sponsor Meeting: If the sponsor cannot be present, a parent will be required to attend.
- Saint Report
- 20 hours of service each year, half of which needs to be done in association with St. Wenceslaus Parish.
- Youth will participate in two Youth Ministry events per year
- Purified event, eighth-grade parents are encouraged to be in attendance
- At least one parent from each family must assist in two parish-sanctioned Youth Ministry or service project events a year.

2023-24 CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE

8th & 9th Grade (**Option A**) Confirmation Sessions

September 24: Session 1

October 1: Session 2

October 8: Session 3

November 19: Session 4

December 3: Session 5

December 10: Session 6

December 17:

PSL 8:45-10:15/ 8th grade Confirmation

retreat 11:30-4:30pm

January 7: Session 7

January 12-13:

9th grade retreat Camp Omega

January 21: Session 8

February 11: Session 9

March 3: Session 10

April 7: Session 11

April 14: Session 12

April 21: Confirmation Breakfast
Celebration

April 27: Confirmation Mass 10am

**Divine Mercy, Faribault (9th grade
only)**

8th & 9th Grade Mandatory Events for ALL (**Option A & B**) Confirmation Students

September 10:

Parent & Candidate
Information Meeting

October 7:

Lifeline Mass

October 15:

Sponsor Event

November 15:

Purified Event: Eighth-grade parents must be in attendance with their child. 9th grade youth do not need a parent present, but parents may choose to attend.

February 25:

Sponsor Event

April 21:

Confirmation Breakfast Celebration
(9th grade only, 8th grade parents help serve)

Youth Ministry Events

ALL (Option A & Option B) Confirmation youth will be required to attend two Youth Ministry Events per year.

Lifeline 1/6

Tubing 1/19

Bowling 2/23

Lifeline 3/2

Lifeline 4/20

Youth Alive bible study 1st and 3rd Saturday of the Month must attend at least two sessions

Other events may be added throughout the year, be sure to sign up for Flocknote for these updates. Transportation not provided unless otherwise noted.

Service Opportunities

Box of Joy 11/4

Rake n Run 11/5

Chillfest 1/27

Living Stations of the Cross 2/16

This commitment also includes 2 practices and participation in the Living Stations of the Cross Faith Formation Night 2/21.

This one event would fulfill all Parish Service hours.

Easter Eggstaviganza 3/31

Other events may be added throughout the year, be sure to sign up for Flocknote for these updates.



Student Behavior:

- Prayerful, respectable behavior is expected of youth, catechists, and parents in the Church and program rooms. Parents are expected to show a proper example to their teens. Remember that Church is God's House and is not to be treated like a gymnasium.
- The use of tobacco products is not permitted by anyone on campus.
- Vandalism of any type will not be tolerated.
- Fighting and physical contact between students is prohibited in and on the church property. No running in the building or immediately outside, unless the activity is led by a Catechist.

Attendance Policy:

- We support the family in its effort to form their children and youth in the faith. We believe that the home is the best and most privileged place to share our faith, since it is lived there on a daily basis. Parents are the primary catechists of their children.
- Regular attendance at Confirmation sessions is CRITICAL in order to provide the best faith formation possible. However, we do understand that some absences are unavoidable due to illnesses or family emergencies.
- Call/email Faith Formation staff for any anticipated absence for your child. If a student is absent without an excuse for 2 consecutive weeks, parents will be contacted by phone by Faith Formation Staff.
- Your child will be expected to attend the following Wednesday night 6:30pm-8pm for the makeup lessons.
- The parents of students who are perpetually late to class or leave early will be contacted by Faith Formation Staff for resolution. These practices put an unfair burden on the catechists and other students.



final notes

FAITH + FAMILIES TOGETHER

As we begin this Confirmation year together, we ask that you join us in keeping prayer at the center of your lives. We also ask that you pray with and for your youth and pray along with staff and volunteers at St. Wenceslaus, that we may all be guided by the Holy Spirit, in bringing all youth and families closer to Christ.

Please join us in praying the Memorare:

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful.

O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.

Amen.



OUR YOUTH FAITH FORMATION LEADERS:

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GET THE LATEST INFORMATION

Be sure to get signed up for the Confirmation Flocknote by texting NPYOUTH to 84576.

Be sure to get signed up for the Remind app by texting @e962he to 81010.



#youbelonghere

215 Main Street East
New Prague, MN 56071

WWW.NPCatholic.org
952-758-3225

Saint Wenceslaus Catholic Parish
Three sites of Worship- one community of Faith
Including St. Wenceslaus, St. John the Evangelist and St. Scholastica.