

Holy Apostles Catholic Parish



High School Ministry Program

Parent Information Packet for Teens participating in the Sacrament of Confirmation



Holy Apostles Catholic Parish

Confirmation Preparation for Teens 2011-2012



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Dear Parents and Teens,

Welcome to the *2011-2012* Holy Apostles Confirmation preparation program. We are glad to have you on board with us this year. It promises to be an exciting time of growing in faith and strengthening our relationships with friends and family. This preparation will be a challenging time for us to examine the place of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit in our lives. This program is open to all High school students who are in 10th grade during this academic year. It is for those who have received the Sacraments of Baptism and First Communion and who desire to be Confirmed.

As you participate in the program, you will be provided all the information necessary to make a fully informed decision to take this 1st opportunity to participate in the sacrament of Confirmation. Your prospective candidate will be asked to participate in a “Decision and Discernment” retreat in the early spring to help facilitate this process.

We have entered the Third Christian Millennium. Blessed Pope John Paul II told us that this time will be one of special evangelization and growth for the life of the Church. This is a unique and special time for you to be preparing for Confirmation. Christ has high hopes for you, and we do, too.

God bless you on your journey,

Fr. Len MacMillan
Pastor

Robert Barros-Bailey
Confirmation Coordinator



I. Program Goal: The goal of the Holy Apostles Confirmation program is to challenge each teen to be a witness for Christ and His Church and to determine if they are ready to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

II. Components: This goal is achieved through catechesis (instruction in the Faith), liturgy (public prayer and sacraments), service, and community building activities.

III. Eligibility: The Holy Apostles Confirmation program is open to teens that will be between the ages of sixteen and nineteen at the time of reception (May). A certificate of Baptism must be provided at the beginning of the program to take part in the preparation.

IV. Preparation: Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation consists of the following stages:

For those teens in the 10th Grade:

1st Semester Theme: (September – Dec)

1. Introduction; Jesus and the New Covenant (9/18)
2. Our relationship with Jesus as Lord (9/25)
3. Intimacy (10/2)
4. Discovering Jesus in the Sacraments (10/9)
5. Baptism and the Family of God (10/16)
6. The Sacrament of Confirmation (10/23)
7. Discovering Jesus in the Mass (10/30)
8. Discovering Jesus in the Sacrament of Confession (11/6)
9. Following Jesus in a Culture of Death (11/13)
10. Sharing Christ's Love with Others (11/20)
11. The Incarnation and a Catholic View of the World (12/4)
12. Advent Celebration (12/11)

2nd Semester Theme: (Jan – Mar)

1. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit (1/8)
2. Vocation – Plan of Life (1/15)
3. Stewardship and Social Justice (1/22)
4. Servant Leadership (1/29)
5. Prayer (2/5)
6. The Holy Spirit and Holiness (2/12)
7. The Tools of Holiness (2/19)
8. Fellowship and Community (2/26)
9. *Discernment and Decision Retreat (3/3) **Catholic Youth Survival Guide*
10. *Confirmation Rehearsal/ Sponsor Orientation(3/11)*
11. *Confirmation Mass (3/18)*



3rd Semester Theme: (Apr – May)

1. Divine Revelation - The Bible Alone (4/1)
2. Salvation - Faith Alone (4/15)
3. Basic Catholic Traditions - Traditions of Men (4/22)
4. Sacraments - Man-Made Rituals (4/29)
5. Church Hierarchy - A Human Institution (5/6)

For those teens in the 11th, 12th grades or High school graduates under the age of twenty, please contact Robert Barros-Bailey (888-1182) for specific information on class dates.

VI. Service: Service will consist of two all-day projects. Candidates can receive 'credit' for their service project with written approval from an authorized representative from the organization of service. At least ten hours are needed for full credit.

VII. Final Interview/Request for Confirmation: This will include a questionnaire to be returned at the end of the Decision and Discernment Retreat (includes the picking of a Sponsor and a Confirmation name). Requirements for Confirmation sponsors will be handed out in late February.

VIII. Rehearsal: Candidates and their sponsors will attend a Confirmation Rehearsal and Sponsor Orientation before the Confirmation Mass to ensure everyone understands their role and the schedule of events during the Confirmation Mass. Specific Instructions regarding the Confirmation Mass will be handed out at the Rehearsal.

IX. Cost: The registration fee for the 10th Grade Confirmation program is \$75.00. For 11th and 12th graders or high school graduates under the age of twenty, the cost is \$40.00. Checks can be made payable to, *Holy Apostles*. If you are unable to pay the full amount, please contact the Parish office.

VI. Attendance 10th Graders are required to attend all events unless excused by arrangement between their parents and the Director of High School Ministry. In the case of an absence, a suitable means of make-up work will be determined. It is strongly recommended to avoid this route of preparation. Those teens in 11th or 12th grade or high school graduates under the age of twenty must attend all classes as assigned.

Questions: Please call the Director of High School Ministry at the Parish office at (208) 888-1182.