

## **Confirmation Information and Dates to Save May 20, 2019**

Dear Confirmation Candidates and Parents,

The date for Confirmation at St. Mary's is quickly approaching. The last phase of preparation for the reception of this Sacrament has begun. Here is some business that we need to take care of:

### **SPONSOR**

- By Sunday June 9 you should have chosen and asked the person to be your Confirmation Sponsor.
  - This is someone who is a practicing Catholic meaning they are registered at a Catholic church and are attending Mass and are active in the life of that parish.
  - This person should be at least 16 years old and has been baptized and confirmed themselves.
  - This person is a role model for you in how they live out their faith.
- On the weekend of the parish social (festival) your paperwork on your choice of a sponsor must be turned in to Bev Dewar in the parish office. Make sure that you give us the physical address and email address of your sponsor so we can send them this information. We are then required to call the parish where they are registered and to ensure that they are "in good standing" with their parish.

### **PROJECTS WITH YOUR SPONSOR**

Over the summer you are required to work with your sponsor.

- By Sunday August 4 complete the Gift of Courage interviews and then turn the paragraphs in to the parish office
- You need to know the following prayers by heart
  - The Our Father
  - The Hail Mary
  - The Glory Be
  - Memorare
  - Prayer of St. Michael
  - The Nicene Creed
- Since these last three are much longer, I've provided a sheet that helps as a memorization tool. You can work on it with your sponsor. The sponsor says the words on the page to you and then you must fill in the blanks. If you rotate between the 3 versions of where the blanks are, you will have a better chance of remembering the prayer.

### **SUNDAY MASS**

During the Confirmation Mass the sponsors will be asked to give testimony that the candidates are ready and have taken their preparation and their living out of their Catholic faith seriously. One way your sponsor can tell this is if you make a serious effort to attend and participate in Mass each Sunday. If you are traveling this summer, know that there is a Catholic church in nearly every town you will pass through and you are most welcome to join them for Mass. It doesn't have to be just at St. Mary's.

### **SERVICE**

Confirmation Candidates should demonstrate that they are persons who put their faith into practice through service. This fits into several categories of service

- Service for your family - Be generous in offering your help to your parents, brothers and sisters and extended family. Christians don't have to wait to be asked to help, you can just see a need and do it!
- Service for your church family - St. Mary's Parish Social (festival) is Father's Day weekend June 15-16. Everyone is asked to work their assigned shift. Call the parish office if you are not on the work list and you can be connected with a group that needs help. If you are out of town that weekend, you can help throughout the summer in many ways. Your teachers can help connect you.
- Service for the wider community - Your Christian family is bigger than just St. Mary's. Each candidate is asked to volunteer two days during the Leipsic Vacation Bible School the week of July 15-18 or to

participate in the YES project that does small home improvement type projects in Putnam County June 13-15. Contact your teachers to help get you signed up.

### **CONFIRMATION CANDIDATE AND SPONSOR FORMATION DAYS**

- **Sunday August 18, 2019 – Candidate Sponsor Formation Day #1** Circle this date of on your calendar from 10:00-12:30. This day is for ALL confirmation candidates and ALL sponsors. We will begin with the 10:00 Mass and then continue until 12:30. You'll need to have your homework done before you come. Candidates and Sponsors will continue the preparation together. (If the sponsor lives out of state, then a stand in must be present and the sponsor needs to be available by Facetime or phone for a couple parts of the activities.)
- **Sunday August 25, 2019 – Class** – This day will be class for ALL the candidates only. We'll begin with the 10:00 Mass and continue until Noon. Candidates will sit together for Mass on the right side of the church.
- **There will be no class on Labor Day weekend**
- **Sunday September 8, 2019 - Candidate Sponsor Formation Day #2** Circle this day on your calendar for a continuation of Candidate and Sponsor formation, a time of retreat and our first practice for the big day. It will begin with the 10:00 Mass and continue until 2:30 p.m.
- **Sunday September 15, 2019 Class** -- This day will be class for ALL the candidates only. We'll begin with the 10:00 Mass and continue until Noon. Candidates will sit together for Mass on the right side of the church. We will practice one more time for confirmation as part of this class.
- **Sunday September 22, 2019 is Confirmation Day at the 10:00 a.m. Mass.** Candidates and Sponsors should plan to meet in the Parish Life Center by 9:30 a.m.

### **WHAT TO WEAR**

- If you are shopping this summer and want to get something new to wear on Confirmation Day here are some guidelines.
  - Guys should wear a dress shirt, pants and tie
    - No Flip Flops
    - Nothing with holes in it
  - Ladies should wear a dress. (The current fashion world makes choices difficult, but since this is a church event, here are a few directives.)
    - There is no specific color required.
    - When you put your arms down at your side where your fingertips end, this is the shortest your skirt/dress can be.
    - No Halter, Spaghetti Strap or Tube Top dresses unless accompanied by a shawl/shrug. (The point is not too tight, too low cut and no navels showing.)
    - No flip/flops

Have a blessed summer and know that we are praying for you. If you have questions, feel free to email us:

Sr. Mary Teresita Richards, SND (the new pastoral associate), [richards@toledosnd.org](mailto:richards@toledosnd.org)

Mrs. Sarah Pester, [spester@ls.noacsc.org](mailto:spester@ls.noacsc.org)

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