

***Holy Family
Freeburg, MO***

***Sacred Heart
Rich Fountain, MO***

August 21, 2019

Thank you for partnering with us in the religious education program for Confirmation to instill a love of Jesus and an understanding of our Catholic faith in our children. The example you provide cannot be underestimated. Attending Holy Mass each Sunday, receiving sacraments regularly, daily prayer, and studying with your children are imperative. Our youth are expected to be practicing Catholics receiving the sacraments on a regular basis.

Confirmation classes will begin Wednesday, September 11, 2019.

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation will be combined this year for high school students of Holy Family and Sacred Heart (9th – 11th grades, including any seniors who haven't yet received the sacrament). A schedule of weekly classes will be available once the date for Confirmation is known. Location of classes will alternate between the parishes. Classes will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. and will be an hour in duration. If your son or daughter will not be attending class, Parents, please contact the teacher prior to class. All Students are expected to attend every class unless sickness or other good reason interferes. Class will need to be 'made up' if the student cannot attend class when scheduled.

The date for Confirmation is to be determined by Bishop McKnight's office - we have requested a date in late March or April 2020. Confirmation Mass will be held at St. Joseph Cathedral in Jefferson City due to the number of students who will be receiving the sacrament – more information to come when available.

Confirmation Sponsors should be chosen before the first class. A Sponsor should be a practicing Catholic (going to Mass each Sunday, regular reception of the sacraments) whose faith you admire. Please bring the completed Sponsor form (enclosed) to the first class. We highly encourage choosing a sponsor who can join the candidate on a regular basis by attending class, etc. Vocation Reflection day for candidates and sponsors has not yet been announced, but it is usually in February/March at St. Joseph Cathedral in Jefferson City.

Service is our opportunity to be the hands, feet and heart of Jesus by serving others. Parent assistance is needed to identify and coordinate service opportunities. The first Wednesday of each month will be left open on the schedule to provide a time when service projects can be performed. A parent consent form is attached to provide permission for your student to participate in any off-premise service opportunities throughout the year.

Please complete the enclosed 'Parent Partnership' form to let us know how you can help during the year with one or more of the following: Service projects, the Retreat, printing Name tags for Confirmation, Compiling student information in Excel, and the Reception. Return the form to the parish office or at the first class.

This year especially we will again need parents to participate by assisting during class. Each family will be assigned to help with one or more classes throughout the year (the list will be created once the class schedule is finalized). The parents help monitor the class, primarily reminding certain students to stop talking and pay attention, and assist the teacher as needed. Please let your students know that they are expected to pay attention and participate during classes. Parents will be notified of repeated issues with students.

Communication with the parents and students will be done through Remind, which is a Diocesan-approved method to communicate with minors. Remind is an app on a smart phone, but can also be used on a computer with email or on any phone that receives text messages. Information about how to sign up with Remind is attached, along with a parent consent form. We ask that all parents and students sign up so that everyone receives the information about classes, service projects, reminders, etc. that needs to be shared throughout the year.

We are looking forward to a grace filled year to bring all of us into a deeper faith relationship!

Sincerely, Reverend William Debo, Pastor

Enclosures