

January 12, 2020

Dear Parents,

Thank you for registering your child in religious education this year. If your child is in 3rd-12th grade, please [use the link below](#) to complete your child's enrollment in Sacramental Preparation for Confirmation to be celebrated at Sacred Heart (date tba). If you have more than one child preparing for Confirmation you will need to complete one form per child. Please let Amy know if you would like the office to print a copy for you. Enrollment information is due by February 1st. Once they are enrolled, students become "Confirmation Candidates".

Additionally, Baptismal certificates and completed Confirmation sponsor forms must be submitted to the church office by February 1st.

When you requested baptism for your child, you started their faith journey toward full initiation into the Catholic Church. We are well on our way to accepting these young disciples into full communion with the Church in the Sacrament of Confirmation in the spring. Ongoing activities in family spiritual life, including Mass participation, parish involvement and opportunities to serve others are the essential components of continued formation.

All activities specifically scheduled for sacramental preparation for Confirmation are important and participation is expected as part of the process. Contact the office as soon as possible if you have a conflict. We have attached a list of dates for you to mark your calendars. Please note that there is a period of "Mystagogia" (from the Greek for "contemplating the mysteries"). Students will be expected to attend class on in April and May. Mystagogia wraps up in the fall and faith formation continues throughout the year.

As a part of our moral and virtue education, we are offering a workshop on Creating Catholic Culture in the Home this year. The parent program is scheduled on Sunday, February 9th from 10:40-noon in Sacred Heart Hall on the stage.

If you are unable to complete the program expectations this year or you feel that your child might benefit from an additional year of preparation, please indicate on the form that you would like to enroll for Confirmation in spring 2021.

As we place our trust in the Holy Trinity, the Church and our diocese, know that we are praying for each of you. Our partnership to prepare your child has been ongoing, and continues long after this step of initiation. We will continue to offer religious education classes, service projects, opportunities for spiritual growth and most importantly, the Eucharist to help them to develop into mature disciples of Jesus Christ.

In Christ,

Fr. Charles Pawlowski
Pastor, Sacred Heart and St. Helena/ St. Mary's Mission

Amy Cheevers
Director of Faith Formation

<https://forms.gle/P3sYg9igUeBVSGrB6>

Ongoing Formation

Mass Participation

- We ask each student to “try out” a liturgical ministry
 - Greeting/ Welcome
 - Altar Serving
 - Choir
 - Collection
 - Bringing up the Gifts
- Each class is assigned a week to help but students can fill in another week
- Catechists have the schedule or check the parish google calendar

Knowledge

- Ongoing education about the faith
- Specific info to be reviewed at the Family Retreat (3/1) and Workshop (3/22)

Service & Acts of Mercy

- Baby Shower on 1/19
- Lenten Food Drive

Prayer & Spirituality

- Retreats, VBS, Conferences
- Parish Holy Hour, Rosary, Confession
- Living Stations, Seder, Corpus Christi

Virtue and Morality

Creating Catholic Culture at home 2/9 or other approved Catholic virtue/morality program

Social & Parish Fellowship

- Dinners, Events, Donuts
- Friends & Prayer Partners

Confession

- Required when one commits a “grave sin”
- Opens us to a “State of Grace” especially prior to receiving Communion and Confirmation

Evening Talk with Fr. Charles 3/4/20 at 6:30pm
Family Holy Hour with Confession (tbd)

Saint Project

- Research Project Plan and Outline
- Project Presentations

Confirmation Specific Formation

Sponsor

- Each sponsor needs a form of eligibility, signed by their priest
- Interview and service project with sponsor
- Sponsor books are available for \$10
- Sponsor selection was due November 4

Holy Eucharist Project at home 2/16-2/23

- Parent guided project for Winter Break
- More details provided at 1/26 class

Family Sacramental Ministries Retreat March 1st from 9:30am-3:30pm

- Sacramental Information
- Prayer and Reflection
- Food and Fellowship
- Letter to the Bishop (during retreat)

Interview (schedule in March)

- to determine if “properly disposed”
- ask about their future plans as a disciple in the church
- feedback about the program
- Scheduled with pastor or director of FF
- One month prior to reception

Workshop March 22 9:30am Mass- 1:00pm

- Recap of Preparation Process
- Review of Confirmation Rite
- Review of First Holy Communion

Rehearsal 3/27 at 5:00pm

- Sponsors and candidates should attend
- Walk through and practice of Rite

Confirmation/ First Holy Communion March 28 at 10:00am

- Arrive 30 minutes prior to Mass

Mystagoia

- Period following initiation to grow in understanding of the mysteries of our faith
- Continued participation in Faith Formation is expected through 12th grade