



Faith Formation

Confirmation Parents,

Welcome to the 2018-19 faith formation year! We are so excited that your child is embarking on a journey that will ultimately help them grow stronger in their Catholic faith. As a Confirmation student, our program here at Holy Family will give them the knowledge of the Sacrament that they are receiving and give them the tools to expand our faith community!

I wanted to make sure that I gave you a little insight as to the documents that are enclosed within this packet. Each of these pages outlines the requirements that each Confirmation student has here at Holy Family. Please take the time to review all of these references because missing a single requirement could be detrimental to candidates receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

I just wanted to quickly mention two things that are not talked about in the packet. Our attendance policy for both Confirmation programs is that students are only permitted to miss **2 classes per year**. Also, Confirmation 2 students and sponsors are required to attend an evening of reflection and prayer with Father Manno on February 13th. If the Sponsor cannot make this event, a parent or family member can stand in proxy. This event will take place at Holy Family Church from 6:30pm-7:30pm.

We are so excited that your child is joining us through this journey of faith. Once again, please review all of the materials in this packet and if you have any questions my door is always open. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Christopher Spilka -Confirmation Coordinator

chris@holyfamilysyr.org | 315-488-3139 ext 101

Holy Family Church 2018-2019 Confirmation Schedule



<u>Date</u>	<u>Confirmation 1</u>	<u>Confirmation 2</u>
Sep. 23	Lesson 1 (Why am I here?)	Lesson 12 (Who is the Holy Spirit?)
Sep. 30	Lesson 2 (What makes me happy?)	Lesson 13 (What does the Holy Spirit do for me?)
Oct. 1	Parent Meeting (6:30pm-7pm) **Church**	
Oct. 13	Confirmation 2 Retreat @ Syracuse University (Meet @ HF, 9:15am)	
Oct. 21	Lesson 3 (What's your story God?)	Lesson 15 (Why do I have to go to Mass?)
Nov. 18	Lesson 4 (How do I know God is real?)	Lesson 8 (How do I get there?)
Dec. 9	Lesson 5 (Who is Jesus?)	Lesson 9 (When did my journey begin?)
Jan. 13	Mass (We will do 10:30 Mass)	Mass (We will do 12:15 Mass)
Jan. 27	Lesson 6 (Why be Catholic?)	Lesson 10 (Why tell my sins to a Priest?)
Feb. 3	Lesson 7 (Where am I going?)	Lesson 16 (What does it mean to say I do?)
Feb. 13		Confirmation Candidate & Sponsor Evening of Reflection. 6:30pm-7:30pm in Church
Feb. 10	Lesson 19 (Who is Mary?)	Lesson 17 (Who's Calling?)
Mar. 3	Lesson 20 (WWJD?)	Lesson 22 (Why wait?)
Mar. 10	Lesson 18 (Are you talking to me?)	Lesson 21 (Do I have what it takes?)
Mar. 24	Lesson 11 (How does God help when it hurts?)	Lesson 23 (How do I build the kingdom?)
Apr. 3		Confirmation Rehearsal (7pm-8pm)
Apr. 4		Confirmation Ceremony (7pm) **Candidates & Sponsors meet in Church Hall @ 6:20pm**

Confirmation 1 (Meeting Time, Location)

10:00am-11:30am: Church Hall

Confirmation 2 (Meeting Time, Location)

11:45am-1:15pm

SPONSOR INFORMATION SHEET

****KEEP THIS COPY FOR YOUR REFERENCE****

A Sponsor must be a practicing, confirmed Catholic, who is at least 16 years of age. He/She may **NOT** be the Candidate's mother or father. A godparent is a good choice. The Candidate is encouraged to choose someone close by. The Sponsor should be a person who is prayerful, open, dependable, loving and is comfortable sharing his or her faith with young people.

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE SPONSOR

The Sponsor represents the support and prayers of the entire Church. He/She will be the Candidate's "spiritual friend." In this program the following is asked of the Sponsor:

1. Attend Confirmation rehearsal on **April 3, 2019 @ 7pm**
2. Attend the Liturgy of Confirmation **April 4, 2019 @7pm**
3. Meet with the Candidate regularly throughout this year of preparation.
4. Share your faith story with the Candidate.
5. Pray for and with the Candidate.
6. Continue to be there for the Candidate and lend spiritual support after the Confirmation ceremony is over.
7. Attend Candidate & Sponsor "Evening of Reflection" on **February 13, 2019, 6:30pm-7:30pm**

PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM NO LATER THAN: November 19th, 2017

It may be returned by the Candidate or mail.

Holy Family Parish Attn: Faith Formation 127 Chapel Drive Syracuse, NY 13219

315.488.3139 ext 22 / chris@holyfamilysyr.org

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call or email at any time. Please know that our prayers are with you as we begin this spiritual journey together!

Confirmation 1

Responsibilities

RESPONSIBILITY TO COMPLETE

DEADLINE

Community & Parish Service (10 Hours)

March 10, 2019

Confirmation 2

Responsibilities

RESPONSIBILITY TO COMPLETE

DEADLINE

Retreat (@ Alibrandi Center, SU)

October 13, 2018

(9:15am-5:15pm)

Sponsor Form

November 18, 2018

Letter to the Bishop

January 27, 2019

Confirmation Name & Saint Project

January 27, 2019

Candidate & Sponsor "Evening of Reflection"

February 13, 2019

Community & Parish Service (10 Hours)

March 10, 2019

SPONSOR CERTIFICATE

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4. Share your faith story with the Candidate.
5. Pray for and with the Candidate.
6. Continue to be there for the Candidate and lend spiritual support after the Confirmation ceremony is April 4, 2019
7. Attend Candidate & Sponsor "Evening of Reflection" on **February 13, 2019, 6:30pm-7:30pm**

Please Print

Confirmation Candidate's Name: _____

Sponsor's Information

Name: _____ Relationship to Candidate: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Name of Sponsors Parish: _____

Parish's City, State: _____

Name of Pastor at Sponsor's Parish: _____

Signature of Pastor at Sponsor's Parish: _____

*****This form MUST have a parish seal for it to be valid.*****

Please return no later than November 18, 2018

I agree to serve as a sponsor for this Confirmation Candidate. I understand my role as described on the Sponsor Information sheet, which I have received from the Candidate and read. I agree to attend the required sessions with my candidate, unless not possible for extraordinary reasons – in which case a family member proxy will stand in my place. I agree to cultivate a relationship with my candidate during this year of preparation for his/her Confirmation and to serve as a spiritual support during this important time in his/her life, as well as in the years to come.

SIGNATURE OF SPONSOR/DATE

CANDIDATE LETTER TO THE BISHOP

- Letter should be typed and addressed “Dear Bishop”
- Opening paragraph should introduce yourself to the Bishop, state that you are a Candidate for Confirmation and then tell a little bit about yourself: the Church you belong to, the school you go to, the community you live in
- The next few paragraphs should talk about your Journey to Confirmation: your formation sessions, your life experiences, the retreat, the food drive
- **Capitalize: God, Jesus, Bishops Name, Confirmation.** We will send your letter back to you if this doesn't happen
- Select one of the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit and explain how you will be a “Witness to Christ” using that gift
- Ask to be confirmed: Based on my journey this past year, I feel that I am ready to be sealed with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and accept the new and more challenging responsibilities that come with this Sacrament.
I respectfully request to be Confirmed on April 4th, 2019
- **Sign your name @ The Bottom**

There is no minimum requirement for this letter. Please remember that the Bishop has never met you and the more you can tell him about your faith journey the better.

Confirmation Name & Saint Project

Your Name: _____

Full Name of Saint: (Example: St. Francis of Assisi) _____

Date of Birth: _____ Date of Death: _____

Date of Canonization: _____

City and Country where he/she lived or worked: _____

Patron Saint of: _____

What is Remarkable about this Saint's life?

Do you face any of the same challenges that this saint faced in his/her life? How can studying the life of this saint help you to face your challenges?

What qualities do you admire about this Saint?



Faith at Home

If we want our children to have a faith that influences the way they live their lives — and the critical life decisions they make — then in our homes we need to be modeling faith through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

I once led a workshop with David Anderson titled "Nurturing Faith of Teenagers." I set the stage for the workshop by helping the parents identify the characteristics of teenagers as well as the issues they commonly face today. Dr. Anderson then took it a step further by asking the parents, "How many of you wish your teenager had a stronger faith?" Every hand in the room went up. He then made a comment that I'll never forget. He said, "While it's good that everyone desires that our teenagers have a stronger faith, the truth is that what we see in our teenagers' faith is a mirror image of our own faith. So, the issue is not their faith, but your faith."

The makeover in your family begins with a makeover in your own heart. If you want your children to have a personal relationship with Christ, you need to have a personal relationship with Christ. If you want God to make over your family, the makeover must begin with you. You need to move from having knowledge about God in your head to establishing a personal relationship with God in your heart. Only then can God affect how you live your life, raise your children and make life decisions. So ask yourself:

Are you going to observe life God's way, or are you going to ignore God's way?

You have been given the greatest gift you could ever be given: a son or daughter.

What are you going to do with this gift?

What do you think when you hear that your child's faith will be a mirror image of your faith?

What example will you set for your child?

How are you going to live your life, and what will your children remember about you?

What type of faith would you like your children and grandchildren to have?

Take every chance you can to practice faith-talk with your children — and remember that faith-talk doesn't need to end when they grow up on their own. My dad once said to me, "You never stop being a parent." In the same way, faith-talk is a never-ending dialogue with your children. You can make a lasting impression on your children and the generations of children that follow.