

Saint Katharine Drexel Confirmation Preparation Process

It is my pleasure to invite you to our Confirmation Preparation Process! The staff has worked hard to put together a process that will prepare our high school teens for this important sacrament, but at the same time not overburden them with a heavy schedule of events. With that in mind we have designed our program to be flexible enough to hopefully fit into the schedules of most families.

Per archdiocesan guidelines, our Confirmation program exists separate from our parish's family catechesis programs. This means that our high school teens in the Confirmation program need to be enrolled in one of the four family catechesis options offered at Saint Katharine Drexel (TGIF, Generations of Faith, FIRE, or homestudy) or be enrolled in a Catholic high school.

Enclosed you will find a description of the main components of our Confirmation Prep Program. You will notice that some aspects of our program will happen at Saint Katharine Drexel, and some will be the responsibility of the teen on their own. While all of these components will be assembled before a teen celebrates Confirmation, the speed with which they are done is open to each teen and their family. This means that while the program can be completed in approximately one year, it can also be spread over two or more years if more convenient. We expect to have high school students of different grade levels completing the program together.

This program will allow our teens to enter into a conscious discernment process in which they examine the role of faith in their life and seek to understand it more fully. It should also allow this to happen in a less hurried and pressured way emphasizing again that Confirmation is not the finish line or graduation, but rather another step in our lifelong faith formation. **Our first meeting will be our Overview on Sunday August 29th from 2:30-4:00pm in McElroy Hall.** For this important meeting we are **asking a parent or guardian to attend with the teen** as all of the details about the program will be given and there will be time for questions.

To register for the Confirmation Preparation Process please complete the enclosed form and either drop it by the parish offices or mail it to the address on the form, with the Candidate's Baptismal Certificate. **Please return the form and certificate by August 22nd.** Please note that the teen will need to decide on a Confirmation Sponsor early in the process. I highly recommend approaching the potential Sponsor with the enclosed **Sponsor Invitation** before our Overview session. The role of the Sponsor is detailed on the invitation to help you to determine who to approach (God-parents are a great choice!). There will be a question and answer time during the Overview meeting, but if you have any specific immediate questions after reading through the enclosed materials please call me at the parish office and I will be happy to talk to you about the program. Looking forward to seeing you soon!

In Christ's peace,

Brian McCrohan
Pastoral Associate for Youth Ministry