

August 26, 2016

Dear Parents and Youth,

I would like to invite your teenager to participate in the preparation program for the **Sacrament of Confirmation** at St. John. The Sacrament of Confirmation is an opportunity to celebrate what God is doing in your life and be welcomed by the greater Church community, as you deepen your understanding of yourself and your faith. Confirmation is also a wonderful occasion to build strong relationships with other Catholic youth and make participation in church more enjoyable through service and community life. **Candidates for Confirmation must be at least sixteen years of age by May 31, 2017, or in the 11th grade.** If you have received this letter in error and your child is too young, or has already celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation, please accept our apologies and contact the parish office so we can update your information. Teens who will be close to the required age may request permission from the Archbishop to participate—contact us for details.

I have enclosed a form for registration and schedule. **Registration forms should be turned into the office by September 17th along with the \$85.00 preparation fee. Registration forms should be in by the date of the first session.** No one will be denied access to the sacrament for lack of funds. Please prayerfully discern what your family can offer.

Each candidate will need a sponsor who must be a **fully initiated Catholic** (have celebrated Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.). You aren't required to have a sponsor to begin the program but should begin considering who you will ask. Sponsors should attend the Confirmation service itself and are invited to attend the opening prayer service (if you have chosen one at that point). Sponsor time commitment will vary, but your sponsor should make time to meet with you (personally or via Skype etc) to talk about your spiritual journey through the confirmation process.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (206) 783-0337ext. 326 or email me at mhalley@stjohnsea.org

Schedule

Monthly Classes will meet from 12pm – 2pm on the following Sundays, after the 10:30 mass. Candidates may attend the 10:30 mass or either of the other two masses (8:30 am Sunday or 5pm Saturday vigil). Parents will provide lunch on a rotating basis; look for a Sign-Up Genius email in September. We will also have at least one **retreat** and a **service project**, dates to be determined!

October 17 (Monday): Opening Prayer Service, 7pm, in the Church, parents and candidates

October 23 12pm – 2pm – class session, candidates and Confirmation team

November 20 12pm – 2pm– class session, candidates and Confirmation team

December 18 12pm – 2pm– class session, candidates and Confirmation team

January 22 12pm – 2pm– class session, candidates and Confirmation team

February 26 12pm – 2pm– class session, candidates and Confirmation team

March 26 12pm – 2pm– class session, candidates and Confirmation team

March 27 7pm–9pm–Parish reconciliation service—Required! (contact Mari Halley if you have a conflict!)

April 23 12pm – 2pm–class session, candidates and Confirmation team

Blessings,

Mari Halley on behalf of the St. John Parish 2017 Confirmation Team