

## **St. John Nepomucene Faith Development** **CONFIRMATION REQUIREMENTS**

### **Completion of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade Faith Development Classes**

9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades are important in preparing for Confirmation. If the student has not attended classes in 9<sup>th</sup> and/or 10<sup>th</sup> grade they will be required to meet with the Faith Development Coordinator to discuss Confirmation preparation.

### **Attendance at all Confirmation Sessions**

Attendance at all scheduled classes is required. If, due to extraordinary circumstances, the student cannot attend a class, the absence must be called in ahead of time to Sarah at 920-540-1419. Students will be required to review the missed material and write the required reflection for that week or meet with Sarah. The lesson plan will be emailed to the parent email address on file after the missed class, and the student is required to review the lesson and discuss with a parent. Classes start at 8 am. If a student has not arrived by 8:05 am, doors will be closed, the student will not be able to attend class that day, and he/she will be marked as an unexcused absence. Due to the small number of classes, excessive absences may require a conference with the Faith Development Coordinator to determine readiness to receive the sacrament.

### **Baptismal Certificate**

If the student was baptized at St. John, their baptismal record is on file. If baptized at another church, parents are responsible to obtain the student's baptismal record and deliver it to the parish office. This document must be received at our office prior to the student receiving the sacrament.

### **Choose a Sponsor**

A sponsor must be a confirmed, practicing Catholic who is not the parent or legal guardian of the student. The student should choose someone they admire, respect and can talk with comfortably who preferably lives in the area. The sponsor is required to attend all sessions noted on the calendar, along with meeting with the student occasionally to share life experiences and faith stories together. The sponsor is required to be at the rehearsal and Confirmation mass.

### **A Retreat Experience**

A retreat is required for completion of Confirmation preparation. Our retreat is scheduled for **September 27 from 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** (Mass is included in the retreat)

If a student has a conflict that they cannot change, then the student will be required to attend a retreat at another parish in the area prior to Confirmation.

### **Confirmation Name**

Diocesan guidelines recommend that the student take the name of a saint for Confirmation. We will devote class time to reviewing the lives of saints so that students are able to choose one that has meaning to them. Students may keep their own baptismal name or choose another family name, if it is a saint's name.

### Letter to the Bishop

The student is required to write a letter to the Bishop stating reasons for wanting to be confirmed. This letter will be composed during class time.

### Service

One of the best ways to live your faith is through service. As part of your Confirmation preparation, you'll complete **15 total service hours—10 hours serving at St. John's and 5 hours serving in the community**. These hours give you the chance to grow as a disciple, build connections with your parish, and make a real difference in the lives of others.

You'll find lots of ideas and opportunities in your orientation folder, and your small group leaders and the Faith Development office are always here to help. Parish service should be done in a **Mass ministry (as a lector, usher, greeter, etc.)**, during **Children's Liturgy**, or at **Faith Development class nights**. If you cannot complete the required hours at St. Johns for some reason, please contact the Faith Development Coordinator.

At each class, your small group leader will check in with you about your service progress. If no hours have been completed and no plan is in place after two classes, we'll reach out to you and your parents to come up with a plan together.

Keep in mind: You'll be asked to share about your service in your letter to the Bishop, and completing these hours is required to be confirmed. If you didn't finish your hours from previous years, they carry over and will be added to this year's total. Hours need to be turned in by **April 11, 2027**.

### Senior Commitment

Continued involvement in our parish and Faith Development activities throughout your 12<sup>th</sup> grade year is important. Receiving the strengthening of the Holy Spirit means you are moving from a listener of God's word to a doer of God's word. The Faith Development office will assist with ideas for senior year service opportunities.