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10th Grade

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“Then Jesus said to the Jews who believed in him, ‘If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.’” (John 8:31)

Questions?

Kory LaCroix, the Confirmation Coordinator can be reached through the following ways:

1. klacroix@hnoj.org
2. (763) 746-8190



SH CREW

Sunday, September 17th, 2017 (4pm)	9th Gr. Parent and Student Meeting
Sunday, September 17th, 2017 (7pm)	10th Gr. Parent and Student Meeting**
Sunday, September 24th, 2017	SH CREW First Session***
Sunday, October 1st, 2017*	First Sunday
Sunday, October 8th, 2017	
Sunday, October 15th, 2017	
Sunday, October 22nd, 2017	
Sunday, November 5th, 2017*	First Sunday
Sunday, November 19th, 2017	
Sunday, November 26th, 2017	
Sunday, December 3rd, 2017	
Sunday, December 10th, 2017	First Sunday
Sunday, December 17th, 2017	
Sunday, January 7th, 2018*	First Sunday
Sunday, January 14th, 2018	
Sunday, January 21st, 2018	
Sunday, January 28th, 2018	
Sunday, February 11th, 2017*	First Sunday
Sunday, February 18th, 2017	
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Sunday, April 8th, 2017*	First Sunday
Sunday, April 15th, 2017	
Sunday, April 22nd, 2017	
Sunday, May 6th, 2017*	First Sunday
Sunday, May 27th, 2017	

All First Sunday sessions will take place from 7:00-9:00pm
All other sessions will take place from 7:00-8:30pm

*First Sunday Session

**This meeting is for those teens who have completed the confirmation prep prerequisites.

***This first session is the kick off for all small groups (weekly and monthly)



Confirmation Prep Schedule

Wed., Jan. 24th, 2018 (7:30-8:30pm)	Conf. Prep. (w/ Parent & Sponsor)
Sun., Feb. 11th, 2018 (5:30pm)	Rite of Welcome (with Sponsor)
Wed., Feb. 28th, 2018 (7:30-8:30pm)	Conf. Prep. (w/ Parent & Sponsor)
Wed., Mar. 14th, 2018 (7:30-8:30pm)	Conf. Prep. (w/ Parent & Sponsor)
Wed., Apr. 18th, 2018 (7:30-8:30pm)	Conf. Prep. (w/ Parent & Sponsor)
Sun., May. 6th, 2018 (5:30pm)	Rite of Sending (with Sponsor)
Wed., May 9th, 2018 (7:30-8:30pm)	Conf. Prep. & Rehearsal
Sun., May 13th, 2018 (2pm)**	Confirmation at the Cathedral of St. Paul

*Please arrive at the Cathedral of St. Paul between 1:10pm and 1:30pm



Important Info.

To The Parents:

When you brought your child to the Church for Baptism, you accepted the sacred responsibility and privilege of “training them in the practice of the faith.” (Rite of Baptism, 30). You were reminded that you are the first and best teachers of your child and you were entrusted with keeping the light of faith burning brightly in their life. Parents instruct their children, both by what they say and what they do. It is now time for that next step. Confirmation is a celebration of the ongoing power of the already-present Holy Spirit in our lives, the Spirit first received in Baptism. Through this sacrament, the gifts of the Holy Spirit first received at Baptism are deepened and intensified.

Following are some suggestions on ways to assist your young person in their preparation:

1. Pray for and with your child(ren) everyday.
2. Initiate conversation about the Sacrament of Confirmation, share your memories of receiving the sacrament, and encourage them to share their ideas of how receiving this sacrament will change their faith life.
3. Help with the selection of a sponsor and saint’s name for Confirmation.
4. Make sure all documents are completed and returned in a timely manner.

Guidelines for reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation:

1. Regular participation in Sunday (or Saturday evening) Mass.
2. An appropriate understanding of the Catholic Christian life. The candidate should understand and reflect the life of Christ in their lifestyle.
3. A firm determination to live the Christian life to the best of their ability. The candidate must be a good steward, giving in Christian proportion of their time, talent, and treasure.
4. The candidate must understand the importance of personal and communal worship in the life of the Church.
5. Faithful participation in the Confirmation preparation program, scheduled classes, retreats, service projects, etc.
6. Commitment to further religious education by the candidate and parents or guardian. Reception of this sacrament is a beginning – not an end. It is one step in our life-long journey to holiness. The candidate must be willing to be actively involved in parish life after Confirmation.



Holy Name of Jesus Faith Community will assist in the faith formation of the Confirmation candidates by:

1. Scheduling class sessions during which the candidates will delve deeper into understanding their faith, the scriptures, and the Sacrament of Confirmation. Sessions will be held on the campus of Holy Name of Jesus.
2. Inviting speakers from the local faith community, greater Twin Cities' area, and from around the country to share their insights with the candidates. The small groups will be led by volunteers from HNOJ under the direction of the Confirmation Coordinator. It is important that the candidates attend all sessions so as not to miss the information shared at these sessions.
3. Priests will attend and/or participate in some of the sessions with the candidates.

Expectations:

Regular participation in the Sunday liturgy:

1. Sunday Mass is not optional for Catholics. Celebration of the Eucharist is our highest form of worship and candidates are expected to be active participants. This is the faith they will affirm.

Session Attendance:

1. Candidates are expected to complete all Confirmation preparation components including:
 - 1.1. First Sunday Sessions (minimum of 12)
 - 1.2. Confirmation preparation Sessions (minimum of 4)
 - 1.3. Two parish based retreats
 - 1.4. Saint Report
 - 1.5. Letter of Intent
 - 1.6. Sponsor Covenant
 - 1.7. Proof of Baptism
2. Emergency absence considerations:
 - 2.1. Extreme circumstances, including death of family member, severe sickness and/or inclement weather will be considered emergency absences and candidates may be excused from the minimum requirements. These extenuating situations will be evaluated on a case by case basis. If you feel as though any of your absences fall into this category, please call the Confirmation Coordinator to discuss options.



Inclement Weather:

1. If the weather is severe and we decide to cancel any sessions, the cancellation of classes will be posted on www.hnoj.org in the newsbox section of the front page. In addition, the cancellation will be broadcast over: WCCO radio station (830) and KARE 11 (channel 11).
2. We will defer to your judgment as to whether or not it is safe for you to travel. If a session is missed due to weather conditions, it is the responsibility of the parent to see that the child(ren) have completed any assignments that may be due and have their child turn those forms into the small group leaders at the next session.

Participations in Sessions

1. Candidate should be Respectful and attentive to speakers, fellow small group members and others in attendance.
2. Candidate should Invest in each session in order to get as much out of it as possible, and complete any assignments including meeting with their sponsor, saint's report, service requirements, interviews with small group leaders, and retreats.
3. Candidate should actively Participate in small group discussions and take part in the scheduled retreats.

Sponsor:

1. Each candidate is required to have a sponsor and to complete two activities with their chosen sponsor. Please refer to the "Sponsor Information" section in this handbook for more information.

Statement of Intent:

1. A letter of intent must be submitted. These will be read, recorded, and then passed on to Father Steve. For more information on this assignment, please refer to the "Confirmation Statement of Intent" section of this handbook.

Patron Saint Name Selection and Report:

1. At Confirmation, candidates traditionally choose a canonized saint to be their patron. At the Rite of Confirmation, they will be referred to by this name signifying the profound change that the sacrament brings about. The selection of this name will also symbolize the candidates participation in the Communion of Saints. Each candidate must write a 1-2 page report on this saint. Full details of this assignment can be found in the "Patron Saint Selection and Report" section of this handbook.



Baptism Record

One of the prerequisites for Confirmation is Christian Baptism. It is the responsibility of the parents to provide Holy Name of Jesus with a copy of their child's Baptismal certificate. This Baptismal certificate must be issued from the parish the child was Baptized at **no more than 6 months prior to their Confirmation day**. It is absolutely necessary that you provide us with proof of your son's or daughter's Baptism.

*Please return this form to Parish Office no later than **February 1st, 2018**.

For children Baptized at Holy Name of Jesus:

Confirmation candidate _____ was baptized at
(Name)

Holy Name of Jesus Parish on _____
(Date)

For children Baptized at another parish:

*We must have on file a newly (no more than 6 months) issued certificate from the parish the child was baptized. If you need help with this, we'd be happy to help.

Confirmation candidate _____ was baptized at
(Name)

_____ on _____
(Parish) (Date)

First communion:

The candidate made their First Communion at _____
(Parish)

on _____
(Date)



Retreat

Retreats are wonderful opportunities to step away from life’s busyness and spend time reflecting more deeply on one’s relationship with God. They are meant to draw youth into a closer relationship with God and into a closer relationship with other persons from our parish community. One of our primary goals is to connect the youth to their local faith community, Holy Name of Jesus, and provide retreat experiences specific to Confirmation.

Each Confirmation Candidate is required to experience at least two parish based Confirmation retreats during their time of Confirmation preparation.

If none of the retreat experiences below work for your son or daughter, please contact Kory LaCroix as soon as possible.

Retreat Selection:

1. Select your first **two** choices of the following options.
2. You will be expected to attend the entire retreat that you choose.
3. Please note that this form is not a registration but indicates which retreat you will attend. Registrations for each retreat experience will be made available at hnoj.org.

Please indicate which retreat you plan on attending:

- _____ I attended Extreme Faith Camp: (June 17-23, 2017)
- _____ I attended Steubenville North: (July 14-15, 2017)
- _____ I attended Christpower: (July 10-13, 2017)
- _____ Senior High Crew Fall Retreat (November 10 – 12, 2017)
- _____ Senior High Crew Spring Retreat (April 20-22, 2018)

*Must also sign up through HNOJ Youth Ministry when forms become available

Candidate Name: _____

Candidate Email: _____

Candidate Cell: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent E-mail: _____

Parent Cell: _____



Sponsor

Choosing A Sponsor:

If you have ever attended a Confirmation ceremony, you have seen an adult who stands behind the candidate with a hand on their shoulder as they are anointed, but the role of a sponsor goes far beyond a simple gesture of support. Did you know that the word sponsor comes from the same root word as “responsible”? A Confirmation sponsor is someone whom you look up to as a role model in faith and will be there to support you spiritually before, during and after you receive the sacrament. In essence, your sponsor is meant to act as a spiritual guide and friend in your faith.

That being said, choosing your sponsor is an important task. Don’t just choose someone because they are fun or because they haven’t done it yet. Choose your sponsor because you know that they will help you grow in your faith this year and because they will continue to support you.

Here are some good questions to ask as you consider choosing your sponsor:

1. Who in my life has made an impact on my faith?
2. Is this person responsible?
3. Is this person mature?
4. Does he/she practice his/her Catholic faith actively by attending Mass at least weekly?
5. Does he/she practice his/her Catholic faith actively in the way that he/she lives and acts?
6. Do I trust him/her?

The Archdiocese of St. Paul-Minneapolis has specific requirements that are to be met by all sponsors:

1. The sponsor must be an active, participating Catholic who has been Confirmed; someone who will be an inspiration and support for the candidate. There is to be one sponsor, male or female.
2. Sponsor must be at least 16 years of age.
3. He or she may not be the candidate’s mother or father. It is desirable, but not mandatory, that the baptismal sponsor (godparent) also be the sponsor at Confirmation to show the close connection of the two sacraments. In many cases this is not possible and another suitable person may be selected. A parent may be proxy at the ceremony.
4. The sponsor should be a person who is prayerful, open, dependable, loving and is comfortable sharing his or her faith with young people.
5. The sponsor should be someone who is a witness to Christ and to the importance of a Catholic Christian lifestyle by their words and actions. A person who will be a support and example to the candidate as he/she moves through periods of crisis, questioning, and discernment.



Sponsor Information

***Due no later than December 14th, 2017.**

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. 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. Accompany the candidate to the sponsor/candidate sessions.
2. Accompany the candidate to the Rite of Welcome, Rite of Sending, and Confirmation Reflection/Rehearsal.
3. Attend the Liturgy of Confirmation.
4. Meet with the candidate regularly throughout this year of preparation and discuss the topics addressed in the preparation sessions.
5. Share their faith story with his or her candidate.
6. Spend time getting to know the candidate, possibly taking him or her out to lunch or dinner, or having him or her over to your home.
7. Pray for and with the candidate.
8. Present the candidate during the Confirmation Rite.
9. Continue to be there for the candidate and lend spiritual support after the Confirmation ceremony is over.

Candidate Information:

Candidate Full Name:

(first)

(middle)

(last)

Sponsor information:

Sponsor Full Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Street Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Parish Membership: _____

(Name of Parish)

(City)

(State)



Sponsor Covenant

***Due no later than December 14th, 2017.**

Sponsor:

1. I will be in contact with my Candidate monthly during the preparation process (preferably twice a month) in person, by phone or by email:
 - To get to know the Candidate better
 - To share my faith story including my questions, thoughts and feelings.
 - To discuss the Candidate's participation in the Confirmation program.

Sponsor's Name (print) _____

Sponsor's Signature _____

Date _____

Candidate:

1. I will be in contact with my sponsor at least two times during the preparation process (preferably twice a month) in person, by phone or by email:
 - To get to know my sponsor better
 - To share my faith story including my questions, thoughts and feelings.
 - To discuss my preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation.

Candidate's Name (print) _____

Candidate's Signature _____

Date _____



Sponsor Activity

One With Eucharist

Background:

1. Communal worship is viewed by many as an obligation to fulfill; however, it is more like “taking a vitamin.” It nourishes us, guides us, and strengthens us so that we can get through the daily struggles of our lives. The presence of the faith community reminds us that we are not alone. Others are struggling and together we are turning to God for help and guidance. We repent of our sins, and become one body, in Christ, in the Eucharist. Nourished, refocused, and in gratitude for our many gifts and blessings, we proclaim the glory of our God. Help your candidate see their experience of communal worship at Mass as what it is: a source of strength and guidance, as well as an opportunity to gather in thanksgiving.

Discussion Questions (You do not need to write out your answers):

1. What was the best Eucharist (Mass) experience you have ever had? What made it so good?
2. Studies claim that only 30% of young adult Catholics attend Mass each Sunday. Why do you think these young people choose to go? What blessings can come from a “habit” of regular Mass attendance?
3. Do you have trouble believing that Jesus is actually present in the Word, Eucharist, and in the community? What can we do to help our unbelief?
4. Have you had an experience of observing or belonging to a Christian “community” where you felt that Jesus was present? What was it like?
5. How has your experience of Eucharist (Mass) been like a celebration? What things have you seen celebrated at Mass? (ex: baptisms, weddings, funerals, other rites like the Rite of Welcome for Confirmation, First Communion, etc.)

*The Community of Holy Name of Jesus is praying for you and your candidate.
May God Bless you during your journey together!*

*Please note that this is an optional guide for candidates and sponsors and does not need to be turned in.



Sponsor Activity

Am I Ready?

Background:

1. Confirmation is one of the sacraments of initiation into membership in the Church. Confirmation builds on and completes the gifts of the Holy Spirit we were given at Baptism, and brings us more closely into the Church. This completion is experienced: through a deeper look at how our lives reflect the values of Jesus (WWJD); through a deeper participation in the life of the Church (active in ministry and participation in liturgy); through sharing our growing faith and the resulting hope and joy we experience as a Christian; and through a growth in the spiritual gifts of the Holy Spirit (wisdom, understanding, right judgment, courage, knowledge, reverence, and wonder and awe) which guide our choices and actions.
2. Confirmation requires that a person be baptized, freely profess the Catholic faith, and be in a state of grace with no serious sins not confessed. The person must also have an understanding of the sacrament they are about to receive, a desire to be confirmed and a willingness to be a witness for Christ. This sacrament is the final step of the beginning of their new life in Christ...a life-long process of learning, growing, and becoming even stronger.

Confirmation Process:

1. This year of preparation has provided the opportunity for your candidate to gain a good initial understanding of the Catholic faith and the sacrament of Confirmation. We will continue to learn what it means to be an actively member of this Catholic faith family so together we all may live holy lives as witnesses for Christ. Our Rehearsal will allow time for personal prayer and reflection for both you and your candidate as part of your final preparation prior to Confirmation.

Discussion Questions:

1. What has been your favorite part of this year of preparation?
2. Are you more ready and excited to receive the sacrament of Confirmation than you were at the beginning of the year? Why or why not?
3. What is something that has changed about your faith or your practice of your faith during this past year? How did that happen?
4. What would you say to someone who asks you why you are a Catholic? If you don't know what to say, how would you find out?
5. What are you going to do to continue to grow in your faith after Confirmation

*Please note that this is an optional guide for candidates and sponsors and does not need to be turned in.



Statement of Intent

***Due no later than May 1st, 2018.**

Background:

“Statement of Intent” is just a fancy way of saying: tell us in writing why you want to be confirmed. Please take time to compose this statement carefully. Not only does it give us a chance to understand what you have gained in your formation, but also allows you to process what you have learned and how you have grown as well as what you desire to receive from this sacrament. Please be honest and thoughtful. This will be given to Father Steve to read and may be sent to the Archbishop prior to Confirmation.

The statement must be:

1. Typed
2. Double Spaced
3. In 12 point font Times New Roman
4. No less than one (1) page
5. Address the letter to: Fr. Steve Ulrick

Please touch on all of the following points in your statement:

1. Why do you think you are ready to receive this sacrament?
2. Explain one aspect of the faith that became clearer to you through this process, and tell why you believe it is an important aspect of our faith.
3. Explain how you plan to continue being an active member of the Church after Confirmation.



Saint Report

Background:

So many times when we think of saints the first thing we think of is a halo (no not the video game), but the truth is that saints can't be reduced to people who walked around the earth with heads that glowed. No! Saints were ordinary people, like you and I, that lived extraordinary lives. The Church says that a saint is someone who possessed "heroic virtue" (Catechism of the Catholic Church #828). Saints are heroes of the faith! Reports must be completed and turned in by **May 1st, 2018**.

Each candidate will be asked to take on the name of one of the saints at Confirmation. At Baptism, children are welcomed individually into a new life in Christ. Because of the close relationship between the sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation, it is perfectly acceptable for candidates to choose to affirm the saint's name given to them at Baptism. For example, a candidate named Nick might want to choose St. Nicholas. We also look at Confirmation as a time for the candidate to accept as their own the faith that was given to them by their parents and godparents. For this reason it is also acceptable for the candidate to choose a saint whose name is unrelated to their given name but whose life will be a model and inspiration for them during their life as a Catholic. The saint the candidate chooses should express something of the candidate's inner-self, an ideal or goal they are setting for themselves as a Catholic, and should be a reflection of their resolve to live as a disciple of Christ. The name that the candidate chooses will be the name by which they are addressed by the Archbishop at the Confirmation ceremony.

The following are requirements for this report:

1. Must be type, written in your own words, and be 500 words minimum
2. No more than 1-2 paragraphs (250 words maximum per paragraph) about the details of the saint's life:
 - 2.1. What are the dates of birth and death?
 - 2.2. Where was the saint from/where did they do their work?
 - 2.3. What are some major/important events in the life of this saint?
 - 2.4. What makes this person so holy?
3. The majority of the report should focus on answering the following questions:
 - 3.1. How can you relate to this saint?
 - 3.2. What qualities did this saint possess that you admire?
 - 3.3. What special aspects of the saint's life would you like to use as an example in your own faith life?

Saint information can be found in parish libraries, the internet, and books on Saint's in the catechist resource room at Holy Name of Jesus. Below are a few trusted websites to check out as well:

www.lifeteen.com

www.catholic.org

www.newadvent.com