

## Confirmation Syllabus 2006-07

### Attendance: Class is 8:45-11:30 which includes Mass

Class is very important during this final year of Sacramental preparation. It is necessary that each Confirmation Candidate considers his/her attendance to ALL events, classes and retreats mandatory! If an event must be missed, it is expected that the Confirmation Candidate clear the absence in advance. All missed assignments, class work, or service work will need to be made up in a timely manner. Please call Lisa 262-269-6211 with any conflicts or questions.

### Mass: Confirmation Candidates are expected to go to Mass every Sunday!!!!

*Failure to attend Mass, class, special events, or service work may result in a candidate being asked to wait to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at a later date. Mass is of the highest priority!!!*

### Class Schedule:

|              |                       |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| September 10 | January 14            |
| September 24 | January 28            |
| October 8    | February 11           |
| October 22   | February 25           |
| November 12  | March 11              |
| November 26  | March 25 (On retreat) |
| December 10  | April 22              |

**Bring your BIBLES to class!**

### Dates to Mark in Your Calendar\*:

Confirmation Mass: May 3

Confirmation Practice: TBA

Confirmation Retreat: March 23-25

Field Trip: April 29<sup>th</sup> 8:30-3:00

Sponsor Event: TBA

\*Additional Spiritual Sessions will be added with advanced notice.

### Easter Season Formation Sessions

Wednesday, Feb. 21—Ash Wednesday Mass

Sunday, April 1—Palm Sunday

Tuesday, April 3—Chrism Mass-St. John's Cathedral

Wednesday, April 4—Tenebrae

Thursday, April 5—Holy Thursday

Friday, April 6—Good Friday

Saturday, April 7—Holy Saturday

Sunday, April 8—Easter

## Service:

We are called to be the hands of Christ performing works of mercy in the world. Many our projects are group efforts. Your personal project should reflect where you share your unique gifts and talents with others. The following are the minimum requirements for service:

- Work at the parish Turkey Dinner—**Oct. 1**
- Be involved Advent and Lent Projects
- Serve on meal at St. Ben's—**The 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Month (sign-up in class)**
- Choose one project of your own using your time and talent equaling 15 hours.
- Bingo (sign-up in class)

## Personal Faith Growth:

Confirmation is a Sacrament the teen chooses to become an active member of The Catholic Church. It is important to develop a healthy spiritual faith growth in these months ahead. Developing oneself spiritually is not like studying for a test in school. Instead, each person is called to enter a deeper relationship with God by nurturing a love for Jesus Christ, His Church and opening one's heart to allow the Holy Spirit to work in you. Everything that is presented to you in this syllabus is your responsibility, but is not meant as punishment. These activities and faith growing experiences are meant to help deepen you spirituality and get prepare you to make a choice about Confirmation.

- Letter of Introduction—**Due Oct. 8 (don't confuse this with your Letter of Intent)**
- Sacramental Potluck with First Communicants—**Oct. 29**
- Presentation & Paper on Patron Saint—**Due Dec. 10**
- Letter of Intent to The Bishop—**Due April 15**
- Personal Interviews
- Participation in Tenebrae Service—**April 4**
- Participation in Confirmation Retreat—**March 23-25**
- Weekly participation at Sunday Mass
- Receive Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Sponsor Event—**TBA**

## Personal Letter of Introduction

This is a time for you to write a letter to me and Fr. Ralph about where you are concerning your commitment to prayer, church, sacraments, etc. Please be honest and give good thought to this letter. There is no right or wrong answer. This letter helps me know where you are at and how we as a parish can help you grow spiritually. Do not be afraid to say you are not sure you are ready to be Confirmed or that you are seeking more answers that is what this process is about. **Due Oct. 8**

## Patron Saint Paper and Presentation

Every confirmation candidate chooses a Confirmation name. This must be a saint's name. You may choose the name for many reasons: because of the life the saint led, because someone you know and respect has the same name, because you share the same concerns over issues for which the saint is recognized, etc. You may choose your Baptismal name. The paper must be at least one page and typed. You should share some facts about your saint, why you want to take the name and what accepting that name means to you. You will be asked to present the paper to the class. **Due Dec. 10**

### Baptismal Certificates

If you were not baptized at St. Bruno, then you must have a Baptismal Certificate on file. Run a copy and give it to me as soon as possible.

### Parental Involvement

It is extremely important for your faith development to have parental involvement. Please consider inviting them to your special faith sessions. Also, keep them up to date on all the happenings and dates in this class.

### Confirmation Sponsor

Every Confirmation Candidate must choose a sponsor. This person must be confirmed and an active member of The Catholic Church. You may not choose your parent, but you may choose your Baptismal God Parent. Your sponsor should be someone you respect for their Catholic Christian way in which they live their life. The sponsor should be someone willing to walk with you not only for the day of confirmation, but throughout your life.

**You need to identify your sponsor by Jan. 14**

There will be a sponsor event/s that they should be involved in.

### Confirmation Retreat

All Confirmation Candidates are required to make a retreat before receiving this Sacrament. **If you are unable to attend the St Bruno retreat, you MUST make arrangements IMMEDIATELY to see that this obligation is met.** It is my belief that retreats are important and can play a significant role in a person's faith development. **March 23-25**

### Letter of Intent

Every Confirmation Candidate is to write a letter of intent to ask if they can receive the sacrament from a Bishop. Please type your letter and be sure to use a spell checker. Also, read your letter out loud to check that all your thoughts make sense. Insert your letter in a business envelope with your name in the left corner. Do not seal the letter because

Fr. Ralph and I read these before they go to the Archdiocese.

**Example is shown on the next page.**

Dear Archbishop Dolan,

The following points should be included in your letter.

- An expression of your desire to be confirmed and why. Please do not write: *I want to be considered an adult in the eye of the church or I am being confirmed to become closer to God.* These two thoughts are over used and do not tell the reader about why YOU want to be Confirmed.
- Give a statement or two about your faith growth, past present, future. How has prayer affected your life? What does attending Mass mean to you?
- Give a description of your experiences of church in service work and what has affected your life.

You should include a Bible passage that has impacted you. Explain why it has made a difference to you.

You should also include how you plan to participate in St. Bruno after Confirmation. This is a time for you to search your talents and commit to using those talents at the parish. How will you and St. Bruno be different after your Confirmation?

Conclude with a closing statement:

Sincerely, (or different one of your choosing)

Your Signature

**Hint: Please spell God with a Capital "G"**

**Also, remember this letter is from you, above all personalize it!**

### Confirmation Practice

There will be a Confirmation practice and your sponsor or parent is expected to be present. Further information and times will be explained in class.

**Confirmation is May 6, 2007!**