

Confirmation



The 8th Graders of St. Michael Parish are Confirmed, usually in April, when the Bishop is present. Adults are confirmed either at the Easter Vigil as part of their Christian Initiation process, or at the Cathedral at the Bishop's invitation.

Those 8th Graders to be confirmed:

- are to be part of the St. Michael Parish religious education classes and participate in the Confirmation retreats.
- see that through the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) a person is fully incorporated into the Church and shares its mission in the world.
- understand that Confirmation both *celebrates* the gift of the Spirit received initially at Baptism and *affirms* the work the Spirit is already doing in the life of the Christian.
- assume a sense of responsibility for participating in the parish community.
- accept personal responsibility for the decision to follow Christ.
- have a basic and growing understanding and appreciation of God's Word in Scripture.
- understand the need to develop the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit throughout life.
- understand the basic beliefs of the Church as found in the Creed.





8th Grade RE Classes 2011-2012

Two years of preparation are required before being Confirmed. The 8th grade RE classes fulfill your second year of preparation.

Homework Assignments:

Due Wed, Dec. 7th
First Short Term
Service Project &
Prayer Checklist

Due Wed, Feb. 8th
Confirmation Saint
Report and
Conversation Packet.

Due Wed, Mar. 14th
Second Short Term
Service Project and
one Long Term
Service Project.

1. **Prayer Checklist** - All students should know some of the prayers and basic teachings of the Catholic Church. These should be worked on outside of class time with your parent initialing after each prayer known by heart. The completed checklist is due by Wednesday, Dec. 7th.
2. **Short Term Service Projects** - All students are required to complete two Short Term Service Projects. (They are due Dec. 7th and Mar. 14th - or sooner.) Each service should be something that you do for several hours or for an afternoon or evening. This should be something that you volunteer to do outside of your family routine or obligations and you should not expect to be paid. (For example, you could rake an elderly neighbor's yard or shovel their snow, help at a nursing home, or collect food for one of the food pantries.)
3. **Long Term Service Project** - Each student must also finish one Long Term Service Project before Wednesday, March 14th. This should be something that you commit to doing on a consistent basis, at least 5 times throughout the year - perhaps once a month for 5 months. (For example, you could help at Mass as an altar server, or aide in a RE class for younger students. Some students have helped this past summer with Vacation Bible School or they have gone on a mission trip like to Catholic Heart Workcamp to fulfill this requirement.) Because this is something that should happen over a period of time, it is very important that you decide in September or October on your project and begin it right away.
4. **Confirmation Saint Report** - Each student will need to choose a Confirmation name. The name chosen must be the name of a canonized saint or someone the Church has designated as "blessed" (one step away from official canonization.) Then research the life of that saint and complete the report included in this packet. Your report must be turned in to your shepherd no later than February 8, 2012.
5. **Conversation Packet** - Each student will need to finish the Conversation Packet with your Sponsor. Your sponsor should write a short comment about your discussion on each topic then sign and date each page before turning this in to your shepherd no later than February 8, 2012.

For your service projects we encourage to try something outside your "comfort zone." Try something you wouldn't normally do or go some place you wouldn't normally go. Meet or work with people you wouldn't normally meet. Babysitting for a younger brother or sister can be extremely helpful, but as a family, that's something you should be doing anyway. Shoveling snow for your grandparents also is most appreciated, but families should take care of each other. Try something "outside the box!" You can also watch for opportunities to serve with the Middle School BLAST!



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Long Term Service Project Plan

Return this to your Shepherd by November 9,

Student's Name _____

For my Long Term Service Project, I have decided to:
(Please describe your plan)

When will you begin?

When will you finish?

Because I may need help with transportation, I have discussed this service project idea with my parent/s.

Parents, please sign here to verify that you are aware of this commitment: _____

(Parent's Signature)

Date _____



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8th Grade Prayer Checklist

Due Dec. 7, 2011

Student's name _____

Catholics have many beautiful and traditional prayers that have been prayed generation after generation. We ask that you know some of them by heart. Below is a list of suggested prayers you should know by now and a place where you can add other favorites.

Parents and students, please look over prayers listed below. We ask our students know at least 5-7 traditional Catholic prayers by heart. Parents, please initial after each prayer your son or daughter can pray by heart. Then add any others that your son or daughter also knows. Students, turn this list into your Shepherd leader by Wed., Dec. 7th.

Suggested Prayers to Memorized:

Parent's Initials:

- Apostles' Creed or Nicene Creed
- Our Father
- Hail Mary
- Glory Be
- Act of Contrition
- Ten Commandments
- Grace Before Meals

Prayers that you know not on the list above:

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____



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Short Term Service Project

One project is due by Dec. 7, 2011.
A second project is due by Mar. 14, 2012.

Student's name _____

Describe what you did:

Who did you serve with? (Alone? With family? With your shepherd group? Someone else?)

How could this experience have been better?

Would you encourage other students to try this? _____
Why or why not?

I affirm that this student has completed this Service Project:

_____ Date _____

(Parent or supervising adult's signature)



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_____ Date _____

(Parent or supervising adult's signature)

Name _____

Saint Report — Confirmation Name

I have chosen _____ for my Confirmation name in honor of Saint _____.

This saint lived from the year _____ to _____.

Three things that I learned and admire about this saint are: _____

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

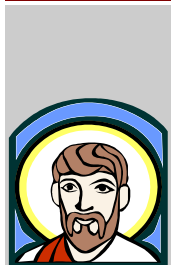
Three ways this saint helped others or changed their lives were:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

I will try to imitate this saint by: _____



This form is to be turned in to your Shepherd no later than Wednesday, February 8, 2012.