

St. Patrick's Confirmation 2009-2010

Iowa City, Iowa

The St. Patrick's Confirmation program is a five-month process beginning in September of 2009 and extending through January of 2010. Youth in grades 9-12 who are registered members of St. Patrick's Parish and who freely choose to be confirmed will prepare to receive the sacrament as a group.

The emphasis of the Confirmation program at St. Patrick's is on the experiential nature of our faith. It is by integrating our faith experiences with life that we make the transition from head knowledge to personal relationship with Christ as members of His Body, the Church. While emphasizing the experiential, the program also seeks to provide solid teaching on Christian discipleship within the framework of Catholic theology.

Youth seeking to become candidates for Confirmation will register on **August 23 at the Youth Picnic**. The registration asks for information regarding baptism, name of sponsor, etc. Confirmation classes begin September 2nd. **The Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Confirmation will take place on the weekend of Oct. 17th/18th**. **Prayer/worship experiences as well as service opportunities will be scheduled accordingly throughout the calendar year.**

Service privileges are designed to enhance the ability of the candidates to serve as part of the larger faith community. These experiences are an excellent opportunity for each person to recognize his/her own gifts and blessings as he/she offers assistance to people in need. It is our hope that the candidates will be guided to a lifetime of service to others as fully initiated members of the church.

Time will be taken for a weekend Confirmation retreat. This retreat provides the candidates an opportunity to reflect on their personal faith experiences and to look forward to the approaching Confirmation celebration.

Parental involvement is the key to the prayer/worship, catechesis, and service opportunities. The catechists and the Confirmation coordinator may serve as role models, but it is important to stress that parental involvement shows interest and commitment from the entire family.

Confirmation is about faith, commitment, and community. Each person - from coordinators, catechists, candidates, sponsors, parents, and the entire faith community of St. Patrick's - should grow in openness to and awareness of the presence of the Holy Spirit during the Confirmation preparation and throughout their journey of faith.

The Confirmation program at St. Patrick's is a five-month process beginning in the fall of 2009 and continuing through January 2010. The reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on January 27th, 2010.

The candidate must be registered in the program and will be required to fully participate in the following activities:

9 of 10 classes

2 Individual Service Projects

Confirmation Retreat

We reserve the right to recommend that a candidate's Confirmation be postponed if we feel he/she is not participating fully in the Confirmation preparation.

We do ask that a fee of \$40.00 be made to offset the cost of the Confirmation Preparation materials, but no one will be denied the experience because of financial reasons.

****EACH STUDENT IN GRADES 9-12 WHO WISHES TO BECOME A CANDIDATE FOR CONFIRMATION MUST BE WILLING TO MAKE A PERSONAL COMMITMENT TO CHRIST IN HIS/HER LIFE. ****

Confirmation Schedule St. Patrick's Parish 2009-2010

Confirmation classes will be held on Wednesday Evening from 7:00-8:00PM in the parish hall.

September 2nd First Class

September 16th Class

September 30th Class

October 14th Class

October 17th/18th** *Rite of Admission to Candidacy for Confirmation at all the Masses***

October 28th Class

November 8th Confirmation Retreat

November 11th Class

December 2nd Class

December 16th Class

January 6th Class

January 13th Class

January 26th Confirmation Rehearsal

January 27th THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

GOALS OF THE CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

- That the candidates understand and comprehend the significance and role of the sacraments in their own lives and in the life of the Church.
- That the candidates recognize and appreciate the role and activity of the Holy Spirit in their own lives and in the life of the Church.
- That the candidates have a reasonable understanding of the person, mission, and message of Jesus.
- That the candidates have a better understanding of what it means to commit their lives to Christ.
- That the candidates experience the meaning of initiation into a welcoming community.
- That the candidates understand the Rite of Confirmation and prepare to celebrate it in a meaningful way.

St. Patrick's Confirmation Registration

Please fully complete the following information and return No later than
September 30th!

Confirmation Chosen Saint Name _____

Confirmation Sponsor _____

Sponsor's Address _____

Baptism (If not baptized at St. Patrick's, please attach a copy of the
Baptismal certificate)

Baptismal Date _____

Church _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Diocese _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS INFORMATION BY September 30th, 2009!

Confirmation Agreement

"A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you."

Confirmation is an important step in the life of a Christian. To receive the gift of the Spirit on the day of Confirmation requires openness and prayerful preparation. The signing of this Confirmation Covenant indicates that you are willing to become a candidate for Confirmation and that you will prepare yourself to receive this most important sacrament of our Catholic faith.

What is asked?

- 1.) A willingness to live the faith; regular Sunday Mass participation at St. Patrick's; time spent in prayer with the Lord.
- 2.) Attendance and participation in the Confirmation classes.
- 3.) Attendance at the Confirmation retreat.
- 4.) A spirit of cooperation shown to parents, catechists, and Advance team leaders.
- 5.) Participation in a selected service privilege experience.
- 6.) Careful consideration in selecting your sponsor and "Saint" name.
- 7.) Confirmation information (Registration, Baptismal Date/Certificate, Sponsor's Name, etc.) provided to Charles Brock by September 30th.
- 8.) Attendance at the Confirmation rehearsal.

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE

I have read and understand what is asked of me in the preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. I desire to become a candidate for this sacrament and pledge to fulfill these conditions to the best of my ability.

STUDENT _____ DATE _____

PARENT'S SIGNATURE

I have read and understand what is asked of my son/daughter and myself in the preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. I pledge to assist my son/daughter in the preparation for this sacrament.

PARENT _____ DATE _____

ROLE OF THE CONFIRMATION SPONSOR

It is necessary that the person chosen by the candidate to be their Confirmation sponsor fulfill the conditions mentioned in Canon 874.5 of the code of Canon Law for the Roman Catholic Church.

- 1.) The sponsor must be a Catholic who has been baptized, confirmed, and has received the Holy Eucharist. The sponsor should lead a life in harmony with the faith.
- 2.) The sponsor must have completed their 16th year unless the pastor makes an exception to this for a just cause.
- 3.) The sponsor may not be the father or mother of the one to be confirmed.

*****It is desirable that the one who undertook the role of sponsor at baptism be the sponsor for Confirmation (Canon 893).**

*****A baptized person who belongs to a non-Catholic ecclesial community may not be a sponsor but may be a witness to Confirmation together with a Catholic sponsor (Canon 874).**

*****The sponsor is strongly encouraged to meet/talk with the Confirmation candidate at least once a month to discuss: the candidate's spirituality and prayer life, the service project in which the candidate is involved, the candidate's relationship with others, the candidate's school life, where the Holy Spirit is leading the candidate, etc. In this respect, it is advisable that the Confirmation sponsor be a person who lives in close proximity to the Confirmation candidate.**

*****The sponsor is strongly encouraged to attend Mass with the candidate during the Confirmation process. Sharing a meal together after Mass is another way to "reach-out" to the Confirmation candidate.**

*****The sponsor is strongly encouraged to show his/her support for the candidate through prayers, cards or letters, and phone calls during the Confirmation preparation and to continue to lend spiritual support after the Confirmation catechesis and liturgy is over.**