



### CONFIRMATION REQUIREMENTS

- Each Candidate must clearly understand that the Sacrament of Confirmation is the completion of the Sacrament of Baptism; that they are confirming the vows taken by their parents and godparents at Baptism.
- Attend Mass weekly - Faithful attendance at Mass weekly is a **MANDATORY** requirement. **Attending Mass at the completion of class (9:30 or 11:30 AM) does NOT satisfy this requirement. The first Sunday of every month the students will attend Mass (9:00 or 11:00 AM) as a class.**
- Successfully complete class requirements which will be defined to the candidates in their classes by their teacher.
- Attendance at all classes - **THREE ABSENCES (January 8<sup>th</sup>- April 15<sup>th</sup>)** may result in repeating the class and the Candidate not being Confirmed, unless there is a serious medical or family reason.
- Come to class on time! Candidates coming in late are very disruptive to class and this will not be tolerated.
- Write a letter to Fr. Jennings requesting to be Confirmed - the letter should explain why the Candidate wants to be confirmed, should demonstrate an understanding of the Sacrament and should include how Confirmation will effect their lives. (Check calendar for when this letter is due).
- Interview with Fr. Jennings - the Candidates will be asked questions that will demonstrate their readiness for Confirmation and their willingness and ability to spread and defend their faith as confirmed Catholics.
- Complete 3 Community Service Projects – **One** must be outside the Parish, examples: Helping at area Nursing Homes, Senior Homes, Participating in the March for Life, working at a food bank or food kitchen, assisting at a homeless shelter. You could even run your own coat drive or food drive for the homeless or needy. **One Project** must be for the Parish and the **Third** can be for either. All outside the Parish Service Projects must be approved ahead of time by your teacher. Your teacher will also be consulting with the coordinator of whatever Parish activity you choose, to be sure you were an active participant.
- Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation: All candidates must receive this sacrament within 1 month of their Confirmation. Consult the bulletin for times.
- Attend the Confirmation Retreat on Saturday, February 25, 2012 – **MANDATORY – If a Candidate fails to go on the retreat he/she may not be confirmed. You have advanced notice for the date of this retreat so please work all schedules around it. If, for serious reasons beyond your control, you miss the retreat, contact the RE Office as soon as possible.**
- Attend the Confirmation Rehearsal – **MANDATORY for Confirmandi** – We would like to have the Sponsor there if possible and at least one parent.
- Must turn in Sponsor Certificate on or before **March 11, 2012.**
- Must turn in Baptismal Certificate on or before **December 18, 2011**, if not baptized here at St. Christopher's.

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**(Sign and detach bottom of form and return to teacher)**

After reading the above requirements, I wish to become a candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation and will dedicate the time necessary to prepare the best of my abilities understanding that if all these requirements are not met that I may not be Confirmed.

CONFIRMANDI'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the above requirements and will assist my child to the best of my abilities understanding that if all these requirements are not met my child may not be Confirmed.

PARENT'S/GUARDIAN'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

September 25, 2011

Dear Parents & Confirmation Candidates,

This is a very exciting year in your religious education journey, and I am excited and look forward to working with each of you. I would like to take this opportunity to share some information about St. Christopher's Confirmation Program. Confirmation is a special sacrament in the Church; when we are confirmed, the Holy Spirit gives us graces to be adults in our Catholic faith. By the end of this school year, you will have the opportunity, to undertake the commitments that your parents made for you at your Baptism, through this very special sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation is not a Sacrament that is chosen for us as in Baptism. It is a serious choice we must make on our own. It is a commitment we make to live in the fullness of faith. Such a commitment requires careful preparation and the support of family and Parish community.

Confirmation brings to fullness that life in the Holy Spirit into which we were first initiated at Baptism. Program components include study, service, retreat, and liturgy. Our goal is to provide a catechistic education of the Catholic faith with morals to help students cultivate a personal relationship with God through prayers, sacraments, and reflection. We will encourage adherence to God's commandments of love while promoting awareness with opportunities for serving God through the community and daily good acts. The goal of preparation is to deepen our faith and strengthen our relationship with God, the Church and the community we serve. We will focus on the power of the Holy Spirit, a solid understanding of Catholicism, and fruitful action to accomplish this. You and your parents have spent years preparing for this commitment through formal religion classes, attending Mass, and practicing the Catholic faith in your daily lives. This sacrament should not to be seen as the end of your CCD education, but as the beginning of your strong commitment of spreading and defending your Catholic faith.

I will be working with you, your parents, and your teachers this year to help you meet all the various requirements of the Confirmation Program here at St. Christopher's Church. The program begins in the Fall, where you will be completing the 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum. Once the 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum is completed (Dec. 18<sup>th</sup>), the formal Confirmation program will begin in January at the Confirmation Initiation Mass. This Initiation Mass is a special way for the entire Confirmation class to come together and share in the Eucharist. The Confirmation Initiation Mass will be held on January 8, 2012 at 5 PM and all are invited and encouraged to attend.

It is also both recommended and encouraged to begin thinking about and working on completing the service projects, selecting a sponsor, and selecting a Confirmation name. I realize that January seems like a far way off, however it will be here before we know it! Attached to this letter you will find all the requirements for Confirmation. The Calendar of events for Confirmation is an excellent guide and has all of the deadlines for when to submit the various forms needed throughout the year. If you ever lose or misplace any of these forms contained in your folder, check our parish website! All of the information can be found at <http://www.stchristopherski.org/Confirmation.htm>. Here you will also find the most update news, announcements, and service project opportunities. You will also receive e-mail reminders of upcoming events and deadlines. **Both class and Mass attendance are crucial to the success of your child's preparation. Weekly Mass attendance is mandatory.**

Again, I look forward to working with all of you! If at any time you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call (410-643-8489) or e-mail ([klewis@stchristopherski.org](mailto:klewis@stchristopherski.org)) and I will get back to you in a timely fashion.

Thank you and God Bless,

Katie Lewis  
Confirmation Coordinator