

St. Christopher's Roman Catholic Church

P.O. Box 660 . 1861 Harbor Drive Chester, MD 21619

Home School Preparation For Confirmation

St. Christopher's Parish respects the parents right and responsibility to prepare the child for the sacrament of Confirmation. That said, the parish is obligated by the Church as stated in the Catechism of the Catholic Church to ensure children are sufficiently prepared for this sacrament

1309 *Preparation* for Confirmation should aim at leading the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ and a more lively familiarity with the Holy Spirit – his actions, his gifts and his biddings – in order to be more capable of assuming the apostolic responsibilities of Christian life. To this end catechesis for Confirmation should strive to awaken a sense of belonging to the Church of Jesus Christ, the Universal Church as well as the parish community. The latter bears special responsibility for the preparation of confirmands.

To fulfill its duty to prepare confirmands, St. Christophers has established the following Confirmation Home School policy.

- Home School parents who chose to create their own catechesis for Confirmation need to:
 - Obtain curriculum approval from the Pastor or authorized parish representative.
 - Demonstrate that the confirmand has been sufficiently prepared via mid-term test and Students Survey, OR copy of completed course materials. (These should be submitted to the Religious Education office mid-program and at the time of interview).

- Home School Parents who chose to use the Parish materials should refer to the Confirmation Program Guide for their curriculum requirements.

- ALL CONFIRMANDS, Home School and Religious Education students are required to:
 - Participate in the requisite one parish service project. This can be Mass Service (Alter Servers, Choir, Lector, Usher), participation or assistance in liturgical ceremonies (May Crowning, All Saints or Good Friday Processions, Divine Mercy Sunday, etc) or any Family Life, Knights of Columbus or Confirmation Program activity.
 - Document and sign the completion of remaining Confirmation requirements:
 - Two additional service project (done with family, home school association, etc).
 - Write letter to Fr. Jennings (please see Program Guide for details).
 - Provide date Sacrament of Reconciliation was received.
 - Interview with Fr. Jennings (see Confirmation calendar or schedule appointment).
 - Participate in the parish Confirmation retreat OR arrange your own and document retreat date, location and retreat master 's signature.

St. Christophers admires the commitment to holiness for which many home school parents strive. The home school policy was created to ensure the sufficient preparation of students and not to add any unfair burden. Home school confirmands are required to do no more, no less than religious education students. As always, we encourage more parish participation than is required but we leave that to the discretion of the parents.