

*The Church of  
St. Bernard of Clairvaux and St. Stanislaus Kostka*

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Dear Confirmation Families,

Confirmation will be on Sunday, October 14, 2018 at the 1:00 PM Mass. Since your child is in either 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade they will be preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. We have worked hard to prepare what we believe to be a very good program and one that will offer spiritual growth for your child, and yourselves as well. The program was designed and planned with the ease of attendance and structured with virtually no stress. The sessions will be incorporated into the Religious Education sessions on Wednesday evenings and there will be one Retreat Day on Saturday, September 15, 2018 beginning at 10 AM and concluding with Mass at 5 PM.

The Confirmation Sessions that are incorporated into the Religious Education schedule are of the utmost importance and attendance will, of course, be mandatory. There will be various reading assignments, journaling, reflections on certain Sunday homilies as well as service hours during the preparation process. Needless to say, Mass attendance on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, and attending Get-A-Grip sessions monthly at the 9:00 AM Mass (or at the 11:00 AM Mass if that is the Mass you attend) are also part of the requirements. Suggestions and help with service hours will be readily available.

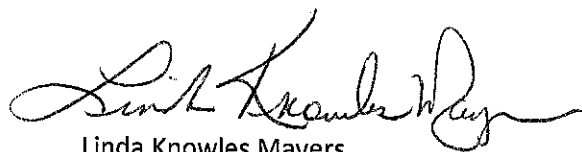
The program is just over a year beginning in September of 2017, taking a break from March to September, and concluding in October of 2018 with Confirmation. At that time, the students who will be in 8<sup>th</sup> grade will be required to continue with Religious Education until its conclusion in 2018.

This September 13<sup>th</sup> will be the first Religious Education class and there will be a parent meeting on Wednesday, September 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:45 PM, the same time they are in class. The entire program will be explained at that time for your benefit. There will be no last minute additions and we will be true to the program so everyone may be properly prepared.

As we look to the beginning of the program you might want to discuss a 'Confirmation Name' with your child, since that will be the first thing we will cover with them. Of course, they can be Confirmed with their Christian given first name, if they have one. Otherwise, they may take the name of a Saint; perhaps a favorite Saint, a patron Saint, or one associated with your family. They should do some research about the Saint because, as one of their assignments they will have to write about the Saint they choose telling why they chose that Saint.

Enclosed or electronically attached you will find commitment forms and a preliminary calendar. Please read and sign the forms and return them to us at your earliest convenience; you can also bring them to Church with you and hand them to Fr. Frank after Mass.

  
Fr. Frank Rose  
Pastor

  
Linda Knowles Mayers  
Dir. of Religious Education

*"A Living Mosaic of God's People"*