



Questions/Answers

Are service projects required of the candidates?

Yes, 10 hours of service will still be part of the Confirmation process. The 10 hours will be the same for both Catholic and Public School. The students can send their service hours document through email to the REO or may submit a hard copy of their service report through their PSR catechist or Mrs. Patena at any time. St. Mary's may use their school service hours.

Any teen who participated in Catholic Heart Work Camp last summer may write a short paragraph about his/her experience and count that as their total service for Confirmation.

Hopefully the Candidate will grow into seeing possibilities of service everywhere and realize that a Catholic Christian's life is lived for others...the common good. In other words, the motivation and the attitude are the most important part of service. Parents will be asked on occasion to reflect on the changes in their son's or daughter's approach to the Christian life.

How many sessions can a candidate miss before being out of the process?

Our hope is that no sessions will be missed. All missed sessions must be made up at the assigned schedule times or by appointment with Sister Meribeth. This applies to the spring retreat also.

What is the importance of the Advent Retreat and Spring Spirit Day Retreat?

The Advent Retreat is an optional overnight December experience run by older teens with the guidance of parishioners Mary Carroll and Linda Sullivan. 8th graders' attendance at this retreat will be the first opportunity for 2012 Confirmation Teens to meet each other on a faith basis. Non-Confirmation teens payment will be \$25. Confirmation Teens out of pocket payment will be \$15.

Spring Retreat's purpose lies in an intense experience of community with those on the same journey in our parish and a deeper sharing of what the Holy Spirit has done so far in the candidate's life.

Sponsors?

Sponsors should be practicing confirmed Catholics over the age of 16. If married, the sponsor must be in a valid marriage recognized by the church. Every sponsor will need to submit to our office, a sponsor's certificate from their parish stating they are practicing members. A non-Catholic may not be a sponsor. A parent may not be a sponsor. A female may sponsor a male candidate. A male may sponsor a female candidate.

Team volunteers needed!

Sign up to part of the Core Team or Monthly group facilitators. If we do not have enough help...then a parent must accompany the teen attend every month in the second semester.

Which Bishop will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on May 24?

Bishop Richard Lennon will confer the Sacrament of Confirmation on the eighth graders.

Will the Catholic Youth Bible be used?

For second semester sessions, Bibles will be furnished by the REO.

Why don't we have Enrollment this year? Father Chris has decided not to have "Enrollment" for 9 & 10, so in order to keep the three programs uniform, grade eight will not have Enrollment either. The candidates will be recognized through the parish bulletin, a chart in the church vestibule and other means.

DC/Confirmation Liturgy Conflict

Families whose teens are going to DC during the week of May 20-25, will have the opportunity to choose another Confirmation Liturgy at another parish. The permission of Father George is required for this exception, so this must be coordinated by the Religious Education Office. Parishes are still being contacted about this, so a meeting for PSR parents will be offered in January to explain the where, when, what will be possible

How do Candidates and Parents receive Information and Communications?

Most information can be found or will be disseminated by the following means:

1. Religious Education column in the Parish Bulletin (download from www.stmaryberea.com)
2. By email to the address you wrote on your registration form. (* most used, and usually sent on Thursdays)
3. On the Religious Education website: www.stmarysbereareo.org (Confirmation link)
4. Snail Mail

As a rule, information will not be sent home with the PSR students nor through any means of St. Mary's School.

How do Parents & Candidates contact the Religious Education office?

- Call: 440-243-8221
 - General, administrative or paperwork leave message for Larry. (ext. 23)
 - Religious/Sacramental/ missed session matters leave the message for Sister Meribeth. (ext. 22)
- Email: stmarysbereareo@yahoo.com
- Snail mail: 265 Baker Street, Berea, Ohio 44017 attn: Religious Ed Office

Monthly assignments

Throughout the year, teens will be required to write some reflections on topics pertaining to Confirmation.

- We will email the assignments to you monthly.
- You can also download assignments from the REO website (Confirmation link). If there is a problem downloading, call Larry (440-243-8221 ext 23).
- As a rule, we will not hand out hard copies in school or PSR.
- Turn in monthly assignments in the following ways: to the PSR catechist or Mrs. Patena, to the REO, "Holy Spirit Box."

Some extension opportunities we are still working to provide are:

- Sunday morning field trips to Mass at churches of different cultures.
- Service to inner city meal programs
- Refugee Christmas Party
- Other ideas & opportunities are welcome!