

St. Therese Rectory

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August 20, 2009

Dear Parent and Candidate of the Confirmation Class of 2011:

I hope you've been having an enjoyable summer. It seems impossible, but the new school year is about to begin. And with that, begins the first year in the Confirmation Program. The entire Confirmation Team, the Sponsor Catechists and myself are all looking forward to sharing our faith with you.

Enclosed you will find a calendar of events for Fall of 2009 and Spring of 2010. As you can see, the first meeting of the entire Class of 2009 will take place on **Wednesday, September 9th**. We will begin at 7:00 p.m. in St. Therese School Auditorium and finish with the Rite of Initiation ceremony and Mass by approximately 9:30 p.m. Parents are invited and encouraged to attend the Rite of Initiation ceremony and Mass which will begin at 8:30 p.m. in the **CHURCH**. I would like to emphasize that this first meeting is a **mandatory** meeting. I understand the difficulties a weeknight meeting can present for students but unfortunately, I am unable to hold this large group meeting at any other time. I encourage you to look at your calendar and make arrangements now, so that your son or daughter can be in attendance for this meeting. This should eliminate any problems when the date arrives.

Please note that Faith Theme Sessions for the Class of 2011 take place on Sunday afternoons in the CHURCH. There are only **8** Faith Theme Sessions taking place in the Freshman year on Sunday afternoons. In Sophomore year, the candidates will meet on Sunday evenings. The Faith Theme Sessions begin at **4:00 pm** sharp. Candidates must be at the church 10 minutes before the sessions begin. The sessions will be over at **5:30 pm**.

****IMPORTANT****

Please notice that there is a **Group A, B and C** for Faith Theme Sessions. Since I still do not have enough Sponsor Catechists for this class, I am not able to list the group names on the bottom of the calendar. If or when enough Sponsor Catechists come forward, we will put the candidates into groups and Sponsor Catechists will contact each candidate to tell them which group they are in. Please look over the dates and post the calendar so that it can be referred to easily. Each scheduled event is an important step in your child's spiritual development. An active participation is necessary in order for them to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

While Confirmation classes are scheduled to begin on September 13th, this date may have to be moved back if enough Sponsor Catechists are not in place. If we need to move it back, then the entire schedule will be moved from April into May and possibly June. I would encourage anyone that can give of their time to please contact me about becoming a Sponsor Catechist. Your help is greatly needed and would be very much appreciated.

I'm looking forward to meeting every one of you on September 9th. Until then, keep safe and enjoy the rest of your summer vacation!

God Bless You!

Michael Harding
Youth Minister