

St. Francis of Assisi Parish **Confirmation Information**



*Congratulations, you have a child receiving the sacrament of Confirmation this year!
Please read the following important information and note the dates on the attached calendar.*

Candidate Requirements

According to Sacramental Norms of the Diocese of Memphis and guidelines of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, the following are required of Candidates for Confirmation:

- **Grade Requirement** - Be in eighth grade or 14 years of age (or above) and express a desire for Confirmation.
- **Registration**
 - Complete the Registration Form requesting Confirmation
 - Certificate of Baptism - A copy of the child's baptism certificate is required if your child was baptized at a parish other than St. Francis.
 - Parish Registration – one of the following criteria must be met:
 - Your family must be registered members of St. Francis Parish.
 - If you are a registered member of another parish but wish for your child to be confirmed with St. Francis, you must provide a letter from your pastor stating that your child has permission to do so.
 - If you would like your child to receive Confirmation in the parish in which you are registered, we will be happy to provide a letter certifying his/her participation in our program, at your request.
 - Supply Fee - \$50 payable at Registration
- **Religious Education Classes** – Child must be attending a Catholic school or be enrolled in Parish Religious Education classes for at least the year prior to the sacramental year. In other words, a child in eighth grade may receive Confirmation only if he or she was enrolled in a Catholic school or Parish Religious Education class during their seventh grade year. Please provide evidence of this enrollment if the child was not enrolled here at St. Francis last year.
- **Mass Attendance** – All children and young adults are expected to attend Sunday Mass on a weekly basis in order to connect religious education, sacramental preparation and prayer, to the Liturgy of the Mass. **NOTE: Competitive sports leagues require many of our students to be out of town on the weekend. Parents should make sure that students never miss Sunday Mass due to a ball game. (Coaches should be informed of this issue well in advance.)** It is the responsibility of parents to check www.masstimes.org or call (410)676-6000 for churches and Mass times when traveling. Please make Mass attendance part of your travel plans.
- **Confirmation Retreat** – Attendance at a Confirmation retreat is required by the Diocese of Memphis. Our retreat is held on a Saturday at St. Francis Church.

****Important Note: This Retreat is mandatory. The student must be present for the entire retreat.***

- **Eucharistic Adoration** –We encourage all students preparing for Confirmation to take advantage of opportunities to worship our Lord through Eucharistic Adoration. ***NOTE: First Friday Adoration is held every month at St. Francis of Assisi Church in the Chapel following 8:15 a.m. Mass, with Benediction at 5:00pm.***

- **Letter to the Bishop** - Confirmandi must write a letter to Bishop Martin Holley requesting Confirmation. This letter is to be the work of the Confirmandi, always in their own words, about their spiritual relationship with God. The due date will be set by their religion teacher.
- **Parent Sacrament Meetings** - The Diocese of Memphis requires parents to attend two meetings on Confirmation:
 - Confirmation Program Overview - Student and at least one parent are required to attend the Confirmation Program Overview, held in September.
 - Theology of Confirmation Session - Parents have a choice of attending one of two sessions in order to fulfill this requirement.
 - Child care is provided for all parent meetings.
- **Reconciliation** – Confirmandi are encouraged to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly, preferably with their families, especially during the liturgical seasons of Advent and Lent.
- **Sponsors and Confirmation Names** - Information on choosing Sponsors and Confirmation names will be given by their religion teacher, including the due dates.
- **Service Hours** - Students are required to perform 20 hours of service. Information will be provided by their religion teacher regarding how to keep track of the hours and dates.
- **Attire for Confirmandi at Confirmation:**

Girls:

- Simple white dress must be at or near the knee and no longer than at the ankle in length. Low necklines are not appropriate. Dresses that are halter, sleeveless or have spaghetti straps **must** have a white jacket, shawl or sweater worn over them.
- Appropriate white or nude colored dress shoes (open-toe is fine)

Boys:

- Dark Suit or Dark Sport Coat
- Tan/khaki pants with belt
- White shirt and Tie
- Dark socks and appropriate dress shoes



2018 – 19 Calendar for Confirmation

Parents are required to attend a total of two meetings on Confirmation. There are no exemptions for attending the parent meetings. Childcare for siblings is provided for all parent meetings.

October

3rd (Wed) **Confirmation Program Overview** **7:00pm, St. Francis Church**

Required for all Confirmandi and Parents

The date of this meeting has been changed to October 3rd – please mark your calendars!! (Changed 9/11/2018)

January:

26th (Sat) **Confirmation Retreat** **10am – 4pm, Parish Life Center**

Required for all Confirmandi (Students only – parents do not attend)

March:

19th (Tue) **Parent Meeting-Theology of Confirmation** **7:00pm, PLC, Rm 113**
(English)

24th (Sun) **Parent Meeting- Theology of Confirmation** **10:30am, SFA School, Activity Room**
(English)

24th (Sun) **Parent Meeting- Theology of Confirmation** **10:30am, SFA School, Library**
(Español)

May:

17th (Fri) **Confirmation Mass at St. Francis of Assisi Church** **7pm**

All Confirmation Students and their sponsor should be in the gym in the Parish Life Center by 6pm for instructions, picture, and meeting with the Bishop.