



## 2016 CONFIRMATION FAMILY MEETING NOTES

### TIMES & DATES FOR THE 3 PREPARATION SESSIONS BEING OFFERED ARE:

| SUMMER 2016*       | SUNDAYS - FALL 2016**      | THURSDAYS - FALL 2016*    |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| June 20-24 & 27-30 | September 11 – November 20 | September 8 – November 17 |
| 9:00A – 12:00P     | 3:00P – 5:00P              | 6:00P – 8:00P             |

### ALL SESSIONS WILL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND MANDATORY RETREAT

November 19, 2016 -- 8:00A (includes 8:30A Mass) – 3:00P

Candidates (joined later by Sponsor and/or Parent)

### CONFIRMATIONS ARE THIS DECEMBER 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> (Tentatively scheduled for 7:00pm)

### ALL SESSIONS WILL CELEBRATE THE CONFIRMATION LITURGIES BY THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE

Summer and Thursday Sessions will participate on 12/5/16 – rehearsal 12/4 after 6pm Mass

Sunday Sessions will participate on 12/7/16 – rehearsal 12/6 at 6:30pm

### SPECIFICS

- Was your child baptized here at St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Church? YES NO  
If yes, we can verify that for you. If no, start now to request a current sealed copy of your child's baptismal certificate.  
**Registration forms will not be accepted without a copy of the baptismal certificate.**
- By submitting registration forms you are permitting the Office of Christian Formation to contact all persons listed via contact info provided including Candidates (13yrs of age or older).
- **Absences:** Summer session allows for **NO** absences, Fall sessions allow for **ONE** absence.
- **Registration window for Summer Session Only opens at start of business February 23 and closes end of business March 10 (or once we registered 40 Candidates)**
- Summer session attendees will be required to arrive at their first session with Sponsor's name and Parish, Saint poster and completed assessment (poster guidelines and assessment available at registration and online).
- **Registration window for Sunday and Thursday Fall Sessions opens at start of business April 3 and closes end of business June 30 (or once we registered 40 Candidates for Thursdays)**
- Fall session attendees will be required to arrive at their first session with Sponsor's name, Parish and sponsor certificate, Saint poster and completed assessment (poster guidelines and assessment available at registration and online).
- We will accommodate a request for parent or sponsor materials (parent guide/sponsor guide or office communications) in Spanish with advance notice.

### TO REGISTER: Turn in the following to the Office of Christian Formation in person

1. Candidate-completed 2016 Confirmation Only Registration form
2. Parent-completed Medical Consent and Permission to Treat Form
3. Current copy of Baptismal Certificate (if not baptized at SMMCC)
4. Signed Candidate and Parent Pledges
5. \$40.00 Sacramental Fee

REMIND text alert app/software is used by the OCF to keep parents AND candidates informed. Upon registration, you'll be provided the "class code" that corresponds with your chosen session. Until then, please call or email the OCF or visit us online.



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### Explanation of the Sacrament of Confirmation

- Begin by asking for a show of hands of how many people can remember their own confirmations.
- Then ask how many remember the experience as a pivotal moment in their life of faith. (Few will likely remember it this way, but the main point is to get them engaged and thinking about the sacrament.)
- Explain that Confirmation is much more than a rite of passage. The Catechism of the Catholic Church lists five effects of this outpouring (see CCC 1303):
  1. It affirms our identity as children of God (“divine filiation”).
  2. It unites us more firmly to Christ.
  3. It increases in us the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.
  4. It strengthens our bond with the Church.
  5. It strengthens us to spread and defend the Faith by our words and actions, to be fearless witnesses to Christ and the power of the cross.
- Explain that Confirmation is in no way intended to be the end of their son or daughter’s spiritual formation but rather the beginning of a deeper life in Christ.
- Confirmation is one of the three “Sacraments of Initiation,” along with Baptism and the Eucharist.
- Confirmation perfects the graces received at Baptism, empowering us to be followers of the Lord and co-workers for the kingdom (see CCC 1316).
- Unlike the other Sacraments of Initiation, the ordinary minister of Confirmation is the bishop, a successor of the apostles.
- The bishop extends his hands over those to be confirmed, prays over them, and anoints them with holy oil saying, “Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.” (see CCC1320)
- The word Christ means “anointed one.” In union with Jesus, the Sacrament of Confirmation makes us anointed ones as well!