

Confirmation 2008
Holy Trinity Catholic Church • 13715 SW Walker Road • Beaverton, Oregon 97005
November 2007

Dear Confirmation Candidate,

Congratulations! You have chosen to walk a journey in faith that we call **Confirmation**. May this be a special time of growth and grace as you learn and ask questions about God, the Church, and about our beliefs as Catholics. The Holy Trinity Confirmation Team looks forward to walking with you as we all bond as a group towards our encounter with the Holy Spirit.

Confirmation Date

Our Confirmation liturgy will be on Saturday, May 17, 2008, at 11:00am here at Holy Trinity Church. We are honored to welcome Auxiliary Bishop Kenneth D. Steiner as our confirming bishop. The morning liturgy should give students enough time to prepare for any high school prom events that evening.

As with any program, there are requirements that must be met in order for you to properly receive this sacrament. These requirements are not meant to be a burden. Instead, please look upon them as stepping stones on your journey. They will help you reach your destination.

1. Attendance

Candidates are required to attend all scheduled Confirmation sessions, which formally begin in December 2007 and continue twice a month through May 2008. We meet on Sunday evenings at 7:00pm in conjunction with Holy Trinity Youth Ministry (HTYM).

We realize that things happen in life that may necessitate missing a session. Absences will be allowed if Ken Canedo is notified in advance. There will be a make-up opportunity that will probably consist of reading and written work. Those candidates who regularly miss more than three sessions may be asked to postpone their Confirmation until the next school year.

Confirmation is a journey through community – the Roman Catholic faith community. At the high school level that means involvement with the parish Youth Ministry. Confirmation candidates are invited to participate in at least one HTYM session a month outside of the Confirmation sessions. Through HTYM, candidates will build a bond with other Catholic youth and discover opportunities for community service, liturgy involvement, faith formation, prayer, and fun social activities.

2. Sponsor

Each candidate is asked to choose a sponsor who will walk with you on this journey. This sponsor may be a relative or friend who has already been confirmed and is at least 16 years old. Your parent may not be your sponsor. Sponsors will be asked to join the spring one-day retreat (date TBA) and participate in our final session on the Sunday before Confirmation. Please choose your sponsor by February 10. Sponsors will stand with their candidates on Confirmation day and present them to the Bishop. If you have no friend or relative who can serve in this role please see Ken. A handful of Holy Trinity parishioners are willing to serve as sponsors if needed.

3. Baptism Certificate

In order to properly document your reception of Confirmation, we will need your BAPTISM CERTIFICATE. Many of you will have these in your family files. Please bring your certificate to our next Confirmation session on December 2nd. Our administrative assistant will make a photocopy and return the original to you. If you do not have a copy of your certificate, ask your parents to call the church of your baptism and request a copy. THOSE BAPTIZED HERE AT HOLY TRINITY do not need to produce a certificate. Simply give Ken the approximate date of your baptism and our administrative assistant will locate it in the parish files.

4. Liturgy Participation

As candidates for a sacrament in which you confirm your commitment to Christ, your attendance and participation at Sunday (or Saturday night) Mass is of utmost importance. The 11:15 Mass, with the Youth Choir, is especially oriented toward youth participation. At this liturgy we will try to arrange for candidates to serve in such ministries as lector, choir, musician, greeter, server, and gifts presenter. All candidates will be required to participate in at least one of these ministries during these months of preparation. Brief training for each ministry will be required. Training date

TBA. Young people are encouraged to attend and learn the skills required for liturgy. See Ken to sign up.

Participation in ministries will need to be documented by having Ken sign a candidate's ministry form. Regular Mass attendance will be on the "honor" system -- between you and God.

5. Retreat

A one-day retreat is scheduled for spring, hopefully at the same location as last year's retreat: Our Lady of Peace Retreat House here in Beaverton. As mentioned, sponsors are asked to attend this retreat with their candidates. An informational brochure will be sent to candidates and their parents as soon as we have secured the retreat date.

6. Community Service

Confirmed Catholics are expected to give of their time and talents to serve those in need in the local community and beyond. We will require at least **1 service project** that Holy Trinity Parish will coordinate. Service options will be announced regularly at our Sunday night Youth Ministry sessions. A second individual service project will also be required. This can be a project that may be done in conjunction with school, Scouts or other groups the candidate might belong to. A one-sheet Candidate's Service Project Report will need to be filled out for each completed project. PLEASE NOTE: Community Service is a separate activity from Liturgy Involvement.

7. Confirmation Interview

Each candidate will need to be interviewed by the Confirmation Team. This is an opportunity to see how the candidate is doing on his or her journey, to help answer questions, and to offer assistance and advice as needed. Interviews will take place in March and April at times convenient to the candidates. A sign-up sheet will be posted in February.

8. Saint's Report

There is generally no written homework in this Confirmation program, with one exception: a Saint's Report. Every candidate will need to choose a Saint's Name for the Confirmation ceremony. Ken will explain the reason for this as the time arrives. This report will be a simple essay, at least one page and no more than five pages. We have books and resources available for saints research, including some fantastic Catholic websites on the Internet. The assignment will be given in February and is due in April. That gives you three ample months to do this report.

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These are the Eight Requirements of the Holy Trinity Confirmation Program. Our pastor, Father Dave, is deeply interested in your preparation for this sacrament. He was consulted about these requirements and is in full agreement with them. We think that they will help you in reaching your goal to Christian maturity in the Holy Spirit. Holy Trinity Parish will continue to pray for all of you.

May your journey be exciting, prayerful, grace-filled, and fun.

In the Spirit,

Ken Canedo
Confirmation Director