

ST RAPHAEL CONFIRMATION AGREEMENT

Confirmation Candidate Expectations for the Church of St. Raphael:

- Have a desire to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation
- Faithful attendance at Sunday Mass and on Holy Days of Obligation
- Weekly attendance at Wednesday Night Faith Formation (***This includes ROC Confirmation, Life Night Youth Group, Faith Formation Masses, Reconciliation services, and Youth Holy Hour nights***)
- Do ten hours of community service hours both 9th and 10th grade: Total 20 hours
- Choose a Confirmation Sponsor by the end of the 9th grade school year
- Attend a two Confirmation retreats (One retreat in 9th grade and one retreat in 10th grade)
- Have a Confirmation Interview prior to being confirmed

Wednesday Night Faith Formation Attendance:

- Regular attendance is expected for **all** scheduled Wednesday Night Faith Formation in both 9th and 10th grade. (*This includes ROC Confirmation, Life Night Youth Group, Faith Formation Masses, Lent and Advent Reconciliation services, and Youth Holy Hour nights*)
- Attendance will be taken at all Wednesday Night Faith Formation events
- **No more than three absences are allowed each year.** Excessive absences could mean postponing the reception of the Confirmation
- If there is going to be excessive absences due to extended illness, unforeseen circumstances, or other emergency please contact the Confirmation Coordinator directly to work out an alternative Confirmation plan
- In the event that your child is unable to attend **any** regularly scheduled Wednesday Faith Formation event please follow the process outline below:
 - Call the Faith Formation Attendance Mail Box **(763) 537-8401 x508**. Leave the name of the child, the grade, and the reason for the absence.
 - There may be makeup assignments (short essays) for missed sessions at the discretion of the Confirmation Coordinator. Candidates will be contacted by email if there is any makeup work due

What materials and programs are used for Confirmation?

- 9th & 10th Grade will use the "Chosen" Program from Ascension Press at ROC Sessions. Chosen is rooted directly in scripture and the Catechism of the Catholic Church
- Life Teen High School Programming along with other resources are used at Life Night Youth Group

Service Hours:

- We ask Confirmation Candidates to do ten hours of community service a year
- It is up to individual families as to what the community service will be. Service at the parish, the school, or the wider community will qualify for service hours
- Contact the conformation Coordinator for further assistance with finding service opportunities

Choosing a Confirmation Sponsor:

- Confirmation candidates should choose a Confirmation Sponsor by the end of the 9th grade year
- A ideal Confirmation Sponsor is practicing Catholic that the Candidate looks up to in the faith
- Sponsors need to be: **1) A practicing Roman Catholic 2) Have received the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist 3) Be at least 16 years of age at the time of Confirmation (Parents cannot sponsor their own children)**
- Sponsors must be able to attend the Confirmation Mass itself (In the spring of the 10th grade year)

Annual Confirmation Retreat:

- Confirmation candidates must attend two weekend Confirmation retreats (One retreat in 9th grade and one retreat in 10th grade)
- Confirmation retreats at St. Raphael are planned and led by the Youth Ministry Department and are usually are held in October at regional retreat center
- St. Raphael retreats include: Reconciliation, Mass, Prayer Ministry, Eucharistic Adoration, Biblical Teaching, Small Groups, Drama and Music Ministry

What happens if the Candidate is unable to attend the scheduled Confirmation Retreat?

- If a candidate is unable to attend the scheduled St. Raphael retreat please notify the Confirmation Coordinator ASAP
- NET Ministries in West St. Paul is the primary retreat ministry that we use at St. Raphael for those who are unable to attend the scheduled retreat
- NET offers a number of weekend Confirmation retreats throughout the school year at their West St. Paul location
- Families are responsible to register their child for the NET retreat and to provide transportation to and from the retreat. Registration for NET Retreats is done online
- To learn more about NET Ministries go to: **www.netusa.org**
- Confirmation will be postponed for candidates failing to attend Confirmation retreats

What happens after Confirmation?

- It is our hope and prayer that Candidates will see Confirmation not as an ending but new beginning in Faith
- Continuing formation is offered throughout high school. These include: ALTUS, Life Night Youth Group, NET Life Line, Men and Women's Retreats, Core Team, The Pulse, Mission Trips, Steubenville Conferences, the HUNGER, Archdiocesan Youth Days, and World Youth Day Pilgrimages

I have read and understand the Confirmation Requirements for the Church of St. Raphael

Candidate Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parents/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____