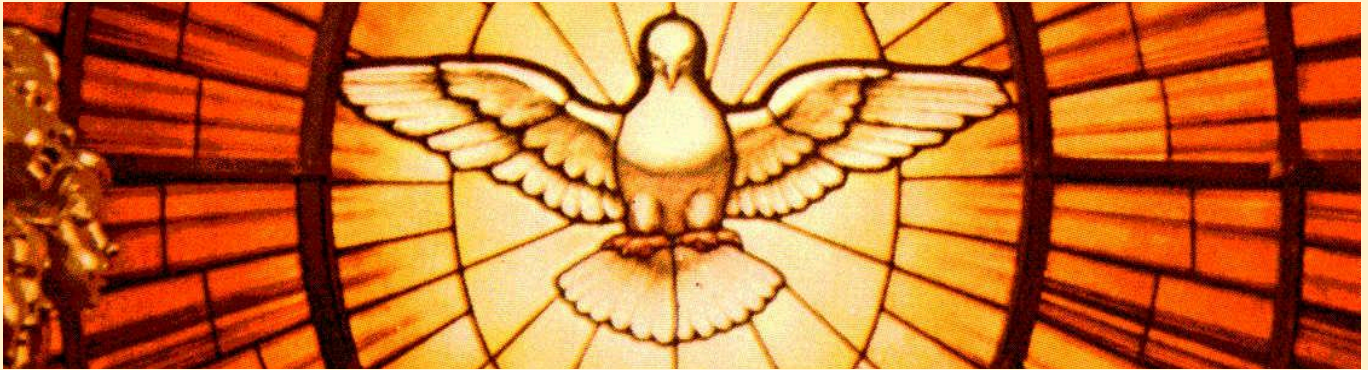


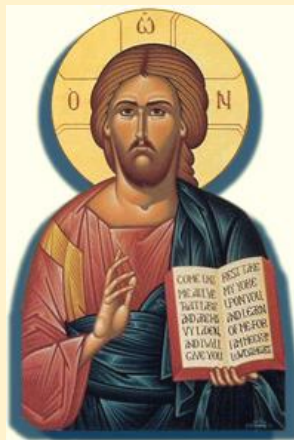
Holy Trinity Confirmation Ministry



This year we will prepare our 8th graders to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. The life of faith that began at Baptism, and that has been nourished in Holy Communion, will be strengthened for a lifetime of missionary discipleship.

As a community of faith, Holy Trinity Parish is called to accompany and support our candidates on their journey to Confirmation and beyond.

Together we will help them prepare for the “Gift of the Holy Spirit” through a deeper relationship with the Giver - Jesus Christ.



The Confirmation Project

Holy Trinity Parish was one of a small number of parishes invited by the Diocese of Cleveland to participate in the “Confirmation Project”. This is a new initiative to transform preparation into a more comprehensive ministry.

Confirmation ministry goes beyond preparation to include sustaining the newly confirmed after the

celebration. The framework emphasizes that Jesus Christ is the heart and center of Confirmation ministry which seeks to form missionary disciples. This is Pope Francis' call to the Church to evangelize a world in need of the joy of the Gospel.

This approach has the following goals: Focus on Encounter and Discipleship; Empower Families and Renew Family Faith; Engage the Parish in Confirmation Ministry; Accompany Young People in their journey; and Witness Faith to Candidates. Our Confirmation ministry applies these goals in the following ways.

Parent/Candidate Gatherings, Youth Gatherings, Retreat

We will draw all of our parish youth from the day school, PSR and Family Based Catechesis together for several shared experiences of formation throughout the year. Our gatherings and retreat will include a meal, table fellowship, videos, guest speakers, "Gifted With the Spirit" leaflets from Pflaum Publishing, small and large group discussion, and prayer. These events will be formational rather than "informational."

Parents who are able and willing are welcome to help us facilitate our Youth Gatherings. We will need help with set up, leading small groups at tables, and cleaning up afterward. If you are interested in helping, please contact the Parish Office. Thank you!

Resources for Parents and Sponsors in Faith Sharing

We will provide take-home resources such as "Gifted With the Spirit" leaflets, from Pflaum Publishing, for use in the home. A parent, sponsor, or another important person of faith is welcome to use the take home leaflets with their candidate.

We are also making documents available that will serve as platforms for faith sharing and support for parents and sponsors in their important roles in immediate preparation for Confirmation. Links to documents are provided in this Confirmation ministry information, and will also be available in printed form for those unable to print them off.

Engaging the Parish in the Confirmation Ministry

Meaningful service opportunities, prayer support and encouragement, and building connections in the parish are expressions of the parish's involvement. Bulletin and Flocknote announcements will keep the parish informed of the events in our Confirmation ministry.

Accompany Young People in their Journey

Confirmation ministry encompasses preparation, celebration, and sustaining our young people as they explore the Gift received. This will involve preparing them to celebrate the Rite of Confirmation, and continuing to journey with them in mystagogy.

Confirmation is not graduation. It is the completion of a young person's initiation into the Catholic faith and the beginning of their new role in the mission of the Church as a missionary disciple.

Witness Faith to Candidates

We will build on the foundation of faith provided by parents, sponsors, and other important role models in the lives of young people. Our Pastor, parish staff, catechists, teachers and the whole parish community will help them to grow in encounters of faith lived, celebrated, and shared. The goal of Confirmation ministry is to form our parish youth to become missionary disciples of Jesus Christ who give witness through their words and their deeds.



"Since parents have given children their life, they are bound by the most serious obligation to educate their offspring and therefore must be recognised as the primary and principal educators."

Declaration on Christian Education, Pope Paul VI



To Participate

Parish youth are required to:

- Be enrolled in Holy Trinity School, PSR or Family Based Catechesis;
- Be a Roman Catholic who has been baptized and not already confirmed (or chrismated);
- Have completed one full year of Catholic catechesis prior to beginning preparation for Confirmation;
- Be a registered parishioner of Holy Trinity Parish (*permission required for parishioners from other parishes*);
- Be attending Mass on Sunday consistently and receiving Holy Communion;
- Be registered by a parent/legal guardian with the [Sacrament Preparation Registration Form](#) with a recently issued Baptism Certificate with Notations from the parish of Baptism (*please refer to Q3 in the Q & A section below*).



"As Christian families, you not only belong to the Church,

but your daily life is a true expression of the Church."

United States Catholic Conference of Bishops,
Follow the Way of Love, 1994



Confirmation Ministry 2022-2023

Confirmation Program Kick Off

Tuesday, September 6th

Parent & Candidate Orientation Gathering

6 - 7:30 PM (Gym)

Activities:

- A meal will be provided.
- Introduction to the basic elements of our program.
- Brief videos on the Sacraments with a focus on the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist.

See the slide show:  Conf. P/C Gathering 9-6-22

Resources:

- [Sacrament Registration Form](#) (due September 27th)
- Gifted With The Spirit Leaflet 1 - Confirmation



- "In virtue of their baptism, all the members of the People of God have become missionary disciples (cf. Mt 28:19). All the baptized, whatever their position in the Church or their level of instruction in the faith, are agents of evangelization"

(#120) Evangelii Gaudium



Apprenticeship in Missionary Discipleship

Saturday, September 17

Parish Service Day / Candidates & Adult Chaperone*

8 AM - 2 PM

Activities: Begins with prayer at church at 8 AM. Breakouts to various projects/sites.
A parent, sponsor or responsible adult must accompany each candidate.
Regroup at the school gym at 1 PM for lunch and closing prayer.

Our service day is one opportunity for meaningful service, but it is not the only one.

Candidates are encouraged to participate in this event as help will be needed with several service projects designed especially for our young people, such as:

- Holy Trinity Cemetery grave clean up
- Raking leaves on the church property
- Sorting and stocking non-perishable food donations at a local food bank.
- Spending time in prayer before Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament

It is asked that candidates who attend are accompanied by a parent, sponsor, or other responsible adult (grandparent, aunt, uncle, etc.) to share in meaningful service. Our emphasis is on community, fellowship, and the joy of working with others in evangelizing the world around us through missionary discipleship.

If unable to attend, candidates are free to be creative and to create their own project with the assistance and support of their parents.

There is no mandatory number of hours that must be performed in our parish program.

There is nothing we can do to earn the grace of the Sacrament. Jesus did that by His Cross and Resurrection. Service is an expression of faith that gives the world witness of the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Later, the candidates will be asked to reflect on their experience of service using the [Apprenticeship in Missionary Discipleship Form](#) as a guide.



“Jesus asks us all, and you as well, to be missionary disciples. Are you ready?”

Pope Francis, September 13, 2014



The Call to Mission

Tuesday, September 27th
Candidate Gathering I

6 - 7:30 PM (Gym)

Due at Check In:

- [Sacrament Registration Form](#) with attached Baptism Certificate with Notations issued within the past 6 months from the candidate's church of Baptism.
- Gifted With The Spirit Leaflet 1 - Confirmation (with parent/sponsor signature & date of completion)

Activities:

- A meal will be provided.
- Gifted With The Spirit Leaflet 2 - Accepting God's Call

Resources:

- Gifted With The Spirit Leaflet 3 - Building a Friendship with God (with parent/sponsor);
- [Sponsor Interview Form & Sponsor Certificates](#)
This interview is a platform for faith sharing between the sponsor and the candidate.



“Never forget! For disciples of Jesus, yesterday and today,
the only authority is the authority of service;
the only power is the power of the Cross,”...
Pope Francis: 50th Anniversary of Synod
Renews the Call to Discipleship,
Catholic News Agency, October 15, 2015



The Holy Spirit in Your Life

Tuesday, October 25th

Candidate Gathering II

6 - 7:30 PM (Gym)

Due at Check In:

- Gifted With The Spirit Leaflet 3 - Building a Friendship with God (with parent/sponsor signature & date of completion);
- [Sponsor Interview Form & Sponsor Certificates](#)

Activities:

- A meal will be provided.
- Gifted With The Spirit Leaflet 4 - Recognizing the Holy Spirit in Your Life.

- Resources:*
- Gifted With The Spirit Leaflet 5 - Receiving the Gifts of the Holy Spirit (with parent/sponsor);
 - [Confirmation Name Worksheet](#)
This is a guide to help the candidates choose a Confirmation Name.
 - [Apprenticeship in Missionary Discipleship Form](#)
This is a guide to help the candidates reflect on their experiences of service.



“He [the Pope] wants bishops to be part of this culture of encounter — encountering Christ and therefore encountering those that Christ loves.

Once you have the relationship, then the ideas make sense.

Otherwise, it’s a debating society. So you don’t start with the idea.

You start with a person and relationship. The pope is reminding us of this.”

Cardinal George, The Chicago Tribune,

Interview on December 19, 2013



Experiencing God’s Love in the Church

Tuesday, November 29th

Candidate Gathering III

6 - 7:30 PM (Gym)

- Due at Check In:*
- Gifted With The Spirit Leaflet 5 - Receiving the Gifts of the Holy Spirit (with parent/sponsor signature & date of completion);
 - [Confirmation Name Worksheet](#)
 - [Apprenticeship in Missionary Discipleship Form](#)

- Activities:*
- A meal will be provided.
 - Gifted With The Spirit Leaflet 6 - Experiencing God’s Love in the Church

- Resources:*
- Gifted With The Spirit Leaflet 7 - Celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation



“The Church is herself a missionary disciple”

(#40) Evangelii Gaudium



Mass Preference Form **NEW!**

Parents are asked to indicate their preference for the 10 AM or 1:30 PM Confirmation Mass by Friday, January 13th. [Please use this link to the form.](#)

Retreat

Permission slip required in advance by Friday, January 6, 2023.  **NEW!** 

[Permission slip form](#) Please print, complete and submit to the parish office.

Friday, January 13th

Confirmation Candidate Retreat

10 AM - 1 PM **Holy Spirit Parish Hall**, 410 Lear Road, Avon Lake

- Activities:
- The Elyria Catholic Retreat Team will lead the candidates in prayer, activities, witness talks, reflections, videos and small group discussion, and closing prayer.
 - Lunch will be provided.



Gifted to Lead, to Serve, and to Witness

Tuesday, January 24th

Parent & Candidate Gathering

6 - 7:30 PM (Gym)

- Due at Check In:*
- Anything overdue should be in by this date.

Activities:

- A meal will be provided.
- Presentation on the Rite of Confirmation and what to expect on February 25th; Table conversation and prayer.



“All of us who are baptized are missionary disciples.
We are called to become a living Gospel in the world.”

Pope Francis, @Pontifex, Twitter

2/25/14 6:25 PM



Practice

Wednesday, February 15th

Practice for 10 AM Mass Group

7 - 8 PM (Church)

Thursday, February 16th

Practice for 1:30 PM Mass Group

7 - 8 PM (Church)



“...It is important to rediscover the richness of this sacrament,
to grasp its link with the personal vocation of every baptized person
and with the theology of charisms,
to take greater care over the way it is presented pastorally,
so that it does not become a formal and insignificant moment...”

Final Document of the Synod of Bishops on Young People,
Faith and Vocational Discernment, 2018, #61



“Be Sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit.”

Saturday, February 25th
Confirmation
Bishop Michael Woost
10 AM & 1:30 PM

When to Report

Candidates are asked to report to the Gym 45 minutes before their Mass begins.

10 AM candidates should report at 9:15 AM; 1:30 PM candidates should report at 12:45 PM.

Candidates need to be in their seats in the gym for their meeting with Bishop Woost at 9:15 AM and 12:45 PM respectively. Please be on time.

Meeting with the Bishop/Reception

The gym will be divided in half: one half will be for the Bishop's meeting with the candidates; the other half for the reception in honor of the Confirmandi to follow the celebration.

When candidates arrive for the Bishop's meeting, the staff will take attendance. At the conclusion of this meeting, the candidates will go to the church to be seated with their sponsors.

Seating

Each family will be provided a half-pew in which parents and those designated by them may be seated. Any empty pews will be for any additional attendees.

After the Mass, candidates and their families are invited to the gym for a reception in their honor. We will have refreshments and a corner set aside for photographs. Members of various ministries and organizations will be invited to be on hand to meet the newly confirmed.

Dress Code

Proper attire is required in keeping with the occasion. The demeanor and attire of all candidates and sponsors should reflect the solemnity of the occasion.

Young Men: sport coats/blazers or dress coats are optional; dress shirt, solid color slacks & tie or a suit if desired, dress shirt and tie; dress socks, dress shoes; no blue jeans, shorts, t-shirts, sandals, baseball caps, tennis shoes, etc.

Young Women: dresses should be modest and tasteful; tops must cover shoulders (no straps); dress shoes or dress sandals; no shorts, short skirts, backless, spaghetti-strap, halter, tube-top, low-cut dresses, or flip flops.

Confirmation Certificate

A certificate will be provided to the newly confirmed at our March Mystagogy Gathering. If you need an additional Confirmation certificate in the future, you are welcome to contact the Parish Office at (440) 937-5363 to request one.



Mystagogy: Unpacking the Mystery Received

Tuesday, March 14th

Mystagogy* Gathering for the Newly Confirmed

6 - 7:30 PM (Gym)

- Activity:*
- Gifted With The Spirit Leaflet 8 - Making a Difference as Disciples
 - Distribution of Confirmation Certificates

*This is a Greek word meaning “to lead through the mysteries.” In the weeks that follow Confirmation we will continue to accompany our children as they discover what it means to fully participate in the sacramental and liturgical life of the Church.



This “is what Jesus wants today: missionary disciples!”

Address by Pope Francis, September 13, 2014



Q & A

Q1. We are registered parishioners of another parish. Can our child receive Confirmation at Holy Trinity?

A. In order for your child to receive Confirmation at Holy Trinity, please contact Fr. Vince and your pastor to request permission. Diocesan guidelines state that candidates should receive Confirmation in their home parish. If both pastors approve, please request a letter of permission from your pastor and forward it to the Holy Trinity Parish Office. This should be submitted to the Parish Office well in advance of the celebration.

Q2. My child was baptized and chrismated in an Eastern Rite Catholic Church. Can't my child receive Confirmation again?

A. Confirmation (called Chrismation) in the Eastern Churches, leaves an indelible mark on the

soul. It can be received only once during a person's lifetime. Your child may attend a Confirmation Mass, but may not be presented for Confirmation again. Eastern Rite youth may participate in our events to discover the strengthening they have already received, unpacking the mystery of Confirmation in their own life.

Q3. I already provided a Baptism Certificate for my child when I registered my child in religious education. Why do I have to submit a Baptism Certificate now?

- A. If your child was baptized at Holy Trinity Parish, it is sufficient to provide the exact date of Baptism (i.e. Month, Date, Year).

If your child was not baptized at Holy Trinity, it will be necessary to obtain a Baptism Certificate with Notations from the parish where your child was baptized. This certificate should be issued from the Church of Baptism within six months of the celebration. It is an important church document that establishes a number of things that are relevant, namely:

- (1) that your child has been baptized;
- (2) is a Roman Catholic;
- (3) has not been confirmed already;
- (4) is eligible to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation;
- (5) the bishop has canonical jurisdiction to administer the sacrament to your child.

The certificate provides necessary information for sacrament records and the notification that Holy Trinity is required to send to the church of Baptism for notation in your child's baptismal record. Without this documentation we are not able to present your child for Confirmation.

If you have any difficulty in obtaining this, please contact the Parish Office so we can assist you.

Q4. I am sending my child to a Catholic School to get this? Why does my child have to participate in this with other children from PSR and FBC?

- A. The fundamental basis for all Catholic education and formation, especially for Sacraments, is attendance at Sunday Mass with the family. At Mass, the Father gathers us together, Jesus comes to be our food at the altar of the Word and of the Bread, and the Holy Spirit comes to empower us to be missionary disciples. Religious education flows from the Ministry of the Word of God at Mass. In the Mass and the parish community we encounter the living God, are transformed in the sacraments, and are sent forth to be missionary disciples.

In accordance with diocesan sacrament preparation guidelines our Confirmation ministry is a “parish-based program” that “exists as its own program apart from, and in addition to, general catechetical formation occurring in Catholic day or high schools, youth ministry programs, PSR programs, or Catholic homeschool programs.” - *Sacrament Preparation Handbook for Catechists, Catholic Diocese of Cleveland, Secretariat for Catechetical Formation and Education*

Q5. *What if a parent cannot attend Parent/Candidate gatherings?*

- A. It is permissible for a Sponsor or other trusted, responsible adult (like a grandparent, or other adult relative) to stand in for a parent if necessary. The goal of this process is to support parents as the primary evangelists and catechists of their children, and to empower families.

Q6. *What if a sponsor cannot be in attendance at Confirmation?*

- A. A proxy can stand in for the sponsor on the day of Confirmation if necessary. For other events in this program, a parent or other trusted adult can participate with the candidate.

Q7. *Are all of these gatherings mandatory? What if my child has a sports event that cannot be missed?*

- A. All events scheduled in our Confirmation ministry are necessary for the immediate preparation of the candidate, for the celebration of Confirmation, and for continuing to explore the Gift received. If a Gathering must be missed due to an unexpected family emergency or for another serious reason, please contact the Parish Office for assistance. We can work with families experiencing extenuating circumstances, provide support and other resources.

Q8. *What if there is an emergency on the day of Confirmation and we cannot attend? How do we notify parish staff?*

- A. Please send an email to the DRE at rcamp@holytrinityavon.com. You will be contacted in the days that follow regarding alternate options for the sacrament.



More Resources for Parents

FORMED is a free gift from Holy Trinity Parish for all of our Holy Trinity families. To sign up, go to formed.org/signup.

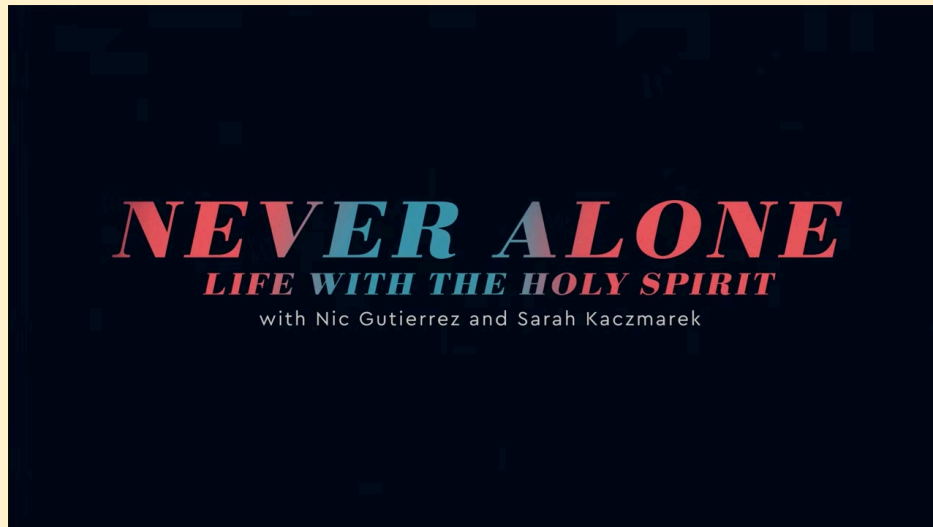


Video Series' available on FORMED.



Sent By The Spirit - The Sacrament of Confirmation

Confirmation, often misunderstood, is of vital importance for every Catholic Christian. In three brief, but compelling sessions, Dr. Brant Pitre unlocks the truth and power of Confirmation by exploring our relationship with the person of the Holy Spirit, the biblical history of Pentecost, and the significance of the rite of Confirmation in the life of the Church, and every believer.



Never Alone: Life with the Holy Spirit

Every Catholic Christian is invited into a living relationship with the Holy Spirit. It is in living life with the Holy Spirit that we find answers to some of teens' deepest longings: Who am I? Where do I belong? How do I know what to do with my life? Is this all there is?

Combining personal testimony with catechesis, this series was created to bring about this sort of fruitful discussion with students who are preparing to be confirmed as well as those whose confirmation day has already come and gone. As with all YDisciple series, it is designed specifically with small groups in mind.

Each session comes with a Leader Guide for middle school and high school, Participant Guide, and Parent Sheet (English & Spanish)



For More Information About our Confirmation Ministry

Please contact Roger Camp, Director of Religious Education

Holy Trinity Parish

33601 Detroit Road

Avon, Ohio 44011

Phone: (440) 937-5363

Email: rcamp@holyltrinityavon.com



