

St. Wenceslaus Youth Ministry Department
Confirmation Program 2017-2018

August 28, 2017

Dear Parents & Teens

The Confirmation Preparation Program will be offered at St. Wenceslaus this year. The class is for those in high school. A parent/youth meeting will be held at 6:45 pm on September 20, 2017 in the Vanderzanden Center multi-purpose room. Classes will be on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, October 2017 – April 2018 (no class Dec. 20th) from 7:00 – 8:30 pm. Beginning September 1st, registration forms will be available at the back of the church (they are blue) and on the St. Wenceslaus Website – Youth Ministry page. Completed forms may be dropped in the basket at the entrance to the church or the mail slot on the front door of the Parish Offices. Registration will also be available after the 8:30 am and 11:00 am Masses on September 10th in the Parish Hall.

We do not have a Confirmation date yet.

The following is important information about this year's Confirmation Program.

Curriculum: Decision Point

- Sacrament Preparation Fee: \$20 (this does not include the retreat fee)
- Confirmation parent/youth meeting Wednesday, September 20th 7:00 pm
- Confirmation classes on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, October – April
No class on December 20th
- It is recommended that youth also attend Life Teen classes on the 1st & 3rd Sundays, which are separate from the Confirmation Preparation Program.

Mandatory Components of the Confirmation Program

- Provide a copy of baptismal certificate. The deadline to submit this to the Youth Ministry Office is October 31, 2017.
- Choose a sponsor. Complete the Sponsor Contact form and return it to the Youth Ministry Office by October 31, 2017.

From the earliest days of the Church, Confirmation candidates have been presented to the bishop by a respected member of the community. Sponsors must:

- Have already received Confirmation
 - Be an practicing Catholic and active in their own parish
 - Be at least 18 years old
 - Not the parent of the one being confirmed
- Attendance at all classes is extremely important. If a class is missed due to illness, please contact Janell.
 - Participate in at least two liturgical ministries at Mass. Celebrate Youth Sunday is a perfect time to try this.

- 20 hours of community service which must include the following:
 - All community service projects must follow the guidelines indicated on the service hours record sheet (to be provided at the meeting).
 - Must attend the sponsor/candidate service project scheduled for February 10, 2018. If this is not possible, it must be communicated ahead of time. It will then be necessary for the candidate and their sponsor to attend an alternate service project (they are held monthly) through the Youth Ministry program.
 - 10 hours of the community service component must either directly benefit St. Wenceslaus Parish (weeding the cemetery, helping at a church meal, etc.) or be sponsored by the Youth Ministry Program.
 - The remaining 10 hours of the community service component may be of your choice, following the guidelines.
- Attend the retreat:
 - Date: January 2018, date and location to be determined.
 - Cost of the retreat is not included in the Confirmation Sacrament Preparation fee, but will be about \$75
 - If unable to attend the retreat, one of the alternate options must be coordinated ahead of time. Alternate options are:
 - Attend a retreat with another Parish. Option(s) will be presented to the candidate and their parents. Registration will be through the St. Wenceslaus Youth Ministry office, but the cost of the retreat will be the financial responsibility of the family.
 - Attend Firefall retreat in Olympia (March 10, 2018).
 - A parent/guardian must attend as a chaperone with their youth. If an alternate person (21 or older) attends as a chaperone, then a background check and Code of Conduct must be completed through St. Wenceslaus.
 - Registration will be through the St. Wenceslaus Youth Ministry office, but the cost of the retreat for both the youth and the chaperone will be the expense of the family: \$49 per youth, \$30 per adult.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting on September 20th.

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Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith and in purity. 1 Timothy 4:12