

# oneight

LIFE TEEN CONFIRMATION PROGRAM

*"You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be my witnesses..." Acts 1:8*

## **Requirements at a Glance**

### First Year Candidates

- ❖ Complete Oneight Sessions either in Summer or Fall
- ❖ Family Faith Formation with attendance at *Generations of Faith*
- ❖ Attend Sunday Mass weekly; Life Mass is offered
- ❖ Required attendance of at two Life Night meetings per month
- ❖ Service and Outreach Project
- ❖ Stewardship
- ❖ Parent Involvement ~ Saint Teams
- ❖ Attend Reconciliation Prayer Service during Advent or Lent
- ❖ Host hospitality after Confirmandi/Sponsor Retreat (Nov) and Confirmation Mass (May)

### Second Year Candidates

- ❖ Complete Oneight Sessions either in Summer or Fall
- ❖ Family Faith Formation with attendance at *Generations of Faith*
- ❖ Attend Sunday Mass weekly; Life Mass is offered
- ❖ Required attendance of at least two Life Night meetings per month
- ❖ Service and Outreach Project
- ❖ Stewardship
- ❖ Parent Involvement ~ Saint Teams
- ❖ Attend Reconciliation Prayer Service during Advent or Lent
- ❖ Choose a Sponsor by August 30, 2012 and attend Sponsor Retreat November
  - Blessing/Renewal of Baptismal Vows with sponsor done at end of retreat
- ❖ Mandatory Confirmation retreat in the Spring (Choose one of two in March)
- ❖ Attend Confirmation Mass rehearsals (1)
- ❖ Confirmation Mass TBD
- ❖ Attend follow up sessions AFTER Confirmation
  - One on one session
  - Group session ~ What's Next?
- ❖ Return in the Fall to witness to new Confirmation II (optional but encouraged)

The following is a detail of the Oneight Confirmation program. These pieces are intended to help you, the Confirmation candidate, make decisions which prepare you for the spiritual formation that lies ahead.

### 1. Oneight Sessions

We will gather for fellowship, catechesis, prayer and praise in two different options. The first option is the **Super Summer Week** Session that is completed in 4 consecutive days for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students. Catechists will present the Teaching for each session on various topics approved and mandated by our local Diocese of Santa Rosa. After the teaching, Confirmation Candidates will participate in a variety of activities in their **Saint Communities** (*small groups*). Each session will begin at 2:00 pm and will end by 5:30 pm.

The second option is the **Super Sunday** sessions that is completed in 4 Sundays for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> year students. (First Year candidates will attend 4 Sundays during October/November and Second Year candidates will attend 4 Sundays during September/October.) Catechists will present the Teaching for each Sunday on various topics approved and mandated by the Diocese of Santa Rosa. After the teaching, Confirmation Candidates will participate in a variety of activities in their **Saint Communities** (*small groups*). Each Sunday will begin at 1:00 pm and will end by 4:30 pm.

Second Year Confirmation students will receive the sacrament sometime April/May 2012. The Diocese will confirm our exact date sometime in September/October and we will advise you at that time. Please know that we do not have any control over the date selected for Confirmation.

### Absences

Candidates are expected to attend **ALL Oneight Sessions**. It is mandatory that each Candidate participates and attends each and every session. Excessive absences will be reason for a candidate to repeat the class before receiving the sacrament. Please choose wisely when selecting which session will be best for your student keeping in mind vacations, extracurricular activities, sports, etc.

### 2. Family Formation

Parents are the primary Catechists for their children's faith formation. With this in mind, we require students and their families to attend the Generations of Faith sessions provided by St. John the Baptist Catholic Church. The sessions for 2011-2012 are as follows (*dates may be subject to change*):

Sunday	October 23	Sunday	February 12
Sunday	November 20	Sunday	April 15
Sunday	January 22		

At each Generations of Faith session, confirmation/youth ministry students will receive a home kit. We ask that as a family you take time to review and complete the discussion questions as they apply to your daily walk with Christ.

### 3. Service and Outreach

Candidates are expected to accept their share of the responsibility to serve others. This year we are requiring that all confirmation candidates participate in one of the service and outreach opportunities listed below. Parents and sponsors are encouraged to work with their teen to complete the Saint Community Service and outreach opportunities. Without your support the projects will be impossible to facilitate and complete.

GOF Assistance	See #2 for dates	Christmas Decorating	December 22-23
Cookies with a Prayer	December 10	Walk for Life	January 21
Toys for Children of Inmates	December 16-17	LA Youth Day	March 21-24 (Fee involved; Scholarships available)

#### 4. Stewardship

Stewardship is an important part of any persons' commitment and obligation to a group or organization. Stewardship is composed of three areas: time (service), treasure (financial responsibilities), and talent (using your abilities to make the group better). In order to better understand that WE are responsible for our Church and community, every Confirmation candidate will have to show that they are fulfilling their share of the responsibility. This can be done in the following ways:

- Participation in service projects throughout the year (see service information section)
- Participation in financial support program (through Sunday envelopes)
- Participation in workshops with an open mind and a willingness to serve others
- Participation in evaluation at the end of the year

In an effort to encourage weekly mass participation as well as increase awareness in stewardship, the candidates will be responsible for filling out and submitting an envelope in the weekly mass collection. This envelope will monitor which mass the candidate attends as well as any financial support you choose to participate in. We encourage all teens to contribute whatever they can to help support the parish in one of three ways. Each envelope will ask the candidate to fill in information in one of the following areas:

- Time – What time have you given to God through the week in SERVICE or devotion?
- Talent – In what ways have you shared the gifts God has given you to SERVE the community?
- Treasure – What financial treasure can you give this week?

#### 5. Liturgy and Rites

At the center of the Catholic Christian faith is the celebration of the Eucharist, the real presence of Christ in the bread, wine and the people who eat His body and blood. It is at Mass, at Liturgy, where we come together with all of our Catholic Christian friends to celebrate as one church. It is only fitting for the people of our parish community to celebrate and walk with you on your journey toward being a full member. The best way to include others as well as to make your journey special is to celebrate important stages of your preparation. This is done through "Rites" or special celebrations marking important steps toward Confirmation.

**Renewal of Baptismal Vows  
Confirmation Mass**

**November 19 or 20, 2011\*  
April/May 2012 (TBD)**

*\*Follows the Sponsor Confirmandi Retreat (See #7 Sponsors)*

#### 6. Retreats

Retreats are such an important part of the Confirmation process; they are even important in life. How many times do we look forward to a vacation from school or from our everyday lives? We go to the beach, or the mountains, Hawaii, Disneyland, just about anywhere to "get away" and recharge our batteries.

Retreats are intended to do the same. They give people the chance to "get away" from things that prevent them from focusing on our Lord. Retreats allow candidates to go away to have fun, relax, but more importantly, to recharge the spiritual battery. When you return from retreat, you can be guaranteed that your life will be changed. Candidates will experience a two day retreat the weekend of:

**Friday evening, Saturday-Sunday, February 24-26, 2012**

**Friday evening, Saturday-Sunday, March 9-11, 2012**

*Maximum of 30 students per Confirmation Retreat*

The WEEKEND RETREAT is MANDATORY for candidates choosing to be confirmed. *If you are unable to attend it will be your responsibility to locate a parish that will take you on their retreat and receive a written letter signed by their Confirmation Coordinator that you attended the retreat.* That being said, I hope all will attend the retreat we have planned for you to share in one experience together.

## 7. Sponsors

Sponsors are people who you can rely on during your faith journey. They should be people with a deep commitment to the Catholic faith and who are active, confirmed members of their parish. They should be willing to listen to you, help you answer questions, and be willing to share their faith and example with you. Sponsors are expected to maintain REGULAR contact with their candidate to not only pray, but to socialize and develop a stronger relationship. Please refer to the Sponsor Information Form for additional information on who can and cannot be a sponsor.

Confirmation Sponsors of 2<sup>nd</sup> Year students will be required to attend a half day retreat with their Candidate. This will give you a chance to connect spiritually throughout the year along with personal time you schedule together. **The Sponsor Confirmandi Retreat will be:**

	<b><u>Sunday, November 19 or 20, 2011</u></b>
<b>1:00pm – 4:45pm</b>	<b>Retreat at St. John the Baptist Parish Hall</b>
<b>5:00pm - 6:00pm</b>	<b>Life Mass and Renewal of Baptismal Vows</b>
<b>Hospitality</b>	<b>Immediately following Life Mass</b>

Please take time to discern your Sponsor and have them complete the Sponsor Information Form in this Registration Packet. All Sponsors must have their Sponsor Information Form signed and sealed by their parish pastor.

While it is not necessary, 1<sup>st</sup> Year students are encouraged to select their sponsors as soon as possible. The more time the confirmandis and sponsor have to make this journey together, the more powerful and meaningful the experience for both of them.

## 8. Life Teen at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Every Sunday beginning September 18, 2011, we gather for Life Mass and Youth Group. The Sunday schedule is below:

<i>Edge Junior High Youth Group</i>	<i>3:15pm-4:45pm</i>
<i>Life Mass</i>	<i>5:00pm-6:00pm</i>
<i>Life Teen ~ High School Youth Group</i>	<i>6:15pm-7:45pm</i>

We feel your journey in faith during the high school years can be trying and St. John the Baptist Youth Group will help give you a more complete experience. Confirmation sessions focus primarily on faith and religious formation. **Confirmation students will be required to participate in Life Teen twice each month.** They may go to any session they choose. St. John the Baptist Life Teen is designed to create a place where teens can support each other and grow in faith and friendship while learning how to apply your Catholic values and beliefs into your daily life. St. John the Baptist Life Teen also sponsors many social activities so you can start to meet others whose faith is important to them.

## 9. Diocesan/Parish Requirements

- *Confirmandi must be 15 years of age or a sophomore in high school upon receiving the sacrament*
- *Enrollment, participation and completion of two year Confirmation program*
- *Confirmation Interviews with Pastor (2<sup>nd</sup> year candidates)*

## 10. Parent Involvement

We encourage parents to be involved in the Confirmation Program in some way. This program relies totally on the volunteers to make it possible. With that in mind, we ask that you consider where your talents and time can be used to make the **Oneight** Confirmation Program the best! Each Parent Team will be known by their Patron Saint and we hope it will help you on your **Oneight** to sainthood.

- **St. Charles Borromeo Team-** St. Charles Borromeo is the Patron Saint of Catechists. We are always looking for parents to help facilitate the Saint Community Break Outs that take place during the **Oneight Sessions**. The commitment will involve 1 meeting with the Confirmation Coordinator, Small Group Facilitation on **Oneight Session**, Coordinating 1 Service Project a year with your Saint Community and continual outreach to increase relational ministry to the teens throughout the month. Training, Safe Environment Training and Fingerprinting are mandatory for this ministry.
- **St. Expeditus Team-** St. Expeditus is the Patron Saint of Procrastination and Organization. Every time we gather we will need parents to coordinate the Check-In process. This is a volunteer ministry that will take from 1 to 4 hours a month to assist us and requires that you come 1 hour early to the **Life Night** to set banners and assist with check-in.
- **St. Gabriel the Archangel Team-** St. Gabriel the Archangel is the Patron Saint of Communications. Each **Oneight Session** we will videotape the teaching in order to provide the teens who are absent with the DVD they can review in order to write a 2-page paper on the teaching of the night. We are looking for a few parents to volunteer to videotape the night and burn a DVD for distribution. We do not own a video recorder however, DVD's will be provided.
- **St. Catherine of Alexandria Team-** St. Catherine of Alexandria is the Patron Saint of Secretaries. Every week we will receive over 50 Service Envelopes from our Confirmation Candidates and they will need to be entered into our data system and reviewed for valid Service. This will be a 1 hour commitment weekly and if we have more than one parent involved it can be broken down to a monthly commitment.
- **St. Joseph Team-** St. Joseph is the Patron Saint of Parents. We are looking for parents who will assist the Catechists with the Service Projects. Safe Environment Training and Fingerprinting are mandatory for this ministry.
- **St. Peter Team-** St. Peter is known as the Gatekeeper. We are looking for parents to help open the rooms and bathrooms, set up supplies, and close up after the **Saint Communities** have finished. Your job is to make sure the rooms are in original order once the teens have left and return any supplies used. This will require you to arrive 30 minutes prior to the **Oneight Sessions** or **Life Teen Nights** to gather all the supplies for the room.
- **St. Martha Team-** St. Martha is the Patron Saint of Cooks. We are looking for parents who are willing to coordinate the snacks for the **Oneight Sessions** and **Life Teen Nights** as well as our Sponsor Retreat and Potlucks after the Confirmation Retreat. This could be as little as a once a year commitment if we get enough parents to help.
- **Guardian Angels-** Guardian Angels are our Prayer Warriors. This is a group of parents that will gather for Adoration in the Adoration Chapel from 6:00pm-7:00pm on Thursdays. The purpose of this group is to pray for the teens of our parish.

## 11. Confirmation Fees and the Scholarship Fund

Confirmation I Fees	\$ 75.00
• <i>Includes Life Teen Bible; Come Adore and Come Clean ~ Teen Guide to Reconciliation and Eucharistic Adoration</i>	
Confirmation II Fees	\$ 140.00
• <i>Includes Sponsor and Confirmation retreats, confirmation robe</i>	

At the time of registration we ask for a minimum payment of \$25.00 for 1<sup>st</sup> Year and 2<sup>nd</sup> Year students. Payment is due in full by September 30, 2011. Payment arrangements can be made to accommodate those in need. If you choose to pay the full amount we will gladly receive full payment. Checks should be made payable to **St. John the Baptist Catholic Church**.

If financial assistance is needed and you are a registered parishioner, please feel free to request the SCHOLARSHIP FUND application. All Scholarship Applications will be reviewed by the Youth Minister and Pastor and we will notify you when a decision has been made.