

Our Mother of Confidence

Youth Ministry Religious Education Program

In 2017-2018 the Religious Education Program for youth will be as follows:

Class Dates and Times (7th Grade through High School):

- † Sunday classes meet from 3:15 – 5:15PM.
- † Tuesday classes meet from 7:00 – 8:30 PM.
- † Parents are required to attend the First Class (a Potluck Gathering) and will be invited to attend other classes throughout the year.
- † Sunday and Tuesday classes cover the same topics, so if necessary a youth may switch between Tuesday and Sunday. Please check with the YM Office.

7th – 8th Grade: Both grades classes may meet together, depending on #s registered for each class day.

High School:

- † Confirmation is a two year preparation process.
- † All classes will start in large group in the Parish Hall. Throughout the evening, the class will break into table groups, working together for discussions & activities. Table groups will be led by adult facilitators to lead the groups. Jr. Facilitators (post confirmation students) may assist the adult facilitators. The class time will also include group presentations and prayer times.
- † Approximately 10 hours of classes for 2nd Year Confirmation students will be dedicated to direct Confirmation preparation and will be held separately from the 1st Year Confirmation students but during the regularly scheduled class time.

Youth Attendance:

Attendance is expected at each session. Absence at more than 3 classes may result in a delay in receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation in order to assure the youth is fully prepared.

Catholic School Students:

- † 1st Year Confirmation Catholic school students are expected to attend a minimum of 11 Sunday, or 16 Tuesday classes, including the first class.
- † 2nd Year Confirmation Catholic school students are expected to attend a minimum of 6 Sunday or 8 Tuesday classes, including the First Class. **IN ADDITION**, 2nd Year Confirmation youth must attend all 10 hours of the Confirmation module.

Retreats:

Jr. High School:

- † A half-night retreat will be held during the year. More information will be available closer to the date.

High School:

- † 1st Year Confirmation Retreat is November 3-5.
- † -- 2nd Year Confirmation youth who did not attend the Fall Retreat last year must attend the November Retreat.
- † 2nd Year Confirmation Retreat is March 9-11.
- † Retreats will be held at Whispering Winds Catholic Camp in Julian. The cost will be about \$140. More information will be available by the first class date.
- † Retreats are part of Confirmation preparation; attendance is mandatory.

Attending Mass:

All of us should be attending Mass weekly (our Sunday obligation) as well as on feast days and the Triduum. Serving as an Altar Server, Lector, Greeter, Usher or Choir Member helps us participate more and experience Mass in a more meaningful way. These ministries also provide service hours for you.

Service Opportunities

As a Christian people, it is our responsibility to give back to the parish, the community, and the world that sustains us.

- † Jr High: We encourage 10 hours of service a year to get us in the habit of giving back.
- † High School: We require 20 hours of service a year (documented) as part of Confirmation preparation. It is the youth's responsibility to track these hours.

Our service projects this year will include:

St. Vincent de Paul	Whispering Winds
Beach clean-up	Parish projects
Ronald McDonald House	Holiday food baskets
Walks for the unborn	Catholic Charities ministries

We are always looking for more service opportunities, and for people to help organize these events.

Social Opportunities

Youth Nights are being scheduled monthly (or more). These will include movie night, community building gatherings, Christmas caroling, service opportunities and more. See the calendar for what is scheduled.

All offsite events require a permission slip. Parent drivers are always needed.

Youth Days – for High School Youth

Youth Days (for H.S. youth) are a great way to share in youth celebrating our faith in a grand way. There are three Youth Day events this year, and Confirmation Candidates need to attend at least one of them. They are:

Sept. 9th (Saturday) – **“Encounter Grace”** (in Escondido) – approx. 300-500 youth attend.

March 15th (Thursday) – L.A. Youth Day (Anaheim Convention Center) – approx 14,000+ youth attend.

April 7th (Saturday) – Synergy Youth Day (at a local Catholic H.S.) – approx. 600-1200 youth attend.

Confirmation Candidates – please let me know which you will attend. All for God’s Youth Day and Synergy are both on Saturdays (in San Diego), and L.A. Youth Day is on a Thursday (must miss a day of school). But these are phenomenal experiences of seeing our faith lived on a grand scale.

Interviews for Confirmation

There are two interviews for Confirmation Candidates, the *Transition Interview* and the *Readiness Interview*.

The *Transition Interview* will be for the Candidates who finished their 1st Year and are moving into their 2nd Year of the preparation for Confirmation. This will be done by the Youth Minister, meeting with the **Candidate and one or both parents**. We talk about the year just finished and the year ahead.

The *Readiness Interview* will be near the end of the preparation and determines the Candidate’s readiness for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation (**One or both parents must attend with the Candidate**). A list of questions is provided at the beginning of the preparation, and discussed throughout the Confirmation classes (Readiness Interview questions sheet is also available online).