

Parent 2012

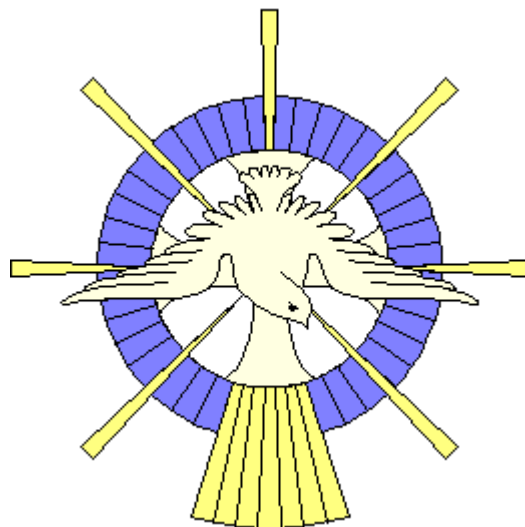
As a member of Most Holy Redeemer Parish in Evergreen Park, I desire to affirm my belief in Jesus and His Church through the Sacrament of Confirmation.

As I enter into this final phase of preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation, bless me and give me the willingness to do all that is required of me.

I pledge to the best of my ability to take part in the learning sessions and activities that are a part of the program of preparation.

I accept the responsibility to open my mind and heart to the activities of the Holy Spirit during this time of preparation. I ask this in Christ's name.

Amen



Dear Parent,

Today the parish community of Most Holy Redeemer is offering your child an opportunity to renew his/her Baptismal vows and to experience God's love and friendship in their lives.

"The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common".

Acts 4:32

Christian love is manifested in service to other people. Jesus came as one who serves. He declared that, at the end of time, he will judge us on how well we have served him through other people. A vital part of the candidates' preparation for living a full Christian life, then, is developing a habit of service.

Guidelines For Service

Jesus has invited your child to come and follow Him. To walk in His footsteps, to reach out to others as He did, that is with care, concern, healing, and hope. Confirmation can be a missed opportunity or a highlight, a turning point of your child's life. It is their choice.

- Their service is not just a job to be done. It is selflessly and lovingly helping those in need.
- They should reflect on how their service project is helping them take on the mind and heart of Christ, fulfill the needs of others, and build up the Christian community.
- The giving of service is not new to you or your child. You have given of yourself in many ways and should continue with your child to grow in the commitment of Christian service.
- Your child's service hours must be journaled. They will write down their thoughts and feelings about each project after its completion.

Four areas will be stressed as they prepare for Confirmation:

- Liturgy
- Prayer; when, how, meaning of prayer, their challenge to grow.
- Knowing my faith; our beliefs as stated in the Creed; are they important to you?
- Christian service; Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy, how do I practice them?

Areas that will be open for service are church and community. Those preparing your child for Confirmation can answer any questions about particular service opportunities. Service projects will be listed and they will have many interesting avenues to choose from.

The performance of service hours and the reflection upon such work are an integral preparation for the life of loving service that adult Christians must embrace. Therefore the honest completion of these hours is necessary for Confirmation and if this commitment is not done honestly and in a Christian spirit it would mean that your child might not be ready for the Sacrament of Confirmation and will have to wait another year. We thank you for your cooperation in this Spirit-filled endeavor.

Yours Sincerely,

Fr. Hyland and Staff

The Role Of The Parents

The parents have a responsibility to create a Christian environment in the home. They should:

- **Worship together regularly at Sunday Mass**, and participate in parish programs.
- Set a good example, and encourage their child to lead a life of active Christian service.
- Serve their family out of love.
- Build an atmosphere of trust and understanding.
- Continue to nurture their child in faith.
- **Parents have a responsibility to help young people prepare for Confirmation. They should:**
 - Encourage their child to reflect thoughtfully on the Liturgy each week.
 - Assist in the faith sharing component of the sacrament when sponsors are unavailable.
 - Pray with their child and discuss various aspects of faith and the special meanings of Confirmation.
 - Take part in special catechesis for parents to help renew their own faith so they can more effectively guide their child.
 - Volunteer to drive for the special service outings their children will be involved in.
 - Participate in service hours with their child.

"The home is the place where faith can best be nourished."

Confirmation Calendar

- September 27, 2011 Tuesday, 7 p.m.
Parent / Candidate / Sponsor meeting
Confirmation name due
Speaker: Fr. Matt Nemchausky
- October 24, 2011 Monday, Sponsor interview due
- February 2012 Confirmation Interviews TBA
- February 21, 2012 Tuesday, 8:30 – 2:30 p.m. ~ Confirmation retreat in Briody Hall
NET Ministries
- February 23, 2012 Thursday, 6:30 – 8 p.m. ~ Confirmation practice – students only
- February 26, 2012 Sunday, 1 p.m. Confirmation Mass
Bishop Andrew P. Wypych
Reception following in Briody Hall