

Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Dear Eighth Grade Parent,

This letter will provide you with information about your child's upcoming Confirmation, which promises to be a highlight of your child's 8th grade year and of his or her faith life.

The **Confirmation Mass** will take place on **Sunday, February 12, 2017 at Noon. Candidates and Sponsors should arrive at 11:30 a.m. and meet in the school foyer for the opening procession.** Confirmation is always a beautiful and prayerful liturgy. All friends and family members are most welcome. Bishop Andrew Wypych – our local bishop - is our confirming bishop.

The students to be confirmed wear **red Confirmation gowns**. We have used these gowns for a number of years. Please check to see if you can borrow a gown or locate one you may already have. Otherwise, please order a one using the *gown order form* attached to this letter. **Gown orders are due Tuesday, January 24th.**

The **Confirmation registry** is essential for our parish records. Please fill out the attached *Confirmation registry form* and return it school or to Religious Education class – Children's Faith Formation (C.F.F.) by **Friday, February 3rd or Sunday, February 5th.**

Please have your child's sponsor complete the **Sponsor Verification form**. This form requires a signature and parish seal. This form should be returned by **Friday, February 3rd, or Sunday, February 5th.** Please see the attached *Sponsor verification form*.

The **Confirmation fee** is \$28.00. This fee covers the Confirmation program costs including the mass booklet printing, picture, reception and Bishop's offering. Please make checks payable to **Saint John Fisher School** and send payment by **Friday, February 3rd, or Sunday, February 5th.**

To prepare for the ceremony, we will have a **prayer service and rehearsal for Confirmation on Wednesday, February 8th at 7:30 p.m.** This prayer service is for the candidates, parents, and, if possible, sponsors. At this service we provide a seating chart for candidates, sponsors and two family members for each child to be confirmed.

On **February 12, 2017, after the Confirmation Mass** everyone is also invited to Kane Hall to meet and take pictures with Bishop Wypych. There will be a **reception** at this time, with juice, coffee and cookies. Allow up to two and a half hours for the mass, (depending on how much time the bishop spends with each candidate – there are 85 students) and thirty minutes for the reception (you are free to leave the reception at any time). If you are making plans for after the ceremony, these times may help.

Please continue to pray with and for your child as he or she prepares for Confirmation. We especially encourage Sunday Mass attendance, prayer, and conversations on the importance of faith and belief in God in your life. If you have any questions, please call: (773)238-1851/445-4737 or write to Elena Chermak at echermak@sjschool.net, or contact your student's religion teacher: Mrs. Maura Grochocinski, or Ms. Mary Margaret Redmond.

Dates: Tuesday, January 24, 2017 – Confirmation gown fee due – please check to see if you need a gown.

Friday, February 3, or Sunday, February 5, 2017 – Confirmation registry due

Friday, February 3, or Sunday, February 5, 2017 – Confirmation Sponsor Verification due

Friday, February 3, or Sunday, February 5, 2017 – Confirmation fee due

Wednesday, February 8, 2017 – Prayer service and Rehearsal for Confirmation, in church, 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, February 12, 2017 - Confirmation Mass Noon - Confirmation candidates & sponsors in classrooms at 11:30 a.m.

Confirmation Fee

Enclosed is my confirmation fee (\$28.00) for _____.

(Student's name)

Parent's Signature

Please make checks payable to *Saint John Fisher School*. Please turn in fee to school by **Friday, February 3, 2017** or to C.F.F. by **Sunday, February 5, 2017**. Thank you.

It's time to order Confirmation gowns for the Confirmation Mass— Sunday, February 12, 2017 at Noon
Form due Tuesday, January 24, 2017. Please locate one from your friends or relatives, or plan to order one.

Dear Confirmation Grade Parent,

For many years the eighth graders have worn red confirmation gowns over their "Sunday best" outfits for the liturgy. The cost of the gowns is **\$19.50**.

Since our parish has used these gowns for so long, there are many available in our neighborhood. **We suggest you try to borrow a gown from a friend or relative whose children may have worn one.** If your current eighth grader is the oldest in your family, you may want to purchase a gown which will then be passed down to your younger children. **Please let us know if you need a gown so that we can place the order.**

The **dress code for Confirmation** as follows: **Boys:** shirt, tie, dress pants and dress shoes. Jackets are optional, because the eighth graders wear their gowns for the ceremony and reception. **Girls:** dresses or skirts and dress shoes. **Since the parents and sponsors accompany their eighth graders to the sanctuary, we also ask that they dress appropriately.**

Thank you for your help to make sure all the Confirmation candidates have gowns. Please continue to pray with and for your eighth graders and for all the students and family members of this class. We look forward to a spiritually enriching celebration.

Sincerely,

Ms. Chermak Sister Jean Mrs. Grochocinski Ms. Redmond

Confirmation Gown Order

Yes, please order a confirmation gown for my child. Enclosed is a check for \$19.50.

No, I have or am able to borrow a Confirmation gown for my child and do not need to order one.

Student's name

Parent signature

Please return this form by Tuesday, January 24, 2017.

Make checks payable to *Saint John Fisher School*.

If you are ordering a gown, please provide this information
Confirmation candidate's height: _____

Name: _____

Confirmation Name: _____

Your age at the time of your Confirmation: _____

Sponsor's Name: _____

(first and last name – please don't just write "my aunt" for example)

Church of Confirmation: Saint John Fisher Church

Parents' Names:

Father: _____

Mother's First & Maiden Names:

***Church of Your Baptism:** _____

*** Date of Baptism:** _____

Mailing Address of Church of Baptism: (you can look this up on line – if it is Saint John Fisher the address is 10234 South Washtenaw Avenue Chicago, IL 60655)

City: _____ **State:** _____

Zip Code: _____

Date of Confirmation: February 12, 2017

Please return this form by Friday, February 3, 2017 or Sunday, February 5, 2017 (CFF)

*This information is important because your confirmation record is added to your baptismal record in that parish book of the church where you were baptized. The secretary of the church where you were baptized needs to locate your baptismal record in that parish book – so the date is important too.

Saint John Fisher Church
10234 South Washtenaw Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60655
773-445-6565

**CHURCH MEMBERSHIP VERIFICATION
FOR GODPARENTS/SPONSORS**

I affirm that _____ is a practicing Catholic and a registered parishioner at _____ Church, and is therefore qualified to be a Godparent/Sponsor for a Sacrament of Initiation for _____.

Name of child or candidate

Priest/Pastoral Minister signature & title

Date

Parish seal

Godparent/Sponsor: please return this form to the parents of the child or young adult for whom you have been asked to be a Godparent or Sponsor. They should then bring to or send it to the Saint John Fisher Rectory at least one week in advance of the conferral of the Sacrament. (please see page two)

Dear Confirmation Sponsor,
Congratulations on being named as a Confirmation Sponsor by a member of the Saint John Fisher Confirmation Class 2017.

Attached is the Confirmation Sponsor Verification form for Saint John Fisher Confirmation on February 12, 2017.

Please have your parish priest or pastoral minister **sign this form** and **imprint the parish seal**.

Please return this form – in person or via mail - to your confirmation candidate in time for the due date: Friday, February 3rd (SJF school students) or Sunday, February 5th (C.F.F. students).

We look forward to seeing you at the Confirmation Mass on Sunday, February 12th (Noon mass, arrive at 11:30 p.m.), and at the practice/prayer service on Wednesday, February 8th (7:30 p.m. in Church) – if you are able to attend that service in addition to the Confirmation Mass.

Please note: Return email forms are not acceptable because of the need for the parish seal. Please allow enough time to return to this form to your candidate.