

April 28, 2016

Dear Confirmation Candidates and Parents,

Confirmation preparation is offered to all St. Kenneth Parish eighth grade students. Classes will begin in September and run approximately twice each month on Wednesday evenings through January. The exact date for the Confirmation ceremony has yet to be determined by the archdiocese, but it is expected to take place in February.

There are some considerations that should be discussed in your family, prior to enrollment in the Confirmation preparation program:

- ✓ The Confirmation candidate must be a registered St. Kenneth parishioner.
- ✓ The Confirmation candidate should be participating willingly in their faith life. This includes weekly Mass participation and praying routinely.
- ✓ The Confirmation candidate must attend the Confirmation enrollment liturgy and retreat, which will take place in the fall of 2016.
- ✓ The Confirmation candidate must faithfully attend the evening preparation sessions.
- ✓ The Confirmation candidate will commit to participation in group community service, as well as personal Christian service.
- ✓ The Confirmation candidate will attend the Confirmation rehearsal and mass.

A question that is often asked by our Catholic school families is why parochial students are required to attend Confirmation preparation classes at their parish. Please keep in mind that sacraments are parish celebrations, rather than school celebrations. Sacraments are profoundly important and should ideally be celebrated in the sacred space where the family and parish community gather for worship. It is also essential for the Confirmation candidates of St. Kenneth parish to gather together and see themselves as a vital part of the parish with important and unique gifts to offer their community.

The Confirmation registration form follows this letter. Please have a discussion about the importance of this final sacrament of initiation and register your son or daughter, if they wish to participate in the sacrament of Confirmation in 2016. If the candidate or parent has questions, please feel free to phone the parish office or e-mail me at [emkramer22@gmail.com](mailto:emkramer22@gmail.com). There will be an initial **PARENTS ONLY** meeting on September 7, 2016 at 6:00 pm in the Social Hall. At this meeting, we will discuss the program format, distribute necessary paperwork and answer any questions you may have. I look forward to sharing in this important journey with your family.

Sincerely,

Elaine Marie Kramer