

St. Patrick's Religious Education Program
26 Hunter Street
Highland Mills, NY 10930
928-3354 or 928-6688

Dear Parents,

With great joy we welcome you and your child into our eighth grade Confirmation program. Confirmation is a sacrament in which those who have been baptized receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit. It is also a sacrament that celebrates God's special strengths, and bestows gifts that will help us live more fully committed to Christ.

The parish, staff and I look forward to your child's journey of faith. The enclosed information will help explain the many components to our Confirmation Preparation Program here at St. Patrick's. We hope you will take a few moments to review the important requirements needed by your youngster to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Please be sure to note the dates that particular items are due.

Again we ask you to assist us in making this year of preparation for your child one that is fruitful. Your cooperation is very important.

If I can be of assistance to you in anyway, please do not hesitate to call the Religious Education Office at 928-3354 or 928-6688.

Sincerely,

Louise Pisano

Coordinator Religious Education Program

Father Gerard P. Travers

Pastor

Confirmation Catechists,

Ms. Rachel Csak

Andrea Coleman

Mrs. June Danielson

Mrs. Charlene Kuklis

Mrs. Patricia Murray

Mr. Eoin Smyth

Deacon Paul Weireter

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SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION PROGRAM 2010-2011

ROLE OF THOSE TO BE CONFIRMED:

The candidates for Confirmation must be suitably instructed and properly disposed. They must be willing to be involved in the preparation program with the intention of remaining faithful to Christ and His church.

ROLE OF THE PARENTS:

The initiation of children into the sacramental life is ordinarily the responsibility and concern of Christian parents. They are to form and gradually increase a spirit of faith in the children and, at times with the help of catechism classes, prepare them for the fruitful reception of the sacrament of confirmation. The role of parents is also expressed by their active participation in the celebration of the sacraments.

ROLE OF THE SPONSOR:

It is desirable that the godparent at baptism, if available, also be the sponsor at confirmation. This expresses more clearly the link between baptism and confirmation and also makes the function and responsibility of the sponsor more effective. The sponsor brings the candidate to receive the sacrament, presents them to the minister for the anointing, and will later help them to fulfill their baptismal promises faithfully under the influence of the Holy Spirit whom they have received.

The sponsor Affidavit must be completed and returned to candidate so that the candidate can submit it in his/her folder on the appropriate date.

LITURGY PARTICIPATION AND PREPARATION:

Each candidate is expected to attend Mass on Sunday and take part in the Sacrament of Reconciliation on a regular basis. You will have the opportunity to receive the sacrament of reconciliation at the end of your retreat day.

PERSONAL PRAYER:

The candidates will be led to deepen their personal prayer life by experiencing prayer in all their activities. If we want a relationship with God that is vivid in our experience, exciting in our living, and supportive of our very self, then prayer is the most direct way to that relationship. If we long for communication with God, prayer is the means, whatever form we choose.

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RETREAT:

Each candidate will be required to participate in our retreat day, which will be held at the Bethany Retreat House in Highland Mills. (Specific dates are on the calendar which accompanies this handbook). This special Confirmation experience of prayer and discussion will encourage the candidates to build a faith community among themselves as they prepare to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit. This retreat is an essential part of our preparation and **ALL CANDIDATES MUST ATTEND.** The candidates will have the opportunity to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation at the end of the day.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE:

The gifts of the Holy Spirit empower the candidates and all confirmed with compassion, love, and strength to serve others. The Sacrament of Confirmation is the sacrament that asks you not only to believe in Jesus but also to live his life daily. Living the life of Jesus means living a life of service, and service means responding to other's needs whenever and wherever you see them – in your home, in your church community, in your city or town, in your nation, and even in the world. This commitment to be concerned about others is an essential part of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

ATTENDANCE:

Students can not miss more than three (3) class sessions during the Confirmation year.

REPORTS TO BE SUBMITTED:

SAINT: Since the Confirmation rite does not mention a new Confirmation name the rite presumes that you will be using your baptismal name. This expresses more clearly the link between Baptism and Confirmation, if however, you choose to take a new name reflective of your new direction, attitude, and commitment of life, and then that name should be that of Saint you admire.

TYPE a report that explains your saint's name. This report should contain 100-125 words and include the following information, name of saint, why it was chosen and how you can imitate the Saint in some way.

CONFIRMATION FEE:

A fee of \$85.00 is requested to cover the cost of the following items: Retreat Day, Bible, Special text materials, gown, pin, certificate, flowers, speaker fees for workshops, Bishop gift etc...

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GUIDELINES FOR CHOOSING A SPONSOR

Following a tradition in the church, one person, called the sponsor represents the Christian community and acts as your child's guide. The sponsor is a person who reflects the values held deeply in the Catholic Church. The sponsor's function is to take care that the person confirmed behaves as a true witness of Christ and faithfully fulfills the duties inherent in this sacrament. At the actual celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation the sponsor will stand beside your child as a witness that he/she is ready and willing to reaffirm his/her baptismal commitment.

1. It is desirable that the sponsor for Confirmation be the one who undertook this role at Baptism.
2. A Roman Catholic who has been confirmed and has received the blessed Eucharist, and who lives a life of faith which befits the role to be undertaken (free from impediment).
3. At least 16, unless a priest considers that there is just reason for an exception to be made.
4. Not the father or mother of the one to be confirmed.

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To be given to your sponsor along with the sponsor affidavit

Dear **sponsor**,

Congratulations, as a sponsor, you know that it is very important to keep in close contact with the candidate. Then, you can share your faith, knowledge, and experience of being a Catholic.

Please try to arrange opportunities to spend time with the candidates and to enjoy being together. Some of these times can relate directly to the Confirmation program. Perhaps you can help the candidate choose service projects. You might even be able to arrange a project or accompany the candidate to carry out one (such as working at a food kitchen or visiting a hospital). Keep in close contact with the candidate, either in person or on the telephone. In an informal way, talk about what the candidate is learning in class. See if there are any questions or reactions. If you are a member of the same parish, let the candidate see your participation in the Eucharist.

As a Confirmation sponsor your role is one of support, care and spiritual friend. You are asked to develop a faith relationship with the candidate, accompany the candidate, if possible to liturgy stand with the candidate before the bishop and the community and help the candidate live as a follower of Jesus.

The parish family of St. Patrick welcomes you into the parish Confirmation program. We pray that your role as a sponsor will be an enriching one.

Sincerely,

Louise Pisano
Coordinator of Religious Education

Father Gerard Travers
Pastor

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This paper is due Sunday October 3, Tuesday October 5 or Wednesday October 6, and must be in the envelope given to you at the meeting in June

This affidavit is for your **sponsor.**

CONFIRMATION SPONSOR AFFIDAVIT

Confirmation students Name: _____

Name of Sponsor: _____
(Full legal name – No nicknames) –Please print

Sponsors for Confirmation are asked to contact their local Parish Priest and have the form below signed and authorized with the official seal of the church.

This is to certify

That _____

Is a member of this Parish, is a practicing Catholic and is qualified to act as a sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Signature of Pastor

Parish

Address of Parish

Parish Seal

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This paper is due either Sunday October 3, Tuesday October 5 or Wednesday October 6, and must be in the envelope given to you at the meeting in June

Candidate's Name:

Full First and Last Name – Please Print

REQUIREMENTS FOR CHOOSING A NAME

- ◆ No nicknames or abbreviations
- ◆ Must be a saint's name and match your saint report
- ◆ Please spell the name correctly. *This is how it will appear on your certificate.*
- ◆ No changes will be made

My Confirmation name will be: _____
(One name only)

PARENT'S SIGNATURE

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CHRISTIAN SERVICE PROJECTS

Christian love is manifested in service to other people. A vital part of the preparation for living a full Christian life is developing an attitude and habit of serving others.

It is not enough that you know about your faith. The questions are: How do you put your faith into practice? How often do you go out of your way to help others? Are you creative in finding ways to serve others as Christ asks? There are unlimited possibilities for projects of service. You are encouraged to undertake meaningful, free of charge and on-going service in conjunction with your preparation for Confirmation.

Please be sure to sign up for one of the projects listed below.

Service Projects

Please select three of the following projects in order of preference. You will be assigned *ONE* project but our hope is that you will willingly participate in opportunities of service that may arise during the course of the year. Because of the number of children in our Confirmation program it may not be possible to honor your first choice. **Positions will be filled on a first come first served basis.**

In addition to the projects listed below you are asked to complete **5 additional hours** of service. These hours can be in the **parish, community or family**. I encourage you to ask your sponsor to assist you in this part of your service. It is wonderful way for the two of you to share your faith. Please use page # 13 to record your hours.



1. Project: CYO Youth Group Bible school program “RAINBOW DAYS”
Date: August 2-6
Time: 9:45 AM-1:15 PM
Place: School building
Contact: Louise Pisano – 928-3354
10 students needed



2. Project: Set up of Religious Education classrooms.
Date: August 30, 2010
Time: 1 PM – 3 PM
 Prepare books for opening of program.
Place: School building.
Contact: Louise Pisano 928-3354
10 students needed



3. Project: Classroom Aides- Grades 1 and 2 ONLY. (Please pick a day and Time -This project is for the entire year. Ends in May
Date: First week of classes in September
Time: Sunday 8:45 AM or Sunday 10:30 AM
 Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, 4:30 PM
Place: School Building
Contact: Louise Pisano 928-3354
5 students needed



4 Project: Family, fun, faith, food Event.(assist with set-up and event)
Date: SET-UP- Saturday September 18th -1:00 – 3:00 PM
 EVENTS – **Sunday September 19th**
Time 1:00 PM – 7:00 PM
“Journey of Paul” Multicultural theme event!!!
Place School building
Contact: Louise Pisano 928-3354



15 needed

5. Project: Monroe Crop Walk - Walk for Hunger
Date: exact date pending (October 2010)
Time: pick up walkers’ packet in my office
Contact: Louise Pisano 928-3354



OPEN

6. **Project:** Halloween Party (setup/ run games/clean up)
Date: October 29, 2010
Time: Halloween party 4-7 PM
Place: School building
Contact: Louise Pisano – 928-3354



10 needed

7. **Project:** “Parents Day Out” (Youth group and Confirmation students provide a day of babysitting for the parish families)
Date: December 11, 2010
Time: 11AM-4:15 PM
Place: School gym
Contact: Louise Pisano 928-3354
15 students needed



8. **Project:** First Grade Christmas Pageant SNOW DATE
Date: rehearsal December 18, 2010 December 22, 2010
Play December 19, 2010
MUST DO BOTH DATES
Time : 11AM-3PM approximate time for rehearsal
1-4 PM (play)
Place : School building
Contact : Louise Pisano 928-3354
6 students needed



9. **Project:** First Penance Reception. (Bake, set up, serve, clean up)
Date: January 15, 2011
Time : 10:30 – 1:30 PM
Place: Lower church hall ★ SNOW DATE
January 29, 2011
Contact: Louise Pisano 928-3354
10 Students needed



10. **Project:** First Penance Reception. (Bake, set up, serve, clean up)
Date: January 22, 2011
Time : 10:30 – 1:30 PM
Place: Lower church hall ★ SNOW DATE
January 29, 2011
Contact: Louise Pisano 928-3354
10 Students needed

11. Project: **LENT Family, fun, faith, food Event.** (assist with set-up and event)



Date: SET-UP-Saturday March 26th - set up 1:00-4:00 PM
EVENTS -Sunday March 27th - 1:30 - 5:00 PM

Time:

Place:

Contact: School building
Louise Pisano 928-3354



10 needed

12. Project: **Living presentation of Stations of the Cross (cast member)**

Date: Time



Palm Sunday April 17th - 11:45 for Mass in costume.

Good Friday April 22, 2011 - 11:30 AM

Rehearsal schedule: (Mondays in gym) March 21, 28 April 4, 11
6-6:40 PM. (**FINAL rehearsal Wednesday April 20th - 5-7:00 PM**
(includes pizza dinner)

Place: school gym

Contact: Louise Pisano 928-3354

13. Project: **Palm Weaving**

Date: During Lent

Time: Pending

Place: Lower Church Hall

Contact: Rosemarie Morello 928-2456



14. Project: **Spring Grounds Cleanup**

Date: April 30, 2011

Time: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Place: School building

Contact: Laura Pezzola 928-8693



15. Project: **Pals with Paws - A Seeing Eye puppy club in Warwick, NY**



Date: Looking for families with children and adults to nurture a puppy, who will
Time: then be taken and trained to offer independence and dignity to a person in
need.

Place: Your home

Contact: Kathleen Wong 928-3143



Confirmation students name _____

Project _____ *Hours of service* _____ *date* _____

Project _____ *Hours of service* _____ *date* _____

Project _____ *Hours of service* _____ *date* _____

Project _____ *Hours of service* _____ *date* _____

Project _____ *Hours of service* _____ *date* _____

Project _____ *Hours of service* _____ *date* _____

Signature of student _____

Signature of parent _____

Date _____

All ADDITIONAL SERVICE MUST BE COMPLETED BY JANUARY 23, 25 OR 26.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE PROJECT CHOICES

CHOOSE 3 projects from the list (in order of preference) that you would like to participate in. You will be then assigned ONE project to fulfill. **You will only be notified if you do not get your first choice**

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

DATE: _____

Project Choices:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Please return this form by July 15, 2010^{to} Mrs. Pisano. All forms returned after the July 15th deadline will be assigned a project at random.

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM 2010-2011
IMPORTANT DATES
PLEASE POST THIS SHEET WHERE IT WILL BE SEEN AS A REMINDER

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
June 1	Confirmation Parent/Student Handbook Meeting) (choose 1 ONLY	7:00 PM	Weireter Hall (gym)
June 2		7:00 PM	Weireter Hall (gym)
June 6		10:00 AM	Weireter Hall (gym)
October 24	Enrollment Mass*	10:15 AM	Church
	Andrea Coleman, Pat Murray, Eoin Smyth	11:45 PM	Church
	Deacon Paul, Charlene Kuklis, Rachel Csak, June Danielson		

**All confirmation students must attend this mass*

January/March - All Confirmation students will be given an assessment test to evaluate the candidates readiness to receive the sacrament.

January 23, 25, 26 Measure for robes class time school building
Pg 12 of handbook due- additional service project hours competed.

March 7	Confirmation Retreat	10:15-3:00 PM	Bethany Retreat
March 8	<u>Includes Reconciliation</u>		House – Route 105 Highland Mills NY
March 21	Sexuality workshop*	7:00-8:30 PM	Weireter Hall (gym)
March 28	Sexuality workshop*	7:00-8:30 PM	Weireter Hall (gym)
	<i>*One parent and confirmation student must attend (snow date April 11th)</i>		

April 4, 2011	Parent Meeting	7:00 PM	Weireter Hall (gym)
April 12, 2011	Parent Meeting	11:00 AM	Weireter Hall (gym)

May 12	Confirmation Rehearsal	7:00 PM	Weireter Hall (gym)
	Confirmation Rehearsal	8:15 PM	Weireter Hall (gym)

May 17	Confirmation Day	6:00 PM	Church
May 18	Confirmation Day	6:00 PM	Church

June 12 Special Pentecost Mass 12:00 PM Church
Bishop Lagonegro will meet with Confirmation students and sponsors ½ hour before the sacrament. Please be in the gym on time.

Please Note: Your Specific date of events will be determined by your class and teacher, and will be announced in September.

☆ *Papers due: 1. Saint report/ 2. Name form/ 3. Sponsor affidavit/ 4. Fee.*
*All items should be placed in envelope that accompanies this handbook and be turned into your teacher by Sunday October 3, or Tuesday October 5, or Wednesday October 6. **YOU WILL NOT BE ADMITTED TO CLASS ON THOSE DATES WITHOUT YOUR ENVELOPE AND THE PROPER COMPLETED PAPERS. SPONSOR FORMS MUST BE COMPLETED BY THE PARISH YOUR SPONSOR ATTENDS EVEN IF THE PARISH IS ST. PATRICK'S.***