

St. Theresa Parish



Teen Confirmation Program 2009-2010

August 23rd, 2009

Dear Parents and Teens,

Welcome to the 2009-2010 Teen Confirmation Program! We are glad to have you on board with us this year. It promises to be an exciting time of growing in faith and strengthening our relationships with friends and family. More importantly, this preparation will be a challenging time for us to examine the place of Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit in our lives. We are continuing this year to open the program to a broader age group in conformity with bishop's new Confirmation policy. If you would like to look at this policy in more depth, please visit www.sttheresaphx.org, and click on the sacraments banner. This program is open to all High School students who have already received the sacraments of Baptism and first Eucharist.

Pope John Paul II called the youth his hope. We here at St. Theresa are putting our hope in you. We are counting on you to participate fully in the program and to become strong Christian leaders in our community. Along with the entire diocese, we invite you to learn about the power of the Holy Spirit and see what difference the Sacrament of Confirmation can make in your personal life. This is a special time for you to be preparing for Confirmation. Christ has high hopes for you, and we do too.

God bless you on your journey,

Ryan Howe
Coordinator of Youth Ministry

Program Description

Confirmation Preparation for High School Teens

St. Theresa Parish

Please consult the Program Dates Sheet for the schedule of events.

I. Program Goal:

- A. To assist teens to grow in understanding and joyfully embracing their Catholic Faith
- B. To help teens understand that they are called to a journey of lifelong conversion and formation
- C. To prepare teens to receive the grace of Confirmation, which is given to them by God to help them face the many moral and spiritual challenges presented by society today

II. Components: This goal is achieved through catechesis (instruction in the Faith), liturgy (public prayer and sacraments), service, and community building activities.

III. Eligibility: The St. Theresa Teen Confirmation Program is open to all teens in high school. A certificate of Baptism must be provided at the beginning of the program to take part in the preparation.

IV. Preparation: Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation consists of the following stages:

- A. Weekend Retreat: See Registration Form for dates
- B. Catechesis consisting of 10 educational LIFE Nights during the Fall and Spring Semesters
 1. Time: 6pm to 9pm (including 6pm Mass/LIFE Teen Meeting. Please attend the 6pm mass and then check in with a core member before the LIFE Night.)
 2. Please see the general attendance policy below.
 3. Please see the attached date form for the dates of the LIFE Nights
- C. Spring Day of Recollection (please see attached date form)
 1. Time: Noon-4pm
 2. Sponsors will be asked to attend part of the event.
- E. Sponsors

Sponsors must be practicing Catholics, have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Communion, and be at least 16 years of age. Parents cannot sponsor their own children. Sponsors not registered at St. Theresa Parish must supply us with a sponsor certificate signed by the pastor of their parish. Sponsors will be asked to attend part of the days of recollection. Sponsors will also be asked to join in the candidates preparation by spending time with them reflecting on the material that is taught during the LIFE Nights.
- F. Service

Service hours may come from service provided here at St. Theresa's or from other organizations. Candidates can receive 'credit' for their service project with written approval from an authorized representative from the organization of service. At least ten hours are needed for full credit.
- G. Final Interview/Request for Confirmation

This will include a questionnaire to be returned no later than two weeks before Confirmation (includes the choosing of a Confirmation name).
- H. Rehearsal
- I. Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation

(over)

V. Cost: The registration fee for the Confirmation program is \$95.00. This covers supplies for the 10 LIFE Nights. Checks can be made payable to, 'St. Theresa Parish.' If you are unable to pay the full amount, please contact the LIFE Teen office immediately, scholarships are available. Any donations for those who cannot cover their costs would be greatly appreciated.

VI. Attendance Candidates are required to attend all events. In the case of an absence, a suitable means of make-up work will be determined. It is strongly recommended to avoid this route of preparation. Any teen dismissed during a meeting for disciplinary matters will be marked absent for the entire night.

Questions: Please Call Ryan Howe, Coordinator of Youth Ministry, at 602-840-0850

Program Dates
Teen Confirmation Program
St. Theresa Parish
2009-2010

Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation

A. Weekend Retreat	March 19 th – 21 st , 2010
B. LIFE Nights	October 11 th , 2009 October 25 th November 15 th November 29 th January 10 th , 2010 January 24 th February 14 th February 28 th March 14 th April 11 th April 25 th May 2 nd
C. Day's of Recollection	April 17 th , 2010
E. Confirmation Rehearsal	TBA
F. Sacrament of Confirmation	TBA

Note: This year Easter is on April 4th, 2010