



# **CHOSEN**

## **Saint Raphael Parish Confirmation Formation Program**

### **Mission Statement**

The purpose of **CHOSEN** at Saint Raphael Parish is to provide a spiritually nurturing environment where opportunities for continuing Catholic formation and education will lead to growth in faith and self-awareness as teens prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. The goal is to continue **to form disciples (followers of Christ), who will be strengthened to become apostles (“ones who are sent”)**.

We want our candidates to grow more deeply in their relationship with Jesus Christ, to be formed more closely to Jesus Christ, and to commit to be witnesses to Jesus Christ in the world today. We also want to have our teens see themselves as an essential and critical part of our parish community.

**CHOSEN** will support the candidates in their choice be fully initiated into the Catholic Church, to open their hearts to the Sacramental graces God desires to give them, and to discern the unique vocation God has for each of them by connecting them more deeply with the awesome power and guidance of the Holy Spirit.

### **Important Contact Information**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Amy Lashutka

Director of Youth Ministry and Confirmation

440-871-1100 ext. 109

[alashutka@saintraphaelparish.com](mailto:alashutka@saintraphaelparish.com)

Ashley Klug

Sacramental/Religious Ed. Secretary

440-871-1100 ext. 136

[aklug@saintraphaelparish.com](mailto:aklug@saintraphaelparish.com)

Parish website: [www.saintraphaelparish.com](http://www.saintraphaelparish.com) (ALL Confirmation papers/forms on website!)

## Requirements

- Any parishioner entering grade eight through grade ten may participate in **CHOSEN**. Teens who are not registered at Saint Raphael may participate with prior approval of the pastor of their home parish. Older teens may participate with prior approval of the pastor/Director of Confirmation program.
  - \* For those in grade 8 - Attend **PSR classes or Religion classes** at school for the entirety of the year; If the teen did not attend PSR/Religion classes in grade 7, the teen will be asked to also complete the *Called to Be Catholic* book. Home school religious education not permitted.
  - \* For those in grades 9/10 - Be an active participant in the Saint Raphael **High School Youth Ministry Program (HSYM)**
- Attend **Informational Meeting** in May 2014 or meet with Director of Confirmation if unable to attend info meeting
- Attend **5 SPIRIT NIGHTS** – held on Sunday evenings in the Parish Activity Center.
  - \*SPONSORS are asked to attend with his/her candidate. If the sponsor cannot attend, a parent is asked to attend in his/her place. Parents are always welcome and encouraged to attend the Spirit Nights.
- Attend a **RETREAT**:
  - \* For those in grade 8 when formation begins: Attend **Spirit Day Retreat** on August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015 (tentative date)
  - \* For those in grade 9/10 when formation begins: Attend one of the **HSYM Retreats** (October 2014 or February 2015) OR **ND Vision** in the Summer of 2015
- Complete **GETTING TO KNOW YOU Meeting** (candidate and parent) during the Summer of 2014 and **HOW'D IT GO? Meeting** (candidate only) in the Summer of 2015 with Director of Confirmation Program, Confirmation Team Member, or Parish Staff Member.
  - \* Both of these meeting will be 15-20 minute meetings held at the parish office and will require the candidate to schedule a date and time with Ashley Klug at 440-871-1100 x136 or at [aklug@saintraphaelparish.com](mailto:aklug@saintraphaelparish.com).
- Choosing a **Confirmation Sponsor and a Confirmation Name**
- Complete **ENCOUNTERING CHRIST - Service and Reflections**:  
One Work of Mercy per month (June 2014 through August 2015)
- Complete **GIVING MY GIFTS - Parish Exploration and Reflections**:  
Participation in three parish activities/ministries/service projects, etc.
- Complete four **WALKING TOGETHER Activities** with your Sponsor
- Attend **Confirmation Practice** - date to be announced ASAP.
- Attend **Rite of Confirmation Mass** celebrated on - date to be announced ASAP.
- Parents and sponsors are asked to attend a special **Parent/Sponsor Meeting** in October 2014.
- \$65 fee due by November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014. (The fee is for materials and supplies used at the Spirit Nights, Spirit Day Retreat, mailings, and the Confirmation reception)

## CHOSEN Calendar of Events

May 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Informational Meeting
June, July, August	Getting to Know You Meeting (candidate and parent)
September 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Spirit Night #1      7-8:30 pm in Parish Activity Center
October 2014	Walking Together Activity #1 – Interviewing Your Sponsor
October 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Parent/Sponsor Meeting   7-8:30 pm in Parish Activity Center
November 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2014	Spirit Night #2      7-8:30 pm in Parish Activity Center
December 2014	Walking Together Activity #2 - Serving with Your Sponsor
January 11 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Spirit Night #3      7-8:30pm in the Parish Activity Center
February 2015	Walking Together Activity #3 – Praying with Your Sponsor
March 8 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Spirit Night #4      7-8:30pm in the Parish Activity Center
April 2015	Walking Together Activity #4 – Having Fun with Your Sponsor
May 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2015	Spirit Night #5      7-8:30pm in the Parish Activity Center
June, July, August 2015	How'd It Go? Meeting (candidate only)
August 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Spirit Day Retreat    (tentative date, times TBD)
September <i>Date and Time TBD</i>	Confirmation Practice
September 20 <sup>th</sup> , 2015	Confirmation   3pm

### **IMPORTANT AND AWESOME NOTE:**

*YOU WILL BE THE VERY FIRST PEOPLE TO RECEIVE THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION IN OUR NEW CHURCH AND WE WILL BE ABLE TO CELEBRATE IT ALL TOGETHER AT ONE MASS! There will only be one practice as well.*

### **Encountering Christ and Giving My Gifts Requirements (see papers for more information):**

1) Every month from June 2014 through August of 2015, you will be asked to complete a Work of Mercy and write a short reflection as part of the **Encountering Christ** requirement.

Reflections for:



June, July, August due at Spirit Night #1  
 September, October due at Spirit Night #2  
 November, December due at Spirit Night #3  
 January, February due at Spirit Night #4  
 March, April due at Spirit Night #5  
 May 2015, June 2015, July 2015 and August 2015 due  
 at the Spirit Day Retreat

2) You will need to complete three **GIVING MY GIFTS Parish Exploration and Reflections.**

1st Exploration/Reflection due in November 2014 at Spirit Night #2  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Exploration/Reflection due in May 2015 at Spirit Night #5  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Exploration/Reflection due in August 2015 at Spirit Day Retreat

## Important information:

- + All 6 formation sessions (5 Spirit Nights and one retreat) are mandatory in order to be confirmed in the Fall of 2015.
- + If a session is missed due to illness/family emergency, it must be made up with Amy Lashutka.
- + If more than one session is missed, the parent(s) and teen will be asked to meet with Amy and/or Fr. Tim to determine how best to prepare the teen for the sacrament of Confirmation.
- + Sponsors are asked to attend the 5 Spirit Nights with his/her candidate. If the sponsor is unable to attend, a parent is asked to attend in his/her place.
- + Parents are always invited and encouraged to attend the 5 Spirit Nights.
- + If a sponsor does not belong to St. Raphael, he/she must obtain a certificate from their home parish by November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014.
- + E-mail will be our primary form of communication. Please enter the email addresses below into your address book so it does not go to the spam folder.

[alashutka@saintraphaelparish.com](mailto:alashutka@saintraphaelparish.com)

[aklug@saintraphaelparish.com](mailto:aklug@saintraphaelparish.com)

### Special note:

Please know that we are aware that there are circumstances that exist or may arise that may make it difficult for a teen to meet all of the outlined requirements. Our deepest desire and prayer is to walk with every teen and family to have this time of preparation be a prayerful, transformative, and grace-filled time, while still maintaining the importance of proper formation for and understanding of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

We ask that you help us to do this by letting us know if there are special considerations that we need to make and we will be more than happy to work with you!

