



Saints John and Paul Parish
280 Weaver Street, Larchmont, NY 10538
914-834-4597 jshea@sjpparish.org



Dear Parents:

Following is an outline of the REVISED 2018-19 Confirmation program requirements here at Saints John and Paul parish. Please read through carefully. The date for Confirmation is included in this letter.

Requirements:

- Attend the Confirmation Retreat.
- Attend Mass each Sunday.
- Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation before Confirmation. This can be done at the Wednesday night meetings or on Saturdays at 4pm in the church.
- Attend all classes and meetings to the end of the school year.
 - Monthly Group meetings
 - Quarterly Parent / student meetings (TBA)
- Complete and submit all assignments on time
 - Saint report (Saint chosen for the Confirmation Name). **Note:** This must be submitted on time.
 - Letter to the Confirming Bishop: **Salvatore Matano**, Bishop of Rochester.
- Participate in classes and meetings through the end of the school year.
- Perform 20 hours of community service
 - Participate in the Breakfast Run (5 hours of the 20)

* **NOTES:**

- Weekly attendance at Mass and at least an annual reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion are Precepts (or laws) of the Roman Catholic Church.



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- Confirmation certificates will be distributed in May, as long as all Requirements have been fulfilled.

Due Dates (all can be submitted at any time before the due date)

Confirmation Retreat Permission letter	October 1, 2018
Confirmation Registration	Week of January 27, 2019
Saint Report & Bishop Letter	Week of February 3, 2019
Sponsor Affidavit	Week of February 3, 2019
Service Hour Report	Week of April 28, 2019

Confirmation Dates:

Date / Time	Event
Rehearsal: Wednesday March 20, 6:15 PM	Rehearsals for Candidates <i>and</i> Sponsors: (meet in gym) Sunday Religious Education and SS John and Paul School
Rehearsal: Wednesday March 20, 7:00 PM	Rehearsals for Candidates <i>and</i> Sponsors: Candidates and Sponsors: (meet in gym) : Wednesday Religious Education
Saturday, March 23, 11am	Confirmation: Sunday Religious Education and SS John and Paul School.
Saturday, March 23, 3:00 PM	Confirmation: Wednesday Religious Education

***Note: If a sponsor cannot be present at the rehearsal, a parent must stand in.**

The Confirmation Retreat

The retreat takes place at Capuchin Youth & Family Ministries in Garrison NY (www.cyfm.org). The candidates take the day off from school (this is cleared with the School Districts) to focus on the Sacrament of Confirmation in a quiet spiritual and joyful environment. The Retreat is led by Franciscan Friars and volunteers and has been a real blessing for the candidates over the years that we have been doing this. A



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permission letter must be signed and submitted. This will be given to the Candidates in class.

Note: If the candidate has not participated in the retreat we must be notified ASAP.

Saint Report

Each candidate will compose a 1-2 page essay on the saint whose name she/he has chosen for Confirmation. The essay must contain the history of the saint, what his/her accomplishments were, and the reason why that name was picked. This is the name used by the Bishop when confirming the candidate, and so the candidate should have a solid knowledge of the Saint and why he chose him or her.

Letter to the Bishop

Each candidate is required to write a letter to **Bishop Ronald Matano** stating what Confirmation means and why he/she wants to be confirmed. They will learn about this in class and given a guide to follow.

Sponsor Affidavit

The Sponsor gets this from his/her own parish if not a member of Saints John and Paul Parish. It is a simple statement that the sponsor is a Confirmed and practicing Catholic. If the sponsor is a parishioner here, the form must still be completed and submitted.

Service Hours

Each student is required to do 20 hours of community service. Parents need to keep track of these hours and send them to us when completed.

- Each 8th grade class will be assigned to a Breakfast Run. These are on the first Sunday of the month.

Candidates are free to choose any other service activity they would like. The basic guidelines are:

- The service must benefit another human being
- No remuneration



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- It can be performed with or without parents

Parents are responsible for keeping track and submitting a simple recap by April 15, 2018. Students' experiences will be discussed in the meetings.

The Breakfast Run

This has become a great tradition at Saints John and Paul Parish. The students meet at 7am on a Sunday morning at Nazareth House (convent) and prepare food that is donated by their families. We also collect socks and travel sized toiletries. We then take everything into Manhattan to a location on the West Side where needy people (registered with the Midnight Run Organization) are served a hot and cold breakfast by our students. Parents drive and supervise. It is a wonderful experience in "hands on" Christian Charity. The candidates earn five hours for this service.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Confirmation Candidates are required to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation prior to being confirmed. The Candidates can come to the church any Saturday at 4 PM to go to Confession. Also, Candidates will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament at the Wednesday night meetings.

Meetings

An important element of preparation for Confirmation are our group meetings. There are two types of meetings:

- **Candidate meetings:** The Confirmation candidates come to the church on a Wednesday evening at 6:15. The meeting consists of prayer, Scripture reading and reflection and teaching. The candidates have the opportunity to go to Confession if they so choose. Also, we end the evening by placing our special intentions in baskets placed at the foot of the altar and asking God our Father to answer them according to his will. Your children participated in this last year and we think that they really benefitted by it.
- **Parent / child Sunday Morning meetings:** These meetings begin at 8am in the auditorium. These consist of prayer and teaching, and most importantly, a time of discussion between you and your child. Each family is given a question to discuss



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among themselves and time is allotted for this. This part of the meeting was very well received last year and we are certain that you will enjoy it too. The meeting ends at around 8:45am and then we all attend the 9am Mass together.

A revised schedule of Wednesday and Sunday meetings follows. Please update your calendars. The Wednesday meeting replaces the regular Religious Education classes during that particular week (Sunday and Wednesday).

8th Grade Wednesday Evening Group Meetings
<i>Start at 6:15 PM in the church</i>
Wednesday, January 23, 2019
Wednesday, February 06, 2019
Wednesday, March 13, 2019
April TBD
May TBD
8th Grade Parent / Student Meetings
<i>Start at 8am in the auditorium</i>
Sunday, December 16, 2018
Sunday, February 10, 2019
Sunday, March 31, 2019