



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 2019-20 Confirmation program requirements here at Saints John and Paul parish. Please read through carefully.

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



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

Confirmation Retreat Permission letter	October 1, 2019
Confirmation Registration	Week of January 19, 2020
Saint Report & Bishop Letter	Week of February 3, 2020
Sponsor Affidavit	Week of February 3, 2020
Service Hour Report	Week of April 26, 2020

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 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 to 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.



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Letter to the Bishop

Each candidate is required to write a letter to the Confirming **Bishop (tbd)** 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
- It can be performed with or without parents

Parents are responsible for keeping track and submitting a simple recap by April 15, 2020. 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



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(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 6:00pm. 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 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. Meetings replace the regular Religious Education classes during that particular week (Sunday and Wednesday).



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Date	Event	Times
Wednesday, September 25, 2019	8th Grade group meeting	6:00-7:30pm
Thursday, October 17, 2019	Confirmation retreat	7:30am - 4pm
Sunday, October 20, 2019	8 th Grade Parent / Child Meeting	8am-8:45 am
Wednesday, October 23, 2019	8th grade group meeting	6:00-7:30pm
Sunday, November 24, 2019	8 th Grade Parent / Child Meeting	8am-8:45 am
Wednesday, December 18, 2019	8th Grade group Meeting	6:00-7:30pm
Sunday, January 12, 2020	8 th Grade Parent / Child Meeting	8am-8:45 am
Wednesday, January 15, 2020	8th Grade group Meeting	6:00-7:30pm
Sunday, March 15, 2020	8 th Grade Parent / Child Meeting	8am-8:45 am
Wednesday, March 18, 2020	8th Grade group Meeting	6:00-7:30pm