

St. Luke's New Formation Process for Confirmation

This year marks the beginning of a new way for our community to prepare our young people to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. According to Archdiocesan Guidelines, the Sacramental formation process needs to be separate and distinct from systematic catechesis.

The creation of a separate sacramental formation program for Confirmation parallels the current preparation for First Reconciliation and Eucharist that is nurturing our young people.

This change allows for a richer catechetical opportunity for our youth. It should also remind the community that the formation process for Confirmation is to *prepare for the Sacrament*. As Catholics we are all called to life-long faith formation. Our young people, in particular, need their regular Sunday faith formation sessions to continue to lay the foundation for their understanding of our beliefs and traditions.

Formation for the Sacrament of Confirmation is multifaceted. The celebration of Confirmation:

- completes initiation into the Catholic Church
- strengthens a personal responsibility for the faith
- helps in the discernment of each person's God given gifts
- awakens the power of the Holy Spirit in one's life

Confirmation formation will begin in February and continue through November. All sophomores and above who have been a part of faith formation for a least one year are eligible to interview to begin their preparation. The formation process consists of scheduled catechetical sessions, participation in group service opportunities, and retreats (*check the website for a listing of dates*).

Requirements

Youth must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, and Eucharist prior to beginning the formation process for Confirmation.

They must have completed, at minimum, one year of high school catechesis and participate in systematic catechesis throughout the Confirmation formation process.

All youth who wish to enter the formation process for Confirmation are asked to participate in an entrance interview which will assess their basic understanding of the Catholic faith.

Confirmation candidates are also required to complete an exit interview as well before the actual rite itself.

