

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

St. Mary Parish – Hudson, Ohio

Seekers - Graduating Class of 2024

Freshmen Parents, it is time to enroll your teen in Confirmation Preparation! This informational sheet contains helpful answers of how to get your teen registered for Confirmation. While we Confirm teens in the spring of their Junior year, the Diocese of Cleveland has requirements that determined our preparation for Confirmation should be performed over a two year period. **Therefore, our Confirmation program begins March of the Freshmen year and concludes with Confirmation in the Spring of Junior year.**

HOW TO ENROLL?

1) Complete online registration form NOW for your Freshmen online

- www.lifeteenhudson.com/freshmen

Financial assistance and payment plans are available.

Please contact the Life Teen Office - jmartin@stmaryhudson.cc

2) Attend PARENT MEETING MARCH 7th after the Life Teen Mass (6:30pm)

3) Freshmen start attending at least ONE Life Teen Event each month

CONFIRMATION FAQ's

- **What is Confirmation & How do you prepare?**
 - Confirmation is not a teen choosing the faith; it is their response to the church's invitation. This is an invitation to play their part in the "Mission" of the church & to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit for that Mission. The process is to help prepare them to evangelize and to get them consistently involved in parish life (during & after this time of preparation) **see back of this sheet for requirements**
- **If I enroll my child, do they have to get Confirmed? What if they decide not to?**
 - Enrollment does NOT obligate your teen, at any point, to actually *receive* the Sacrament of Confirmation. This is a time of discerning saying yes to this sacrament of "commitment." A time of learning and growing, of seeking answers to your questions, and contemplating the answers in a small, informal setting. We hope that we can make your teen's preparation for Confirmation a vibrant experience for them and your family.
- **Why does the preparation include so many Life Teen Events?**
 - One of the primary goals of Confirmation preparation is to imitate the RCIA model by getting teens more spiritually active in their own parish through programs fitting for them. The requirements seek to foster a parish connection that extends throughout their four years of high school, and beyond. For those who are consistent, it has proven to carry over to a long lasting church involvement. Please encourage the weekly involvement of your teen.
- **Can we get Confirmed somewhere else?**
 - If circumstance requires, families must request permission from their pastor for a student to be confirmed elsewhere (a requirement of the Diocese and the USCCB).
- **Does my child have to attend a retreat? What if they need to leave for a sport, etc.?**
 - Yes! Seekers will need to attend **one** of the following retreats their **Junior year**. Teens can attend, Servants 4 Christ service retreat the summer going into Junior year, Fall or Spring Retreat. This element of Confirmation Preparation is essential. Candidates need to remain for the entirety of the retreat. The cost ONE retreat is covered by your confirmation fee (\$120 off S4C).
- **When will Confirmation Mass be?**
 - The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on a date to be determined in the **Spring of 2023**. The Bishop's office assigns the date of the Confirmation Liturgy to each parish. We will communicate this information to you as soon as it is available.

PREPARATION OUTLINE

Seekers - Graduating Class of 2024

FRESHMAN YEAR

(MAR - AUG)

All are expected to attend-

- **1 Life Teen Event / MONTH**
(any retreat can count as 3 events)
- **Parent Meeting**
registration due date

SOPHOMORE YEAR

(SEPT - AUG)

All are expected to attend-

- **1 Life Teen Event / MONTH**
(any retreat can count as 3 events)
- **4 Large Group Sessions**
(Seeker Sessions #1-4)

JUNIOR YEAR

(OCT - MAY)

All are expected to attend -

- **2 Life Teen Events / MONTH**
(any retreat can count as 3 events)
- **8 Small Group Sessions**
(Seeker Sessions #5-12)
- **1 Retreat** (S4C, Fall or Spring)
- **Intro Phone Interview** (AUGUST)
- **Covenant Mass & Parent Meeting** (OCT.)
- **Mandatory Life Night** (JAN.)
- **Scrutiny Interview** (MARCH)
- **Confirmation** (APRIL/MAY)

Life Teen Events Include (but are not limited to):

We encourage teens to try each of the different options as they may find one they most enjoy or is more suitable. Attendance is tracked at all events.

- **Life Nights** –Sun. 6:30-8:30pm
- **Adore** – First Sun. of the month 6:30-8:30pm
- **ACTS 2:42** – Tue. 7:30-9pm
- **Mass & Breakfast** – First Wed. 7:00am Mass
- **Fireside Chats** – Tue. *SUMMER ONLY* 7:30-9
- **Girls' & Guys' Night Out** Sun. *SUMMER ONLY* 7-9pm
- **Retreat Team** - (Juniors and Seniors) Tue. 7-9pm leading up to Retreats
- **Green Team** - (Freshmen and Sophomores) Tue. 7:30-9pm leading up to Retreats
- **Edge Core Team*** - Wed. 7-8:30pm
- **Service** - various
- **Trips/Outings** - Fall/Spring Retreat, Discipleship Retreat, LTLC, Covecrest, Edge Core, Ski Trip, Cedar Point, and many more!

visit lifeteenudson.com to learn more about each event & changes & to see a full calendar!

Standard Track

Teens participate in small faith sharing groups that meet regularly. They prepare for Confirmation through study of the Sacraments, morality, and the scriptures. It will include several catechesis sessions and hands-on experiences. The various catechetical components of the Catholic faith will be presented and discussed. Sessions will be facilitated by adult catechists. This group meets separately 8-9 times over the year.

Discipleship Track

Designed for teens already very active in Life Teen and/or in their faith. This track will go deeper into faith topics and deeper in prayer. It is more of a time commitment, but very rewarding. Students that are relatively active find this track to be engaging. Discipleship teens are expected to attend 3-4 Life Teen Events each month, 12 small group sessions and an additional Discipleship Retreat.