

Parish of The Most Holy Name of Jesus

Faith Formation Center

1010 Davis Street

Elmira, NY 14901



**CONFIRMATION IS NOT “GRADUATION.”
IT IS JUST THE BEGINNING!**

June 17, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians:

If your son or daughter is entering 8th grade or has already completed 8th grade, and has received the sacraments of Baptism and First Holy Communion, he or she is eligible to begin preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. This is a two-year preparation which culminates in Confirmation in 9th grade, according to Diocesan Guidelines. Please see the enclosed calendar for the coming year’s schedule of events. **Completing and sending in the enclosed registration form by August 15th will enroll your son or daughter in the Year 1 Catechetical Preparation toward Confirmation in 2021.** Honoring the registration deadline will help us in ordering the correct number of books and materials.

Candidates for Confirmation should want to be confirmed in the Catholic Church – this is not a “graduation from church school,” nor is it a simple rite of passage to which everyone is automatically entitled. Weekly Mass attendance and a desire to deepen one’s relationship with Christ in his Church are necessary (for all Catholics). The two-year preparation includes catechesis (religious instruction), FIAT/service, active participation in Youth Masses, a variety of prayer experiences, and a closer integration with the parish community.

This year, we are adding support and catechesis for parents! “Raising Your Teen Catholic” will be offered several times throughout the year. Parents will have a chance to voice their concerns, ask questions about Church teaching, and network and support each other. The sessions will dovetail with the topics we’re covering in Confirmation Prep, so you can participate more fully in your child’s formation. Remember, parents are the PRIMARY CATECHISTS of their children, so it would be good to have additional support in your faith life. Hopefully we’ll bring in some guest speakers/presenters, as well.

The first meeting for Year 1 Parents and Candidates will be on Sunday, September 15th at the Faith Formation Center from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. (1010 Davis St.). This is a required session for Candidates and their parents. It will not be just an information dump, although we will review the program and the Sacrament of Confirmation. It will also include catechesis for both candidates and parents.

If you have any questions, please call us at 733-3484. Thank you, and God bless you and your family.

Sincerely,

Elena M. Cambio,

Director of Youth and Young Adult Formation