

Confirmation Preparation Schedule 2016 - 2018

Holy Cross Area Faith Community web site <http://www.holycrossafc.org/>

Oct/Dec 2016 - Candidate and Sponsor meeting - do sheet #1 and turn in at Cathedral Office

Jan/Feb 2017 - Candidate and Sponsor meeting - do sheet #2 and turn in

Mar/Apr 2017 - Candidate and Sponsor meeting - do sheet #3 and turn in

Confirmation Saint name information form due - will work on in class

Know Your Catholic Religion Projects - 3 of them - will be done in class

Service Reports are due **May 2017**

March/April 2018 - Letters of Request (both Candidate and Sponsor) are due

Retreats are scheduled all through the year but they fill up and have limited space so check your calendar NOW and sign up through Julie!

NET Retreat - Friday October 29 at St. John's in Searles 9:00 am to 4:00pm cost \$20

Riverbend TEC Retreat Weekends Schedule for this coming year: cost \$65 - Parish pays \$20 of it.

Scholarships available:

- RB 263 Nov. 19-21, 2016 Bird Island
- RB 264 January 14-16, 2017 Marshall
- RB 265 April 1-3, 2017 New Ulm
- RB 266 August 5-7, 2017 Winsted

For more information, go to the Together Encountering Christ (TEC) website at www.riverbendtec.org or call me at the parish. Applications can be downloaded from their web site or pick one up from Julie.

NET Ministries Weekend Confirmation Retreats: These retreats run 7:00 pm Friday to 2:00 pm Sunday at the NET Center in St. Paul. Dates are: in 2016: Oct 14-16, Oct 28-30 (women only), Nov. 11-13. Dates in 2017 are: Jan 27-29, Feb 17-19, Mar 24-26, Apr 7-9 and Apr 21-23 (men only).

Cost is \$145. Ask Julie for more information and registration materials or call NET Ministries at (651)450-6833 or visit their web site at www.netusa.org/confirmationretreats/ These fill up fast!

May 12(Saturday), 2018 Confirmation. Rehearsal is 9:00 am Saturday at St. Mary's Church ...*for all candidates & sponsors - Parents fill in if a schedule conflict* **Mass is 5:30 pm** - Candidates and Sponsors gather in the Social Hall 20 min before Mass time. There will be a short Reception right after Mass in the Social Hall! ... *all are invited to attend*

Please contact JULIE SOEHREN **as soon as possible**, if you have a conflict or are sick.
Parish Office: 354-4158 or 233-0628. Office email address: julie.soehren@holycrossafc.org
Parish address: 605 N State St, New Ulm, MN 56073.

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Confirmation Information

1. Confirmation Retreat:

Each candidate will attend a retreat before receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. Any Catholic retreat is accepted. Retreats must take place during your Confirmation preparation years. Candidates only need to attend ONE retreat but you are welcome to attend more. We may ALSO hold an in-house 2 day *CHOSEN Retreat* in the Spring of 2017 - details to follow.

2. Recognition at Weekend Liturgy:

We will recognize the candidates in their home parish one weekend in the winter of 2018 by sharing that they began their preparation this fall. Names without addresses will be distributed to parishioners to pray for them during their journey towards confirmation.

3. Candidate and Sponsor Meetings:

Candidates and sponsors will meet together at any time of their choosing during each of the three specified periods. Together, they will discuss a set of *FAITH Sharing* questions from the handouts and the sponsor booklet. There is a **due date** on each sheet and they can be turned in to a CHS Religion Teacher, during Religious Ed Classes or to Julie Soehren at the Cathedral Parish office or Cathedral High School office.

4. Service Reports:

Each candidate will do works of service in each of three areas: Family, Community, and Parish. They will do two service projects for each. After each one, a simple write-up will be done indicating what was done, when it was done, and what they got out of doing the service. **There is a 'big project' option as well.** Use the form on the web site. Service done during the summer also counts. It is recommended that families and sponsors serve with the candidate. Reports due on or before **May of current year.**

5. Letters of Request:

Each **candidate** will write a letter to Bishop LeVoir and their Pastor to request the Sacrament of Confirmation. Each **sponsor** will write a letter to Mrs. Soehren to state the readiness of their candidate to receive this Sacrament. The letters are due no later than **March/April 2018. BE SURE to SIGN YOUR LETTER in INK and save it on your computer!** Sponsors may type, hand write or email their letters to Julie.

6. Rehearsal:

All candidates and sponsors will attend the rehearsal on Saturday, May 12 at 9:00 am at St. Mary's. It will last approximately one hour. Parents may fill in for out of town sponsors.

7. Dress Code:

All candidates and sponsors are expected to dress appropriately. This means modest dresses/skirts & tops for girls and dress pants, shoes, shirts and ties for boys (suit coat optional).

8. Confirmation:

Saturday, May 12, 2018 at 5:30 pm at St. Mary's Catholic Church, 417 S. Minnesota St., New Ulm for the Holy Cross Area Faith Community. Candidates and sponsors report to the Social Hall (church basement) at 5:10 pm. A short Reception will be held right after Mass in the Social Hall! Professional group and individual photos will be available for purchase. *All are invited to attend!*

All Confirmation forms may be downloaded from the Holy Cross Area Faith Community web site under **Ministries** then **Sacramental Prep** then **Confirmation:**

<http://www.holycrossafc.org/>