

A decorative border with a repeating Celtic knot pattern surrounds the entire page content.

St. Francis Xavier

**Quest  
Confirmation  
Program**

2017-2018

St. Francis Xavier Parish

## **ST FRANCIS XAVIER CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2017-2018**

### **THE FOUR ELEMENTS OF OUR CONFIRMATION PREPARATION PROCESS**

#### **WEEKLY PARTICIPATION AT SUNDAY EUCHARIST**

- Attendance at **Sunday 6pm Mass** is encouraged.

#### **SERVICE EXPERIENCES-must complete at least 3**

**Two service experiences must be completed with you small group, one with your sponsor... Below are some example opportunities:**

- Parish Food Pantry
- BEDS Shelter for the Homeless
- Christmas Giving Tree Gift Sorting and Packing (TBD)
- CROP Walk (Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>)
- Other parish service opportunities developed by group
- Service opportunity developed and done with sponsor

#### **QUEST HOME GROUP MEETINGS AND SPEAKER EVENTS**

- **Quest Group Meetings**
  - At least 10 meetings as determined by your group before Confirmation
  - 1 meeting as determined by your group after Confirmation
- **Quest Speaker Events**
  - Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-5:45pm
  - Sunday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-5:45pm
  - Sunday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-5:45pm

#### **QUEST LENTEN TEEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE**

- Sunday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:15pm

#### **CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

- **Rehearsal:** Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 7pm/ 8pm
- **Celebration:** Saturday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 10am/ 2pm

# ST FRANCIS XAVIER CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2017-2018

## Our Vision for Quest and Youth Ministry

Here at St. Francis Xavier Parish, we are excited about our ministry to our high school age parishioners. This ministry is facilitated through the efforts of many people. Our parents and many other adults in the community interact with youth and have an impact on the growth and development of teens, particularly in the area of Christian values. The ministry that takes place here at St. Francis Xavier Parish provides opportunities for our youth to develop relationships with many different adults in the context of youth and parish. Out of these relationships we envision the possibility of faith development, community building, mentoring, and of course, fun.

The high school students who wish to be confirmed are invited to participate in the Quest Confirmation Program from September through April. Those seeking Confirmation are asked to participate in four elements of parish and faith life in preparation for this important sacrament.

**Sunday Eucharist (on a weekly basis)**  
**Service Opportunities (two with group & one with sponsor)**  
**Quest Home Group Meetings and Speaker Events**  
**Quest Lenten Teen Reconciliation Service (March 11)**

Quest Home Group Meetings are a gathering of groups of teens with adult leaders. These gatherings, in the homes of adult facilitators or at the parish, provide opportunities for relationship building, discussion on issues facing teens, service opportunities, growth in the understanding of scripture, and *fun*.

The four elements of our Confirmation preparation process are provided for the candidate's benefit and growth in faith. They are not meant to be an obligation that places heavy burdens on a candidate. Rather, we hope that these opportunities will facilitate a candidate's sense of faith and belonging to the Catholic faith community. This is a process of growth and maturation that takes time. Each high school student reacts uniquely to this type of preparation process.

## ST FRANCIS XAVIER CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2017-2018

Some will move through this entire process in their freshman year of high school; others may do so over several years. The program is open to high school students of all ages. Therefore, a freshman may choose to do certain elements of the program in freshman year and continue with the remaining portions in subsequent high school years. For example, if a candidate does not attend Mass on a regular basis when entering the program, he/she may choose to focus on developing this practice and to participate in the Reconciliation Service in freshman year; they may then focus on Service Opportunities and Quest Meetings in sophomore, junior, and/or senior year before receiving the sacrament of Confirmation.

**The most important of the four elements of the process is weekly participation in Sunday Eucharist (Mass).** This is a basic element of practicing Catholicism and nourishes all that we are and do as Catholics. The celebration of Confirmation for an adolescent implies a Catholic teen who is aware of the meaning of Catholicism itself and committed to regular participation in Sunday Eucharist.

Candidates who have completed all four elements of the preparation process are asked to complete a formal application for the sacrament of Confirmation. This happens in March, in the final weeks of preparation for Confirmation. Those who want to apply for Confirmation but who are unable to fulfill all four elements of the process are invited to meet with the Pastor or his representative before March 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **Registration Fee:**

We ask each Confirmation candidate to pay a registration fee of \$45 to offset the cost of the program. This fee supports the cost of materials and resources for our leaders, speaker events, and Confirmation liturgies. Each candidate will receive a copy of Decision Point, which is the primary resource for the Quest Small Groups.

Make checks payable to St. Francis Xavier (memo: Confirmation). If you have questions or concerns about this fee, please contact Olivia Hollman at (708) 352-0168 x338 or [ohollman@sfxlg.org](mailto:ohollman@sfxlg.org).

*Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And you shall renew the face of the earth.*

# ST FRANCIS XAVIER CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2017-2018

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2017-2018

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>What/Where</b>	<b>Who</b>
Sunday, 9/10/17 4:30pm	<b>Confirmation</b> Parent/Candidate Meeting (Joyce Hall)	Parents and Candidates
Sunday 9/10/16	<b>Confirmation</b> Quest Registration	Confirmation Quest Teens must bring Registration Form to the parish office or mail it in <b>by September 10<sup>th</sup></b> .
Sunday 09/24/17 4:30-5:45pm	<b>Quest Speaker Event #1</b> TBD (Joyce Hall)	ALL Quest Teens and Leaders
Sunday, 10/15/17 12:30-2pm	<b>CROP Walk</b>	Consider participating as a Quest Group Opportunity OR as a Service Opportunity with your Sponsor
November	<b>Fretus Identity</b> Registration Opens	ALL freshmen and sophomores are invited to participate.
Thu.-Sun. Nov 2-5, 2017	<b>Kairos 27</b> Retreat	ALL juniors and seniors are invited to participate in this retreat experience.
Sunday 11/05/17 5:00-7:00pm	<b>Confirmation</b> Sponsor/Candidate Meeting and Enrollment Liturgy	Confirmation Teens and Sponsors
December TBD	<b>Giving Tree</b> Gift Sorting and Packing	Quest Teens and Leaders
Fri-Sun Jan 12-14, 2018	<b>Fretus Identity 2018:</b> Freshmen/Sophomore Retreat	ALL freshmen and sophomores are invited to participate in this retreat experience.
January 2018	<b>Kairos 28</b> Registration Opens	ALL juniors and seniors are invited to participate in this retreat experience.
Sunday TBD	<b>Soup-er Bowl of Caring</b> Collection	Quest Teens
Sunday, 02/11/18	<b>Quest Speaker Event #2</b> TBD (Joyce Hall)	ALL Quest Teens and Leaders 4:30-5:45pm
Sunday, 03/11/18	<b>Quest Reconciliation Service</b> (church)	Quest Teens and Leaders 7:15-8:15PM
Thu.-Sun. Mar 15-18	<b>Kairos 28 Retreat</b>	ALL juniors and seniors are invited to participate in this retreat experience.
03/30/18 3PM/7PM	<b>Good Friday</b> Services	ALL Teens and other parishioners.
April	<b>Kairos 29</b> registration opens	ALL juniors and seniors are invited to participate in this retreat experience.

## ST FRANCIS XAVIER CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2017-2018

Sunday 04/15/18	<b>Quest Speaker Event #3</b> TBD (Joyce Hall)	Quest Teens and Leaders 4:30-5:45pm
Friday 04/20/18	<b>Confirmation</b> Practice for Liturgical Ministers (church)	Participants yet to be determined. 6:30pm: 10AM Confirmation Liturgy 9:00pm: 2PM Confirmation Liturgy
Friday, 04/20/18	<b>Confirmation</b> Practice for candidates/sponsors (church)	Candidates and Sponsors 7pm Practice for 10AM Confirmation 8pm Practice for 2PM Confirmation
Saturday, 04/21/18	<b>Confirmation</b> Celebrations at 10:00am and 2:00pm	Candidates and Sponsors must be in their assigned seats 15 minutes prior to the start of the liturgy.
Sunday 04/29/18	<b>High School Graduate Celebration</b> at 6PM Mass	ALL high school graduates
June 09-16 (tentative)	<b>Summer Mission Trip</b>	ALL high school teens
Thu.-Sun. June 7-10	<b>Kairos 29 Retreat</b>	ALL graduating juniors and seniors are invited to participate in this retreat experience.
August 2018 TBD	<b>Kairos 30 Retreat</b>	ALL incoming juniors and seniors are invited to participate in this retreat experience.

- Watch the bulletin for Church League Basketball and information about special events.
- All parish teens are invited and encouraged to attend and participate in the 6:00pm Mass on Sunday evenings.
- **Events can/will be added to this schedule. Please keep an eye on the Youth Ministry column in the bulletin.**

# ST FRANCIS XAVIER CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2017-2018

## How to Choose a Sponsor

Some items to consider when deciding whom you will ask to sponsor you on your journey toward becoming a confirmed Catholic Christian:

1. Notice which of the Catholic Christians you know exemplify for you what it means to be a full, active member of the Catholic Church.
2. Consider someone with whom you are comfortable developing a relationship as you move through the Confirmation process; with whom you will be willing and able to talk about what you are learning about yourself, others, God, and Church; someone who will help you recognize your gifts and encourage you to use them.
3. Consider someone who can be available to you through the Confirmation process, not just on the day of the Confirmation ceremony. You will be asked to engage in at least one service activity with your sponsor.
4. One of the godparents at your Baptism may also serve as the sponsor for Confirmation. Neither of your parents cannot serve as your Confirmation sponsor.
5. Sponsors need to meet all of the following three requirements:
  - ✓ The sponsor is sufficiently mature to serve in this role.
  - ✓ The sponsor is a member of the Catholic Church who has received all of the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist).
  - ✓ The sponsor leads a life in harmony with the faith and teachings of the Catholic Church.
6. Invite your sponsor to a meeting for Confirmation candidates and their sponsors on **Sunday, November 5**, at 5:00 PM, and to the Rite of Enrollment that will take place at the 6PM Mass following the meeting.
7. Give your sponsor the Confirmation Sponsor Commitment Form, which must be returned to the parish office **before November 5, 2017.**

# ST FRANCIS XAVIER CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2017-2018

## Confirmation Sponsor Information

Things you can do:

1. Ask your candidate about the Quest Speaker Events and Group Service Opportunities.
2. Encourage your candidate to be present and participate in the events.
3. Come on Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> to a 5pm meeting with your candidate, followed by the Rite of Enrollment at the 6pm Mass that evening.
4. Assist your candidate next March in completing his/her application for the celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation.
5. Attend the Confirmation practice in church on Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 7pm for the 10am Confirmation celebration and 8pm for the 2pm Confirmation celebration (candidates will be assigned to a specific time in January). Confirmation is April 21<sup>st</sup> for all candidates who have met all aspects of the preparation process and have submitted the application for the celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation.
6. Pray for and with your candidate. Attend Mass together whenever possible.
7. Engage in a service opportunity with your candidate.
8. Take an active interest in the overall life of your candidate.

### **Sponsor's Prayer**

*Welcoming Lord, stand by me.  
Favor me with insight into hearts hungry for welcome,  
hospitality to accept and respect the gifts they bear,  
generosity to share my gifts,  
and faith to share the gift that is You.  
Fill me with your powerful Spirit  
that I might lead, guide, sponsor and support.  
Speak your loving word to me  
and to the one I sponsor along the way.  
And when I don't know what to say, keep me quiet Lord,  
And let your Spirit do the talking.  
Amen.*



**ST FRANCIS XAVIER CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2017-2018**

**Confirmation Sponsor Commitment Form**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have been asked to sponsor \_\_\_\_\_  
(Candidate's Name)  
on his/her journey toward being confirmed as a Catholic Christian.

I hereby attest to being a baptized and confirmed Catholic and that I presently worship at \_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Parish)  
located at \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Address) (City/State)

**Verified and signed by Pastor of the above named Parish:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor Date

As a sponsor, I am committed to walk with and be present to \_\_\_\_\_ as he/she journeys  
(Candidate's Name)  
toward full membership in the Catholic Church.  
I will do this by: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to: St. Francis Xavier Parish  
Attn: Olivia Hollman  
124 N Spring Ave  
La Grange, IL 60525

**Please return this form BEFORE November 5, 2017.**

# **ST FRANCIS XAVIER CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2017-2018**

**ST FRANCIS XAVIER CONFIRMATION PREPARATION 2017-2018**

**QUEST CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION FORM  
PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM AND RETURN IT TO THE PARISH OFFICE  
BEFORE SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2017**

**PLEASE PRINT**

**GRADE (circle): 9 10 11 12**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Confirmation Name** (if you have chosen one): \_\_\_\_\_

**Certificate Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(exactly as you want it to appear on your Confirmation Certificate)

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**High School Attending:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth** (MM/DD/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Baptism** (MM/DD/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_

**Parish of Baptism:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** If not baptized at SFX, please provide a copy of your Baptism Certificate.

**Father's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mother's Name** (include maiden name): \_\_\_\_\_

**Sponsor's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TO BE COMPLETED BY PARISH OFFICE:**

**Confirmation Time: 10AM 2PM**

**Registration Fee (\$45) Paid on:** \_\_\_\_\_