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The Sacrament of Confirmation

Dear Parents, Guardians and Confirmation Candidates,

In the Archdiocese of Ottawa, children age eleven and older (grade six and up) are eligible to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Confirmation is the third of the Sacraments of Initiation, following Baptism and First Communion. Confirmation is the time when young Catholics are asked to reaffirm the promises concerning the practice of the Catholic faith that were made for them by their parents at their Baptism. Confirmation is an opportunity for these young people to reflect on their faith and to choose the direction for their future.

If your child would like to be confirmed in the spring of 2020, they will need to participate in the Confirmation Program that begins this October at Holy Name of Mary Church. In order to help you and your child plan for the 2019-2020 school year we have included in this letter all the important dates and requirements concerning the Confirmation Program. (Please note that Confirmation is not a school event, but an important Sacrament of and administered by the Catholic Church.)

Registration will be held at Holy Name of Mary Church on the weekends of September 14/15 after the 4:30 p.m., 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses. Forms will be available at those times in the church. Please bring a copy of your child's baptismal certificate. All candidates must be registered to participate in the Confirmation Program.

The **Enrollment Ceremony** will take place during the 4:30 pm Mass on October 4 and will be followed by the first in the series of seven Faith Formation Sessions that will take place at the church. The Faith Formation Sessions are for **parents/guardians and candidates** and include Mass at 4:30p.m and run till approximately 6:30pm. All sessions are mandatory.

Confirmation candidates will also be required to participate in a **Retreat** and the **Confirmation Mass**.

We'll be using sections of Decision Point, a popular and acclaimed Confirmation program by Dynamic Catholic that includes videos and student handouts. In the fall there will be a participation fee of \$15 to help offset the cost of materials. In the spring, prior to the Confirmation Mass, there will be a gown rental fee of \$20.

We look forward to this opportunity to work with you and your child during this important step in their faith journey and growth as a mature Catholic.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Paul J Gaudet
Pastor

and the HNM Sacramental Preparation Team

Confirmation Program Schedule 2019 - 2020

Activity	Dates	Times
Parent Information Session	Wednesday June 19, 2019	7:00-8:00 p.m. at the Church
Registration	Saturday September 14 and Sunday September 15, 2019	After the 4:30 p.m. 9 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses
Enrollment Mass	Saturday October 5, 2019	During the 4:30 p.m. Mass
Faith Formation Sessions	Part 1: Saturday October 5, 2019 Part 2: Saturday November 2, 2019 Part 3: Saturday December 7, 2019 Part 4: Saturday January 11, 2020 Part 5: Saturday February 8, 2020 Part 6: Saturday March 7, 2020 Part 7: Saturday April 4, 2020	4:30 - 6:15 p.m. 4:30 - 6:15 p.m. 4:30 - 6:15 p.m. 4:30 - 6:15 p.m. 4:30 - 6:15 p.m. 4:30 - 6:15 p.m. 4:30 - 6:15 p.m.
Reconciliation, Retreat and Rehearsal	Saturday April 25 or April 18 at the Church	10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Includes rehearsal (with Sponsors) for the Confirmation Mass from 2:30-3:30
Confirmation Mass	Date subject to approval by the Archbishop. Potentially Thurs. April 30, Wed. April 29 or Thurs. April 23. We will notify you as soon as possible.	Tentative Mass time: 7 p.m.