SAINTS PETER AND PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH

"The Sacrament of Confirmation perfects Baptismal grace; it is the sacrament which gives the Holy Spirit in order to root us more deeply in the divine filiation, incorporate us more firmly into Christ, strengthen our bond with the Church, associate us more closely with her mission, and help us to bear witness to the Christian faith in words accompanied by deeds." (CCC 1316)

Dear Parents/Guardians of Catholic Confirmation Students,

Prior to his ascension into heaven, Jesus told his apostles that he would send them the Holy Spirit to be their advocate and guide. The promised gift of the Holy Spirit fell on the apostles and the Virgin Mary as they prayed in the Upper Room on Pentecost. This coming year, March 15, 2025, if your child(ren) enters the intentional preparation phase of the sacrament, this same strengthening and outpouring of the Holy Spirit will pour over them. It will complete their Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation).

The gifts of the Holy Spirit in each of our lives are unfathomable treasures. As the candidates come forward to be confirmed, they profess their faith and take on the personal responsibility for continuing their own religious journey by regularly participating in Sunday Mass, by continuing their spiritual formation with the Church community, by serving those in need, and by spreading and defending the faith in word and deed.

Registration is online at <u>www.ssppeaston.org</u> under Faith Formation and Confirmation. If you cannot register online, please contact us at the Office of Christian Faith Formation by calling 410-822-6581.

Please carefully review these instructions before completing the online registration.

- Catholic young people at Saints Peter and Paul Parish are eligible for the sacrament in Ninth Grade. If you have not attended Faith Formation in either a Catholic School or a Parish Religious Education Program the two consecutive years *prior* to Ninth Grade, you will need to speak with the Director of Religious Education.
- Your family must be registered and active parishioners at Saints Peter and Paul Church.
 If your child attends Saints Peter and Paul School, but is a registered parishioner of
 another parish you are obligated to receive in your home parish. Your Pastor is your
 best resource for information concerning this.
- The young person must have a personal desire to complete his or her sacraments.

- The candidate must be baptized in the Catholic Church and have received the Sacraments of First Penance and First Eucharist.
- A student may need to delay to the following year if he or she was not in Religious Expectations of Confirmation Candidates
- Participate in Holy Mass each week. If you are not willing to participate in Mass, we
 will defer the sacrament until a time when you can fulfill your obligation. If those
 reasons for not participating in the Sunday liturgy are of a medical nature, please
 contact me.
- Participate in all sessions and meetings; engaging and being respectful of all
- Participate in Christian Community Service
- Write a letter to Father Nash, requesting to be Confirmed.
- Complete all classwork, videos, or home assignments
- Participate in the retreat
- Complete a Sponsor Interview
- Select a Saint Name and write a report about your saint

Students who have not been baptized may be eligible for these sacraments through the Order of Christian Initiation Adapted for Children and Youth. Please contact me for more details.

Our first session is with your parent present. The date has been set for September 16, from 6:30 8:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center at Saints Peter and Paul Church. More information will be sent regarding the selection of eligible sponsors.

The Confirmation Prep Team and I look forward to partnering with you in forming your child(ren) for this most important sacrament. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Joyfully in Christ,

Linda Steinmiller,
Office of Religious Education
410-822-6581 or Isteinmiller@ssppeaston.org