



## REGISTER NOW!

### St. Mary's 2017-18 Confirmation Prep Program

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*For 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and their parents*

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St. Mary's Confirmation program for students attending public school consists of two years of preparation.

*Starting this year, the Confirmation program will join the new Family Faith Formation program (FFF) which replaces the former CCD.* The FFF program brings new vision and new vitality through a religious education designed with the whole family in mind.

As with all new adventures and new experiences, change is inevitable. At the root of this shift to the FFF program is a fuller understanding of the Church's call for parents to be the primary educators of their children in faith and the parish's role to support families in this mission.

*"Parents are the primary educators in the faith. It is for this reason that the Christian community must give very special attention to parents. By means of personal contact, meetings, courses and also adult catechesis directed towards parents, the Christian community must help them assume their responsibility, which is particularly delicate today, of educating their children in the faith."*  
*General Directory of Catechesis, Articles 255 and 277*

St. Mary's CCD sessions will shift from weekly meetings for students to monthly sessions for students and parents. Students in grades 1 – 8 and their parent(s) are invited to St. Mary's Church on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday night of each month. All will start off in the church for opening prayer and announcements. The students will then move to the St. Francis Center for class and the parents will remain in the church to learn about the same topic being taught to the students. At the end of the evening, the parents will be given materials to use at home to continue teaching their children on the remaining three Wednesdays of the month.

The year begins with a **CONFIRMATION PARENT MEETING** on **September 13, 2017**, at **6:00 p.m.** in the GACC Cafeteria, for parents of Year 1 and Year 2 students. At this meeting, we will discuss Confirmation requirements. Afterward there will be a **PARENT INFORMATION MEETING** for parents of all students in grades 1-8 at **6:30 pm**, where Fr. Steve and Patti Knobbe will explain specific details of the new Family Faith Formation program.

The **FIRST CONFIRMATION CLASS** is scheduled for **OCTOBER 11** and classes will continue throughout the school year from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Remember that a parent, grandparent, sponsor, adult sibling or other adult who will play a primary role in the student's faith formation should attend with the student.

**Registration is required for all students planning to attend confirmation classes this year.** Please complete the attached registration form and return the form, registration fee, and Baptismal certificate (if baptized at a different parish) by September 13.

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**Register by September 13!**

*To register, submit*

*1) Registration form; 2) \$50 registration fee; and 3) Copy of Baptismal Certificate*

*to:*

*Lisa Hunke, Confirmation Coordinator  
St. Mary's Church, 343 N. Monitor St., West Point, NE 68788*

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