SAINT JUDE THADDEUS CATHOLIC CHURCH
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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Confirmation Class 2017 Parent and Student Guidelines

Welcome to the 2016-2017 Confirmation class. We hope you find this a rewarding and exciting year.

CONFIRMATION: **Wednesday April 26, 2017 at 6pm** or **Tuesday May 2, 2017 at 6pm**.

Confirmation is one of the Sacraments of Initiation along with Baptism and Eucharist. The Catechism describes Confirmation as a deepening of baptismal gifts. It says that the Sacrament roots us more deeply in our identity as God's children; unites us more firmly with Christ; increases in us the gifts of the Holy Spirit; binds us more closely with the Church; and gives us special strength to bear witness to our faith.

Attendance:

Students are required to attend All classes, one Confirmation Retreat, and complete required homework. Parents are required to attend the Advent Mission in Nov and the Lenten Mission in Mar/Apr. In addition, Parents and/or Sponsors will need to attend a talk in February 2017.

Confirmation Retreat:

We will be having one retreat prior to the Confirmation; the date is set for **Saturday, February 4, 2017** here at St Jude Thaddeus Parish Hall from **9:00am-9:00pm**. **Attendance is mandatory and you must be here for the whole day**. No one will be allowed to leave throughout the day. Lunch & dinner will be provided. If your child can't attend this one, they MUST find another one within our Archdiocese to attend.

Letter to the Archbishop:

In November, you should begin to write your letter to the Archbishop. The teachers can help guide you in the preparation of that letter. **Letters will be due no later than January 8, 2017.**

Choosing a Patron Saint:

You will be asked to choose a Saint name which will be given to you at your Confirmation and will be in place of your middle name on your Certificate. A Patron Saint should be someone whose life you admire and respect. It should be someone whose life you would like to imitate. You may choose a male or female Saint regardless of your gender. Students will be writing an essay about their chosen Saint. Please learn as much as you can about your Saint and do not choose a name because it sounds good or matches your name.
Essay will be due no later than January 8, 2017.

Choosing a sponsor:

A sponsor may be a relative **(not a parent)** or friend who has set an example in your life as a role model of the Catholic faith. He/She should be a practicing Catholic, able to receive the Sacraments, and over the age of 16. Your sponsor will be assisting you in your preparation and can be a source of inspiration, knowledge, and help. You should have only one sponsor unless you choose your original baptismal sponsors.
Sponsor forms are due no later than January 29, 2017.

Community Service Projects:

The students must complete a minimum of 5 events from the Liturgical Ministry, and 3 events (3 hour minimum per event) each from the St Jude Church events, and outside Community Service. Some suggestions: help with the Religious Ed. Classes, St Jude Feast Day Celebration, Donut Sundays, Lenten Meals, Lector (Reader), Usher, Greeter, Altar Server, Watermelon Ranch, Roadrunner Food Bank, or Nursing Home.
All Community Service Projects must be completed no later than April 9, 2017.

Know we are all praying for you to have a blessed, spirit filled journey on your walk of faith.