

Cathedral of St. Mary
Confirmation
Information and Dates
Packet



VENI
SANCTE
SPIRITUS

Nathaniel “Nate” Thieken

Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult
Ministries and Confirmation

nthieken@stmarycathedral.com

Cell: 307-757-7766

Outline of Confirmation Dates & Requirements

1. Paper Requirements and Due Dates

- December 13th, 2017 Baptism Certificate (recent copy with First Eucharist Notations)
- December 13, 2017 Sponsor Application, signed and sealed by Church where the sponsor attends Mass
- January 31, 2017 Confirmation Saint Report Due
- May 1, 2017 All Payments due for Confirmation program and Retreat
- August 26, 2018 Letter to Bishop Due
- September 11, 2018 Confirmation Service Record

2. Required Church Activities

- September 24, 2017 Parent/Sponsor Meeting 6:15-8:30pm Hartmann Hall
- January 28, 2018 Parent/Sponsor Meeting 6:15-8:30pm Hartmann Hall
- February 25, 2018 Parent/Sponsor Meeting 6:15-8:30pm Hartmann Hall
- April 29, 2018 Parent/Sponsor Meeting 6:15-8:30pm Hartmann Hall
- Confirmation Retreat TBD
- Summer Activities Schedule TBD
- October 17, 2018 6:30pm Confirmation Mass Rehearsal
- October 19, 2018 7:00pm Rite of Confirmation
 - Arrive in Hartmann Hall Basement by 5:15pm

3. Combined Confirmation Sessions with St Joseph's

- November 12, 2017; 3:00-7:00 pm @ St. Mary's Hartmann Hall
- January 20, 2018; 3:00-7:00pm @ St Joseph's Parish Hall

4. Hosting Fellowship in Hartmann Hall Sundays from 7:30am-2:00pm

We will offer different shifts to work throughout the day. Please sign up on <https://www.trackitforward.com/site/st-marys-youth-ministry> Funds raised during these events through burrito sales etc. will help offset the cost of the Confirmation Retreat.

September 17, 2017	October 15, 2017	November 19, 2017	December 17, 2017
January 21, 2018	February 25, 2018	March 18, 2018	April 22, 2018
May 20, 2018			

Confirmation Details

Classes: Here at St. Mary's our Confirmation preparation program is designed to build a strong community of young Catholics who are Disciples of Christ. We use the Chosen Curriculum. These materials give the teens an opportunity to watch video teachings from some of the most dynamic catholic youth speakers in the country and have small group discussion time where they can grow in their faith by sharing with the other teens. Since Confirmation meets as part of Youth Ministry, this allows us to better incorporate them into other activities which in turn gives them more opportunities to grow in their spirituality and relationship with Jesus Christ. There will also be opportunities throughout the year for parents, family and sponsors to join us. It is very important to take advantage of these as it provides an amazing witness to our young church and brings us closer together as the Body of Christ.

Parent/Sponsor sessions: We have four parent and sponsor sessions that are scheduled during the year. These sessions are designed to provide you with assistance to prepare your teens for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The Church recognizes the important role parents play as the primary teachers of the faith for their children and we want to help you in this role. These sessions are important to be at, but we realize that sponsors live out of town or occasionally you have other commitments that you cannot get out of. Please make your best effort to get someone to these sessions and remember that dinner is on us that night!

Service Projects:

'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'
Matthew 25:40

Christ asks us to help the least of our brothers and sisters. It is important that as the teens prepare for Confirmation, they see their faith as more than just knowledge of the head, but something that is active in their daily lives. The parish will offer different activities for them to complete some of these hours, but always feel free to do these on your own. We will email out more information about upcoming service projects as details become available. You can also check our Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysyouth.WY> or search Cathedral of St Mary Youth and Young Adult Ministries. This year we now have an app/website that will allow you to log hours. Go to <https://www.trackitforward.com/site/st-marys-youth-ministry> to create a login for your student. There are three categories in which we will track service hours and each youth must serve 15 hours in each category. This may sound like a lot at first but remember that this is spread over a year. And, most youth really love helping others once they get started so the hours will accumulate before you know it. The first category is **church**; these are things like altar serving, participating in music ministry, welcoming ministry, fellowship in Hartmann Hall, and other activities around the Parish. The second category is **community**; examples include: helping at St Joseph's Food Pantry, St Vincent De Paul thrift shop, COMEA Shelter, St Mary's Sack Lunch Program, the Cheyenne Veteran's Medical Center, retirement homes, etc. The third category is **home**. The home is where learning begins and a place where lessons can be solidified. Whether you believe it or not you, the parent, play a huge role in teaching your children, we are just here to help. That is why we think it is important that the youth serve in their own homes. These hours can be any chores in the home but there is one caveat, they cannot be paid for these hours.

Joint Confirmation Sessions: St Mary's and St Josephs are working together on two joint confirmation sessions. These will help the youth begin to see there is more to the Catholic Church than just our Parish. St Mary's will host the first one on November 12th from 3-7 pm. St Joseph's will host the second on January 20th from 3-7 pm. There will be fun and catechesis at both of the sessions but the group will also attend Mass together and share an evening meal.

Missed Classes: It is important that your teens not miss a class. If your student misses more than 2 classes throughout the year they will need to make them up. We will try our best to have a schedule each month of which lessons will be taught during classes. This should help if your student cannot make their normal class day, they may be able to attend the opposing Sunday or Wednesday that the same lesson is being taught. Also, it is very important that I have a good email for you. With the Chosen Program we are given one online account per book that we purchase that allows you to login and watch the videos from anywhere you have internet access. This means parents can now watch the video, which is highly recommended, but also allows the family to make up missed lessons at home!

Confirmation Retreat: Jesus would often go off by himself to pray and be with God. Many people throughout Scripture would encounter God out in the wilderness. He uses times when we take a break from our everyday lives and distractions to communicate with us and reveal himself. Because of this, all candidates are required to attend the Confirmation Retreat. It will tentatively take place August 2018 at the YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, CO. There may also be a March option if August does not work for your child. If you have a legitimate reason your child cannot participate please contact Nate as soon as possible. Finances should not be the obstacle that keeps a child from doing a retreat. Please contact Nate for details about Scholarships.

Confirmation Saint Report: Please refer to the separate Confirmation Name worksheet for details on the reports.

Letter to the Bishop: Each Candidate should write a letter to the Bishop requesting the Sacrament of Confirmation. The letter should include:

- Candidate's age, grade and school
- His or Her confirmation name and why the name was chosen.
- Why the candidate wants to be confirmed?
- How much time does the candidate pray and what does she or he do for daily prayer (Scripture reading, devotions, etc.)
- How does he or she desire to be a witness and serve others?

Youth Ministry: Youth Ministry will be the next step for youth after Confirmation. It is a common misconception that confirmation is a graduation from learning about your Faith. Could you imagine telling your child it is ok to stop going to school after 8th grade? Most of us encourage them to go to college and in some careers they are required to learn and take classes even after they receive their college degree. Why would we not encourage our youth to continue to grow in their faith for the rest of their lives too? At Confirmation they are "Sealed with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit" and sent forth to use those gifts so it is really just the beginning. Since it is so important to continue to grow in their faith, that is why there should be no change in attendance once a youth is Confirmed!

Contact Information: If you have any additional questions feel free to contact Nate Thielen in the Office via email, phone, or text.

Email: nthielen@stmarycathedral.com

Cell: 307-757-7766

Office: 307-635-9261

Mailing Address: Nate Thielen
Cathedral of St Mary
100 W 21st St
Cheyenne, WY 82001

Things to Memorize

The items on this page are by no mean everything you should know for Confirmation but each student will be tested on these individually before confirmation.

Prayers

1. Apostles Creed
2. Our Father
3. Hail Mary
4. Glory Be

Seven Sacraments

1. Baptism
2. Confirmation
3. Eucharist
4. Reconciliation/Penance
5. Anointing of the Sick
6. Matrimony
7. Holy Orders

Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit

1. Wisdom
2. Understanding
3. Right Judgment
4. Courage
5. Knowledge
6. Reverence
7. Wonder and Awe

The Ten Commandments

1. I am the Lord your God:
you shall not have strange
gods before me.
2. You shall not take the name
of the Lord, your God, in
vain.
3. Remember to keep holy the
Lord's Day.
4. Honor your father and
mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit
adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false
witness against your
neighbor.
9. You shall not covet your
neighbor's wife.
10. You shall not covet your
neighbor's goods.

Sponsor Details

What are the Requirements to be a Confirmation Sponsor?

- A mature, active member of the Catholic Church who has been Confirmed and receives the sacraments frequently;
- Someone over the age of 16 who is not the candidate's parent and able to appreciate what they are agreeing to do;
 - A person who is living their life consistent with the Faith and demonstrates a commitment to Christian morals;
- A person who is in good standing with the Church and under no canonical penalties;
- A person, who if married, has had their marriage blessed in the Church. (A divorced person who has remarried outside the Catholic Church and who has not had their marriage blessed may not be eligible. Marriage situations can be complex and should be discussed with Nate or Fr. August as soon as possible.)
 - A person, if single, must be living a chaste life.
 - A sponsor does not need to be a member of the same sex.
- Candidates are encouraged to consider their godparents but it is not required.

What exactly is the Sponsors role and duties?

- The Sponsor should be available to the candidate from now and until Confirmation to discuss their faith.
 - The Sponsor should be a friend, advisor, and companion for the candidate during this year and in the future.
 - The Sponsor should be a good role model as a Catholic Christian.
 - The Sponsor should pray for and support the candidate now and in the future.