

Most Precious Blood Faith Formation 2011-2012 Youth Confirmation Preparation

The MPB Confirmation Preparation Program is designed for youth under age 21 who have completed or are currently participating in their 3rd year of High School Faith Formation (includes Youth Group) in either a parish setting or a Catholic High School, and/or have a demonstrated character of readiness for the sacrament. Proof of baptism and reception of the sacrament of Eucharist are required for all candidates who did not celebrate these Sacraments of Initiation at MPB. The Confirmation Preparation Program does *not* take the place of the regular age-appropriate faith formation program *and presumes* that the candidate for this sacrament participates in a faith formation program (parish or school) *and* attends Mass regularly. **Missed sessions (for any reason) must be made up before April 28, 2012.** If parents and/or candidates have questions or concerns about sacramental readiness or requirements, they should meet with the Pastor and the Faith Formation Director to discuss them as soon as possible.

Preparation Schedule (sessions 1-7 are on Sundays, in the Youth Room)

October 2 -	9-10:15 AM	Information Meeting for candidates and parents		
October 16 -	9-10:15 AM	Session 1	candidates only	ALL
November 20 –	9-10:15 AM	Session 2	“	SESSIONS
December 18 -	9-10:15 AM	Session 3	“	INCLUDE
January 22-	9-10:15 AM	Session 4	“	10:30
February 12 -	9-10:15 AM	Session 5	“	MASS!!!
Confirmation Retreat: Date (a Sat in March), location and retreat fee to be determined				
March 18-	9-10:15 AM	Session 6	“	
April 3 (optional)	7PM	Chrism Mass at St. Joseph's Cathedral (<i>highly recommended</i>)		
April 22	9-10:15 AM	Session 7	“	
April 28 -	4:00 PM 5-8:30 PM	Mass & Commitment Ceremony, followed by dinner, Candidate and Sponsor night		

Confirmation will be celebrated in the late spring, probably the third week of May. We expect the date will be determined by the Bishop in early winter. There will be at least one rehearsal for candidates and sponsors immediately prior to the sacramental celebration.

All Confirmation candidates are expected to participate in some form of liturgical ministry at the 10:30 Mass on several of the Sundays we have sessions. This will be discussed, and candidates will have an opportunity to prepare for these ministries during our sessions, and at other times that are mutually agreeable. Please sign up in advance for the masses of your choice.

Sacramental preparation also includes service to the Parish and to the community, several written reflections, an interview with the Pastor or Faith Formation Director, and submission of a letter to the Bishop requesting the sacrament. These requirements will be reviewed throughout the program, and candidates will have ample time and opportunities to meet them. If any of these requirements presents a hardship (due to illness, disability, etc.), please discuss them with the Faith Formation Director, Theresa Walker, or the Pastor, Fr. John.