

22 July 2017

Dear Parents,

The story of your child's life as a Christian began at their Baptism. They were marked with the sign of the cross, which symbolized their welcome into our Catholic Community. They were anointed with Chrism as a sign of the Holy Spirit entering their lives. Washed free of Original Sin, they were called to live as children of God. Baptized with water and the Spirit, they were marked forever as belonging to Christ, committed to be followers of Jesus.

Now, their faith journey brings them to the Sacrament of Confirmation. The promises made at Baptism will be renewed as your child will again be anointed with Chrism. By choosing to be Confirmed, your son or daughter is saying that they are willing to make a lifelong commitment to **serve** as Jesus did. Being sealed with the gifts of the Spirit will empower them to fulfill these promises. As young adults, Confirmed in the Spirit, they will be able to do great things in our Church and among God's people.

The Church of the Gesu embraces your child on his/her journey through the Confirmation process. Dedicated catechists promise to guide them in their understanding and knowledge of what they are about to undertake. As an initial step, all current **ninth and tenth** graders are invited to register for this process. Our preparation will begin in October at which time, a complete explanation and overview about the catechetical sessions, selection of a sponsor, and a Confirmation name, will be explained.

ALL students in grades 9 and 10 that wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on April 22, 2018, are asked to **complete the online registration form on the Gesu website (churchofthegesu.org), or by clicking on the following link <https://gesuchurch.wufoo.com/forms/r1cljeq0gip8s6/>**. Please note that a copy of your child's **baptismal certificate must** be provided if they were not baptized at Gesu.

Finally, for students attending **non-Catholic schools**, please note: Following Diocesan guidelines, an additional expectation for Confirmation candidates who do not attend a Catholic high school is the weekly attendance at high school PSR classes, held on Sunday mornings in the school. You can register for class at: <https://gesuchurch.wufoo.com/forms/r5iwj3h1imaho0/>.

We look forward to working with you and your teen throughout this next year. If you have any questions or special circumstance, please don't hesitate to call me at 216-932-0617 or email me at mvoncarlowitz@churchofthegesu.org. It is our fervent prayer that God's graces be with you, as you continue with your child on their journey in faith, preparing to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

May the peace of the Spirit be with you always,

Mary P. von Carlowitz
Co-Director of Faith Formation

