



Summer 2011

Dear parents:

Recently, after much discussion with Mrs. Kate Pruemmer regarding Sacred Heart student's Confirmation Program, it was decided to confirm our students in the 8th grade. As a result, this year we will confirm not only our 8th grade students, but also our 9th and 10th grade students.

We do not yet have a date for Confirmation from Bishop Thomas John Paprocki, but we will communicate that to you just as soon as it has been finalized. In the meantime, I have approved the attached Confirmation Program requirements effective immediately:

I am happy to be a part of your child's Confirmation preparation, and I look forward to working with you in passing on our Faith to your children.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Kate Pruemmer at 217.347.7177 or email her at k.pruemer@sheff.org. Thank you for your understanding, and most importantly, for helping your child prepare to receive the Holy Spirit and become an adult member of the Catholic Church.

In Christ,

Fr. David J. Hoefler
Pastor, Sacred Heart Parish

Confirmation Requirements

Religion classes:

- Students who attend a Catholic school receive their religious instruction during the school day.
- Students who do not attend a Catholic school must attend PSR for their religious instruction.
 - PSR classes are held Wednesday evenings during the school year from 6:30-7:30 pm at Sacred Heart School.
 - Any missed lessons will need to be made up.

Parent meeting:

- All parents are required to attend a meeting to learn about the Sacrament of Confirmation, what is expected of their child, and how to help their child prepare for the sacrament.
- This meeting will take place in the fall on a Wednesday evening 6:30-7:30pm.

Mass Attendance:

- Students preparing for Confirmation must participate at Mass every Sunday and on Holy Days of obligation, unless they very are sick. According to the Catholic Church, missing Mass on Sundays or Holy Days without good reason is a serious sin.
- In the spring, the Confirmation class will be presented to the parish during the 10:30am Sunday Mass. All students need to be present for this.

Retreats:

- All students are expected to attend a one day Confirmation retreat, which will take place in the spring, shortly before Confirmation. The retreat will provide opportunities for fun, fellowship, prayer, and reflection.

Service hours:

- All students must perform service hours for their parish church and their community. Christ commands us to love one another as He has loved us, which requires that we serve others out of love.
- The service requirement for 7th grade is 10 hours.
- The requirement for 8th (plus 9th & 10th for 2012) grade is 20 hours.
- Completed and signed service hour time sheets will be due at the end of the school year for 7th grade, and due before Confirmation for 8th grade (plus 9th & 10th for 2012).

Suggestions for service to the church:

- Mass Server
- Lector
- Usher
- Choir member
- Sacred Heart Church Picnic
- Vacation Bible School
- Liturgy of the Word
- Sunday School
- CCW Rummage Sale
- Noodle Making
- Race to the Cross
- PTA Pig-Out Breakfast
- Fish Fry
- Maintain the church landscaping
- Harvest Mass
- Assist in the parish office

Contact person:

Jim Hakman & Charlie Tegeler
Sacred Heart Church
Sacred Heart Church
Carol Stumborg
Ron & Nila Pike
Kate Pruemer
Kim Mills
Beth Schmidt
CCW
CCW
Sherry Phillips
Jenny Moore
Caroline Gibson
Sandy Thull
Sacred Heart Church
Darlene Koester

Suggestions for service to the community:

- Catholic Charities – Second Hand Rose 217-857-1482
Assist in the morning with vacuuming, washing windows, and placing items back on racks. Two students can help at a time. To schedule a time contact Greg Dust at Second Hand Rose or Kate Pruemer at Sacred Heart Church 217-347-7177.
- Ballard Nature Center 618-483-6856
Volunteers typically need to be 16 yrs or older unless they are with a parent.
- Effingham County Right to Life 217-347-7060
Assist with the annual Right to Life Breakfast in January.
- Visit nursing homes
- Christmas caroling
- Assist the elderly with chores such as raking leaves, shoveling snow, mowing the lawn, cleaning, or even setting up the Christmas tree

Select a Confirmation name and sponsor:

- All students must select a Confirmation name and write a short one page paper explaining why they chose that particular saint.
 - These will be due two months before Confirmation.
- Students must also choose a sponsor to help them grow in their faith as they prepare for Confirmation.
 - Sponsors must be confirmed, practicing Catholics who are at least 16 years old and cannot be the parent of the child to be confirmed.