

St. Luke Parish Confirmation Program + 2019-2020

Welcome to the St. Luke Confirmation Program! Preparation for the sacrament is offered in the 8th grade. The celebration of the sacrament follows the academic year in August.

Students enrolled at St. Luke School are prepared for Confirmation during their scheduled religion classes. [Register and pay here.](#)

All 8th grade students in public and private non-Catholic school settings, and even those attending Catholic High School, who wish to prepare and celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation should register for the SMRE (Sunday Morning Religious Education) Confirmation Program on from 10:45-11:50 a.m. [Register and pay here.](#)

Included in the preparation for Confirmation is a **required** retreat that will be offered on Saturday, February 22, 2020, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at Fatima Retreat House, 5353 E. 56 Street, Indianapolis.

A student interview preceding or following the retreat will be conducted during the Confirmation preparation process.

See the [Confirmation Handbook](#) for all details on the Confirmation Program at St. Luke Parish.

Curriculum

During the Confirmation preparation year, *the* textbook for the eighth grade is *Our Life in the Church*. This is part of the Faith and Life Series published by Ignatius Press.

The textbook is used from August through January. *Our Life in the Church* covers the following:

- ❖ The history of the Church — its founding by Christ
- ❖ The Church's birth in the Holy Spirit
- ❖ The marks of the one, true Church
- ❖ The Fathers and Doctors of the Church
- ❖ The Saints
- ❖ The role of the religious and laity up to the present
- ❖ The structure of the Church Jesus planned
- ❖ The role of the Magisterium
- ❖ The roles of the clergy, religious and laity

A more focused preparation for Confirmation begins in February. The textbook that will be used is the second edition of *Confirmation: Spreading and Defending the Faith*. Below is a statement that describes the content of the Confirmation book from the *Image of God Series*.

Through Scripture, the documents of Vatican II, the teachings of Pope John Paul II, and the lives of the saints, candidates for Confirmation are prepared to spread and defend the faith by their words and actions. Activities in the student text include writing articles, conducting interviews, researching lives of saints, and expressing the truth of the faith in an informed way. The teacher's guide helps the catechist direct the students to see the Holy Spirit at work and to respond to His love in all areas of their lives: spiritual, intellectual, moral, service to the Church and community, and more. Features: Prayers, definitions, gifts of the Holy Spirit, apologetics, fruits of the Holy Spirit, vocations, Eucharist, Penance, virtues.

Electronic Confirmation Notebook

We also have a **Confirmation Notebook**. It contains exercises and supplementary material to reinforce and further explain the teachings and lessons in *Spreading and Defending the Faith*. The religion teachers may use other materials to strengthen and help form the faith of the candidates.

The notebook also contains the following:

- Instructions on the use of MobileServe
- Prayers for everyday use
- Things to do during Eucharistic Adoration
- Form A for the Confirmation Sponsor and guidelines for choosing a sponsor
- Form B for the Confirmation Name and information about choosing a Christian name
- Form C for Christian Service and Essay
- Detailed instructions on the letter to be written to Archbishop Thompson asking to be confirmed

Bible and YOUCAT

In addition to the two textbooks and Notebook, the candidates also use the Bible and YOUCAT during the preparation for Confirmation. YOUCAT stands for **Youth Catechism**. It is a youth-friendly version of the Catechism of the Catholic Church. References to YOUCAT are made in exercises found in the notebook.

25 Hours of Christian Service

The Church teaches us that it is the responsibility of the baptized to live the Gospel in the world. The Confirmation Program teaches your sons and daughters to actively preach and spread the Gospel through their daily activities at home, school, parish and community.

Of course, the service project is never an end in itself. It's not something to scratch off the list of Confirmation requirements. Christian service projects should teach your children that loving service pleases God and benefits our neighbor. In a very practical sense, Christian service projects should direct youth to love God and neighbor.

Candidates are required to complete their service hours before the end of the school or SMRE year. Adults who supervise the candidates will be required to sign off on your child's service through MobileServe.

In recent years, some students have asked to begin their service projects during the summer months before they begin the new academic year. This is acceptable as long as MobileServe is utilized. Watch the first video that describes how to use MobileServe by clicking on <https://info.mobileserve.com/product-overview>.

The 25 Hours of Christian Service should be completed no later than May 17 for SMRE students and May 22 for St. Luke School students.

Service needs to be completed in the following three areas:

- 1. Prayer and Public Witness**
- 2. Parish and/or School**
- 3. Community**

Each category for service should be selected. Of the total **25 hours, no category should have less than 4 hours.** For example, a student may choose 11 hours of **Parish/and or School Service**, 10 hours for **Prayer and Public Witness** and 4 hours for a **Community**. Other combinations are possible. A student may even exceed the 25 hours of service. In fact, many candidates do exceed the required number of service hours! Acknowledgement of the student who completes the most hours will be made in the parish. Details to follow.

Throughout the year, there will be service projects offered in the parish and school that count toward the service requirement. **It is important to note that the candidate may accept no money for the services rendered. Service is to be performed freely, lovingly and responsibly.** Candidates may not benefit directly from the service they perform. For example, the hours required to raise money for a school trip to Washington, D.C. will not count toward the service hours. If the candidate works beyond the hours required, he/she may earn Christian Service time. Altar servers may not accept money for funerals or weddings.