

Dear student and parents,

I hope you had a safe and healthy summer break! We are happy to embark upon this special year with you and your family, as you grow deeper, stronger and ever more faithful in your relationship with Jesus.

This year, with the help of our sacramental team, you have the opportunity to prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation. **Please remember that grade 7 is the first year but not the only year you can receive Confirmation.**

We invite you to take a moment to review the information listed below, to help you decide if you would like to receive Confirmation this year, and are able to wholeheartedly commit to all that it entails. It is a decision that brings you to a point of spiritual maturity as you complete your sacraments of initiation in the Catholic Church.

If you choose to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, please **register** online at: www.stfrancis.ca.

We have designated two **mandatory information meetings** for anyone interested in receiving the sacrament of Confirmation during the 2024-2025 sacramental year. **Please ensure you have completed the online registration form before attending the information meeting. You and your parents must attend one** of these meetings. If you are unsure if this is the right year for you to receive Confirmation, this meeting should prove useful in helping you with your decision. The meeting will provide you with detailed information regarding the sacramental program and celebration, as well as the opportunity to have answered any questions you may have. Please feel free to choose the meeting that best suits your family's schedule. All meetings will take place in the Church. The dates and times are as follows:

Thursday, October 17 at 6:00 p.m.
OR
Saturday, October 19 at 10:00 a.m.

Please consider the following points:

- **Attending the Sunday Mass is ESSENTIAL for sacramental preparation.**
- The candidate must be in Grade 7 or higher
- **A completed online Registration, as well as a copy of the student's Baptismal certificate, is required to complete the sacramental registration process.** The copy of the Baptism certificate is to be presented at the information meeting in order to participate in the 2024-2025 sacramental preparation program. **We will not be accepting registrations after October 19, 2024.** If you have difficulty locating the student's Baptismal certificate, please contact the Church of Baptism to get another copy. **Please note that if you were Baptized in the Catholic**

Church and are currently practising another faith, this program is not suitable for you at this time. If you are in need of Baptism or being received into the Roman Catholic Church, please indicate this on the registration form.

- The cost to register for the sacrament of Confirmation is **\$60**, which covers the cost of the programme materials. Cash or Cheque is accepted as a form of payment. If paying by cheque, please make it payable to “St. Francis of Assisi Church”.

- Please note that our Parish policy in preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation is that **all catechism classes are mandatory**. **Exceptions for sporting events or extra-curricular activities will not be considered as valid purposes for missing preparation classes. Accumulated time for being late or logging off early is not encouraged. It will be left up to the student and their families to determine in good conscience which activity is more important to them.**

God bless you and we look forward to sharing this special time of preparation with you. See you at the meeting!

Sincerely,
Rev. Massimo Buttigieg
Pastor