

St. Ignatius Confirmation 2009 - 2010

Top 10 Things to Know at the Beginning of Confirmation Preparation

- 1. Confirmation is tied to Baptism and Eucharist.** All three are sacraments of initiation. At Baptism you were welcomed into the Catholic Community and at Eucharist you were invited to share in the table of the Lord. At Confirmation, you have the opportunity to affirm the commitment that your parents first made for you at baptism and to commit to being active in the life of the church.
- 2. Examine your head and your heart.** Your main job during Confirmation preparation is to examine your head and your heart as to whether you're ready to say yes to continue your faith journey as a Catholic and at Confirmation to *affirm* your willingness to live as a Catholic Christian.
- 3. Only you can decide.** No one else can decide whether you should be confirmed - not your teachers, your parents or other relatives, your friends or anyone else.
- 4. You're not alone in this.** Confirmation isn't something that you do on your own. Like all the sacraments, it's best done with members of your community.
- 5. Confirmation begins today.** The Confirmation liturgy will be early May. (We are waiting for a date from the Archbishop.) Confirmation really begins now, as you start preparing. The difference Confirmation makes in your life will depend on how well you prepare.
- 6. You're not 'done' after Confirmation.** Confirmation is the last of the three Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist), you'll be doing. But, it's not an ending; instead, it's the beginning of a lifelong process of maturing your faith.
- 7. Be open to the Spirit.** At Confirmation the bishop will say these words as he puts Holy oil on your forehead: "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit." We're going to be talking and thinking about the Holy Spirit, the way we find God in our lives.
- 8. This isn't about memorizing things we're supposed to believe.** We won't just be talking about beliefs, but also how we live our lives: how to worship, how to pray, how to be good people and how to follow the example of Jesus' life.
- 9. Ask tough questions.** Confirmation preparation is a great time to think critically and ask hard questions about what it means to be a Catholic Christian
- 10. We're here to help - really!** Please give us a call or email us with any questions or concerns. Our contact information is at the bottom of the calendar.