

# Confirmation Requirements

## YEAR 2 CFF MIDDLE SCHOOL FAMILIES

### STUDENT REQUIREMENTS:

**Students:** Sacramental preparation for Confirmation is a time for you to grow in knowledge so that you can share and defend your faith, grow closer to God in prayer, and become more aware of the needs of your community through service. The BEST way to accomplish this is by being open and willing to walk this journey with your Core Team, Parents, & Faith Family. **You have to look at Confirmation Preparation NOT as something, “I HAVE to do ☹”, BUT as something, “I WANT to do ☺”!** Everything in Confirmation Preparation has a purpose – to help you understand your faith better and bring you closer to God! We know that you’re unsure of what to expect during Confirmation Preparation, we just ask that you keep an open mind, an open heart, and a willingness to engage in conversation...God will help you do the rest! ☺

#### Attend ALL ONE EIGHT Nights throughout the year

ONE EIGHT Nights use the LIFE TEEN sacramental preparation curriculum, ONE EIGHT (from Acts 1:8). These 10 lessons during year 2 will strengthen your foundational understanding of our faith, the Church, and prayer (the most important gift we have to strengthen our relationship with God and His beloved son, our Savior, Jesus Christ). ONE EIGHT (and EDGE) Nights are directed by a Core Team of adult leaders, high school teens, youth ministers, and religious.

#### Attend 5 EDGE Nights (Middle School Youth Group) throughout the year

EDGE is our comprehensive youth program for students in middle school (Grades 7-8). EDGE Nights will help you to develop stronger relationships with your peers and Faith Family at GSCC. You will receive a copy of the EDGE Calendar for 2018-2019 with a description of the EDGE Nights. Students will be required to **sign up and attend 5 of those EDGE Nights** this year. Some of the EDGE Nights have maximum limits for student signups. Make sure to have alternate nights selected in case your first choice(s) is/are no longer available.

#### Attend the Candidate/Sponsor Retreat WITH your Sponsor

All Year 2 Confirmation Candidates MUST NOW HAVE their Sponsor selected and a completed Sponsor Form on file with the Religious Education Office as of the start of the Year 2 catechetical year.

- Please notify your Sponsor that the **Candidate/Sponsor Retreat will be on Friday, September 28, from 6:00 – 9:00 PM at GSCC in the Fr. Philip Wells Parish Hall.**
- Also, your Sponsor will need to attend the **Confirmation Mass Rehearsal & Confirmation Mass** (spring 2019). Those exact dates/times will be announced as soon as we receive the Confirmation Mass date(s) from the Bishop’s Office.

#### Attend an overnight Confirmation Retreat at Marelllo Retreat Center in Loomis, CA

The purpose of a retreat is to disconnect from one’s life for a period of time so as to intentionally listen and engage with God. The best retreats are time intensive and require an environment away from our “regular” life and suitable for its purpose. Because of this, our Confirmation retreat will be an overnight retreat held at the Marelllo Youth Retreat Center in Loomis, CA. The retreat will be directed by Fr. Sergio, Pastor of the Marelllo Youth Retreat Center, the Oblates at Marelllo, the Confirmation Coordinators, and members of the Confirmation Core Team. Our retreat weekend this year is **November 10-11, 2018.**

#### Complete a Saint Icon Project

Traditionally candidates are confirmed by the name of a Patron Saint. For this reason, we are requiring a saint project that will be **DUE on or before your NOVEMBER ONE EIGHT Night.** You will complete an art project that results in a Saint Icon of your chosen Patron Saint for Confirmation. This art project will be displayed in the Narthex as part of your Confirmation Mass environment.

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### Attend the Diocesan Confirmation Conference, “FIRED UP!”

FIRED UP! is NOT a retreat and does not replace your Overnight Confirmation Retreat. FIRED UP! is a Diocesan Confirmation Conference organized to help you get “Fired Up” about receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. The purpose of this Diocesan Confirmation Conference is to gather all of those in the diocese who will be receiving Confirmation in that given year and provide you with a day that reminds you that you have been called by your Baptism to live as disciples of Christ, affirm your decision to prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation, empower and strengthen you for this process, and then challenge you to make your Catholic faith come alive in your everyday lives. The day will also serve a function similar to the “Rite of Election” in the RCIA where all the candidates gather with Bishop Soto to commit to a final stage of preparation for Confirmation. We will ALL be attending FIRED UP! on **Saturday, February 23, 2019.**

### Parish Service Hours

Bishop Soto’s newly released “*Norms for the Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation of Teens*” document emphasizes the importance of service to the parish. The Bishop stresses this point as it is designed to prepare students to be aware of the needs in our faith community and then to be actively engaged in addressing those needs. Students will be required to perform **10 hours** of **Parish/Community Service** during this catechetical year. We prefer that all, or at least a majority of the service hours be performed HERE at Good Shepherd so that you become more engaged with your faith family and the ministries that serve Good Shepherd. However, if you need to do some of the service hours outside of the parish, that is acceptable, BUT those hours must be in service for a volunteer or non-profit organization. Your completed Parish/Community Service Log needs to be **turned in by April 15, 2019.**

### Confirmation Exit Interview

Exit Interviews for ALL Year 2 Confirmation Candidates will be conducted during the week of **April 28 – May 2, 2019.** These “exit” interviews are our final opportunity to determine if you have a fundamental understanding of our faith and are fully prepared and determined to be ready to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. You will continue to receive handouts and Exit Interview study guides for each ONE EIGHT session that will help you prepare for your Exit Interview. You will be expected to demonstrate a basic understanding of our traditional Catholic prayers and the catechesis we have covered over the 2 years of Confirmation Preparation. You will also be required to give thoughtful reflection as to where you currently are on your faith journey, where you can continue to grow and deepen your faith after Confirmation, and how you anticipate accomplishing that for the next few years AFTER Confirmation. A schedule will be sent in early spring via Email with the SignUpGenius link for you to request your Exit Interview appointment.