

COME HOLY SPIRIT....

*Spirit & Saint's Faith Formation
Holy Spirit, St. Anthony, St. John's Cantius*

CONFIRMATION HANDBOOK

Spirit & Saints Faith Formation Program
CONFIRMATION PROGRAM
2011~2012

Program Goals:

*To empower young people to live as
disciples of Jesus Christ in
our world today.*

*To draw people to responsible
participation in the life mission, and
work of the Catholic Faith
community.*

*To foster the total personal
and spiritual growth of
each young person.*

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St. Cloud Diocese Confirmation Guidelines and how we are meeting those guidelines:

***A retreat experience**

NET Retreat on March 17th, 2012 from 10:30 – 5:30

***A Service learning component**

20 hours of service completed with parents/mentors or other confirmed members of your family.

½ for church and ½ community

***Letter to Bishop/Pastor**

Will be completed as part of a class project.

***Participate in parish preparation process.**

Attend Commitment Sunday services

Attend Mass & prepare 4 Homily Sheets

Attend Reconciliation and Practice

Interview with clergy and or staff

Attend Discipleship Training Sessions either in the spring or fall and Homily Sheets.

***Education in following areas:**

a. Understand the nature of Confirmation.

b. Who main participants in the ceremony are.

c. Symbols used in the rite; their history and meanings.

d. How the Holy Spirit can help them lead lives of holiness.

***Training on what it means to be a disciple of Christ through:**

Events with the adult community

Small Group discussions

Service Projects

Mentor meetings and Journal

Confirmation 2012

Confirmation Preparation will be offered to any student in grades 10 or older (with students in upper grades getting first priority).

Discipleship Training Sessions will be limited to 35 students per session.

Fall DTS: 12 consecutive weeks in fall of 2011.

Spring DTS: 12 consecutive weeks in spring of 2012.

As per Diocesan Guidelines, training sessions are not academic classes, but Discipleship training which includes; experiential learning events, small group discussion, and exercises developed to help the student reflect on their own goals regarding their faith, deepen their prayer life and develop their own unique spiritual personhood.

*Our expectation is that **the candidate will be appropriately prepared and involved in a religious education program prior to entering our program.** If your child has not been enrolled in another program, additional work may need to be completed before they enter the Confirmation program.

When your child is not taking DTS they should be working on the other components that they are responsible for:

20 hours of service

4 Homily Sheets

Mentor/Sponsor Journals

Attending 3 FOFA Events (We encourage you to bring a parent or mentor.)

To be eligible to be confirmed in spring of 2012 all classes and individual assignments must be completed and turned in to Ginny before **May 5th, 2012**.

If the student does not complete the requirements all work completed can be "banked" and they can complete it at their own pace and become confirmed at the next parish Confirmation ceremony.

By offering the student the ability to work toward Confirmation when they feel compelled to do so, we hope to offer them more flexibility with their schedules and the freedom to choose when they feel ready to be confirmed as opposed to being forced through the system at a specific grade level.

Throughout this process the Candidates Personal goals should be:

- 1. To become conscious of your call to discipleship.*
- 2. To commit yourself to deepening your personal relationship to God.*
- 3. To choose to live out your discipleship with other disciples in the church community to build the Kingdom of God on earth.*

HOW TO DO THIS STEP BY STEP

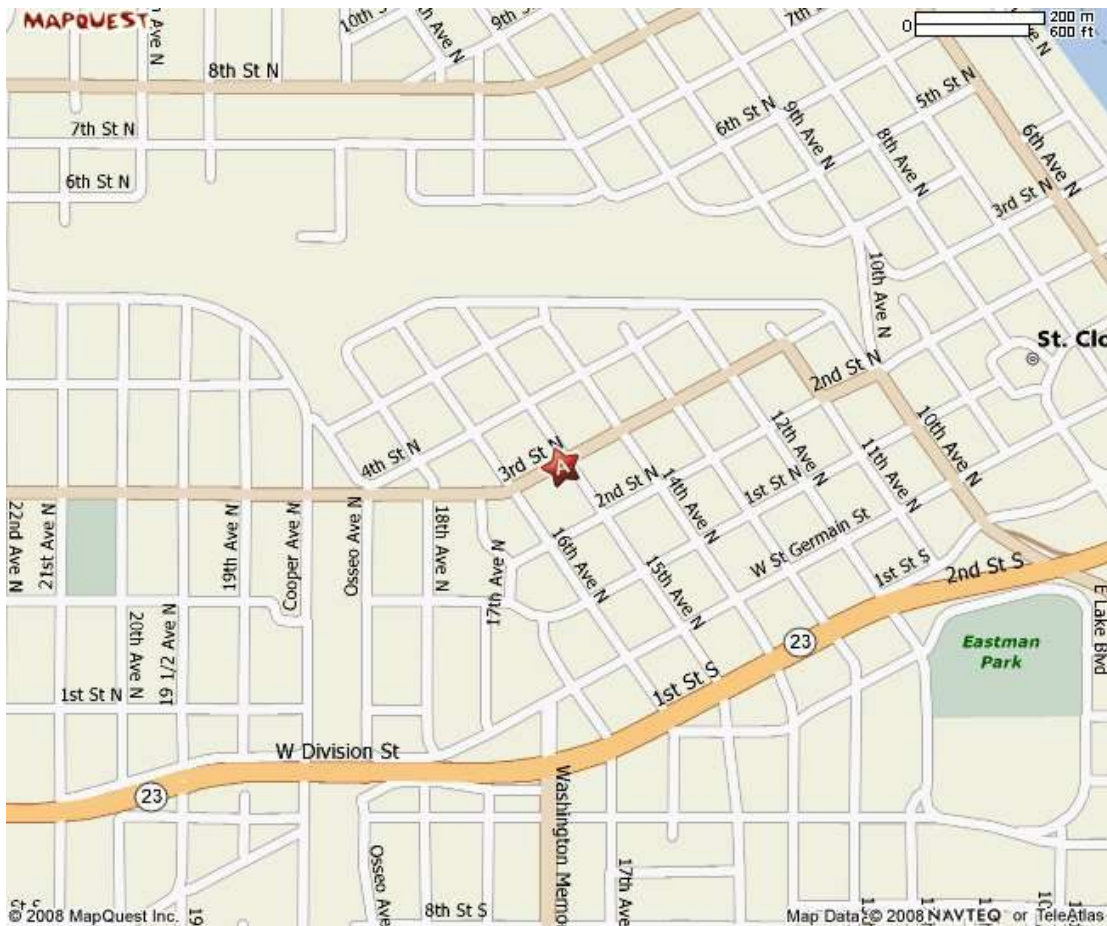
- Step I:** Introductory meeting/Orientation Session. (You are here!!)
- a. Fill out the Confirmation Information Form
 - b. Fill out a Registration Form
- Step II:** **Students baptized out of our cluster, need to get a Baptismal Certificate from the parish where they were Baptized as soon as possible. You may have your former parish fax those certificates to Ginny's attention at 251-0664.**
- Step III.** **Commitment Sunday:**
All Candidates are expected to be at their parish mass to be presented to the community. Members of the parish community will be asked at this time to pray for individual candidates from their parish while they are preparing to be Confirmed.
- Step IV.** Candidate will complete **4 homily sheets**
- Step V.** Candidate's family takes responsibility for the following:
- a. **20 hours of Service with parents/Mentors** or other confirmed members of the church. Some of these hours must be done in the parish cluster.
- Documentation of these hours should be handed in to Ginny using the Christian Enrichment Hours sheet which can be signed by the adult accompanying the candidate.
- Different Service Opportunities will be posted on the Ginny SAS Scott Facebook page and will be sent out to the candidates by email.
- Step VI.** Candidate will also meet with their mentor/sponsor regularly to work on a **Confirmation Journal**
- Step VII.** Candidate takes responsibility to attend **all 12 Discipleship Training sessions** in either the spring or the fall session. If you miss a class due to illness, you will be assigned a make up lesson to be done with your mentor. Unless there are special circumstances. any student who misses more than 2 classes during the session, will be required to wait until the following year to be confirmed.

- Step VIII.** Candidate attends **three FOFA Event Evenings** throughout the year. Candidates are invited to attend all FOFA events, but are only required to attend two. Mentor/Sponsors or parents are invited to attend with them.
*A special event is defined as any gathering specifically intended to inform the public about a social justice issue/ social concern or to build or enhance one's spirituality. For the convenience of the candidates and the edification of the community, I will organize at least 5 or 6 events (to be announced).
- Step IX.** Candidate must attend a **Confirmation Retreat on March 17th, 2012.**
From 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
If you miss this retreat you will be responsible for finding another parish which will allow you to join their retreat. NO EXCEPTIONS!!
- Step X.** Candidate will get **all documentation required**
to Ginny by May 5th, 2012
- Step XI.** Confirmation candidate will complete **an interview** with either the clergy or staff. (A chance for clergy to meet you and discuss what gifts you bring to the community).
- Step XI.** Candidate will attend **2 or 3 additional full – group meetings** before Confirmation occurs to: plan the liturgy, write a letter to the Bishop, go to Reconciliation and practice for the event. Every effort will be made to get these dates to you as soon as the date for Confirmation 2012 is given to us by the Bishop. (These class times will be posted on Facebook, emailed to candidates, mailed to candidates and posted in the bulletin)
- Step XII.** **Attend the Confirmation Ceremony.**

DTS sessions will be held at St. John Cantius parish from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m.

St. John Cantius Church: 1515 3rd St. N. St. Cloud, MN 56303

From Hwy 15 go East on 3rd Avenue. Follow until 15th St. Intersection. Church is on the left. Parking in rear – entrance on East side of building.



CONTACT INFORMATION

*Director: Ginny Duschner – faith.formation.ginny@hotmail.com
Facebook: Search for Ginny SAS Scott*

Pastor: Fr. Tom Knoblach – osapientia@juno.com

Parish Offices:

Holy Spirit Church: 251-3764

St. Anthony's: 251-5966

St. John Cantius: 251-4455

Spirit & Saints Advisory Council Members

Holy Spirit:

Jane Hall

Lisa Anderson

Mary Ann Rindelaub

St. Anthony:

Lori Wagner

Jacinta Kroll

Carla Miller

St. John Cantius:

Ruth Ann Bzdok

Veronica Montag

Homeschool Representative: Deanna Otte

All paperwork for this process can be found by emailing Ginny at the address above. St. Anthony's school is always locked, but if you need to see me, you can go to door #1 and pushing the security button. If this fails, ask for help from the St. Anthony Staff in the parish office across the street in the Church.

Checklist for the Confirmation Program:

- 20 hours of Service completed with parent/mentor– some must be within the parish community.
- 12 Discipleship Training Sessions: (Each will have a large group presentation, small group discussion and prayer experience component.)
- 4 Homily Sheets (forms can be found by emailing Ginny at faith.formation.ginny@hotmail.com)
- Attend the Confirmation Retreat _____.
- Attend Commitment Sunday in your parish.
- Choose a Mentor and complete a Journal with them.
- Attend 2 FOFA Event Evenings (with your sponsor/mentor)
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- Students will meet for an interview in the weeks preceding Confirmation with either the clergy or staff.
- Attend two or three combined meetings (with dates to be announced), to write a letter to the Bishop, plan the liturgy, allow students to volunteer for ways to participate in the liturgy, receive Reconciliation and practice for the Confirmation ceremony itself.

Student Name

A copy of this form will be kept in your file in the Faith Formation Office and used to document all materials handed in.