



April 2018

ST THOMAS MORE  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

Dear Potential Confirmation Candidate & Parents,

Parish records indicate you are of age (entering 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall of 2018) to participate in the preparation program for the Sacrament of Confirmation. We invite you to navigate this path in completing your initiation into the fullness of the Catholic Church.

As a baby or young person, you were brought before a Catholic Church community by your parents who asked to have you baptized in the Catholic faith. With baptism, there are certain responsibilities that we are given, and as an infant you were too young to claim those responsibilities for yourself, so your parents and godparents assumed those responsibilities for you. As you grew in age and wisdom, you became able to distinguish between right and wrong and to discern when you needed to seek forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation. At the same time, the Church deemed you knowledgeable enough to understand the Mystery of Faith that is represented in the Sacrament of Eucharist – namely that bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ – and so you began to participate more fully in Mass by receiving the Eucharist.

The Sacrament of Confirmation is the final step in completing your initiation into the fullness of the Catholic Church. Through Confirmation, we receive a special grace by which our faith is deepened and strengthened, so that it will be strong enough not only for our own needs as we move forward in life but also for the needs of others with whom we shall try to share it. We take on the mantle of responsibility for continuing to grow and strengthen our faith through participation in the sacraments, engaging in prayer and continuing to discern and explore the path that God is calling us to follow in our lives – discovering our vocation in life.

The *Catechism's* section on Confirmation says that Confirmation is the special outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Its effects are to:

- Root us more deeply in divine filiation (being children of God)
- Unites us more firmly to Christ
- Increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us (gifts initially received through baptism)
- Strengthens our bond with the Church
- Associates us more closely to the Church's mission of bearing witness to Christ
- Helps us and more strictly obliges us to spread and defend the faith by word and deed

I understand that this can be a confusing time in your life as you begin to make decisions that will affect your future. I invite you to join this program to rediscover the tools you have received through your Catholic education that will help you navigate the paths of life and help you to discern where God is truly calling you when you hit major decision points in your life.

Please complete the *Registration Form*, the *Requirements for Confirmation* form, *Service Component* form, attach the **\$50.00 registration fee** and a copy of your *Baptismal Certificate* and return to me before **July 15, 2018**. Also, **save the dates** listed on the *Confirmation Preparation Schedule* to help with planning and avoid conflicts. Attendance at all events is mandatory.

I may be reached via e-mail at [sarah@stmchurch.org](mailto:sarah@stmchurch.org) or by calling the parish office at (225)275-3940 to answer any questions and help with clarifications. I look forward to receiving your registration and seeing you in August. Come Holy Spirit!

Peace of Christ,

Sarah J. Neau  
Director of Religious Education



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### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION

This form must be completed and returned to the  
STM PARISH OFFICE before July 15, 2018

Please include \$50.00 **Registration Fee** to help cover program costs.  
If financial support is needed contact Sarah Neau

PLEASE PRINT: Candidate Information

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name                      First Name                      Middle Name                      "Nickname (preferred name)"  
(As it will appear on your certificate- nickname will not be used on certificate)

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age on the day of Confirmation \_\_\_\_\_  
(October 25, 2018)

Food Allergies \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Email Address (print legibly please): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address                      City                      State                      Zip                      Cell#

\_\_\_\_\_  
School currently attending                      2018-2019 Grade                      Years of religion formation classes & location

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Baptism                      Church of Baptism                      City, State & Zip  
(Please attached a copy of your Baptismal Certificate)

My family is officially registered as parishioners with St. Thomas More                      Yes                      No

If not, where: \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: (You may not be confirmed at STM without written permission from the pastor of your parish)

PLEASE PRINT: Parent/Guardian Information

<b>FATHER:</b>	<b>MOTHER:</b>
<b>Address:</b>	<b>Address:</b>
<b>Email:</b>	<b>Email:</b>
<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>

ATTACH A COPY OF BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE (NOT birth certificate)



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## St. Thomas More Church Prerequisites for Confirmation Preparation

(Please sign and return with completed Registration Form and Baptismal Certificate)  
Due before July 15, 2018

1. Must have received the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation and Eucharist.
2. Entering in 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall of 2018
3. Actively practicing your faith.
4. Registered with St. Thomas More Church.
5. Have completed two consecutive years of freshman and sophomore high school religious formation, either through enrollment in a Catholic high school or Parish School of Religion (STM) and can demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the responsibilities of a member of the Catholic Church.
6. Have a willingness and strong commitment to actively and fully participating in the sacramental preparation program offered by St. Thomas More Parish, including a service component, retreat, weekly Mass, and all sessions.
7. Have an awareness of the initiation aspect of the Sacrament of Confirmation.
8. Is committed to continuing the faithful practice and study the Catholic faith.
9. Have a sincere desire to receive the sacrament as well as an appreciation of sacramental life.

***I have read and understand all the above prerequisites and commit to participation in the Confirmation preparation program at St. Thomas More and St. Louis King of France Parishes.***

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Candidate's Printed Name

Candidate's Signature

Date



## 2018 Confirmation Preparation Schedule for STM

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### Registration Deadline

**Friday, July 15, 2018**

### Orientation

**Sunday, August 19, 2018**

- Sponsors +/- or parents are expected to attend with candidates
- 5:00PM Mass in Church followed by presentation in Activity Center until 7:30PM

### Retreat (Mandatory)

**August 25/26, 2018**

*Location & Time still to be decided keep this weekend open*

### Weekly Mass and Sessions

- Attend 5:00PM Mass at St. Thomas More Church
- Sessions will be in the STM Parish Activity Center from 6:00-8:00PM.
- Cell phones will be collected by group leaders and held until dismissal of each session.

### Session #1

Sunday, September 9

### Session #4

Sunday, September 30

### Session #2

Sunday, September 16

### Session #5

Sunday, October 7

### Session #3

Sunday, September 23

### Session #6

Sunday, October 14

### Rehearsal & Closing Session

**Sunday, October 21, 2018**

- 5:00PM Mass attendance
- Sponsors +/- or parent are expected to attend with candidates
- Rehearsal immediately following Mass
- Meal and wrapup Session

### Confirmation

**Thursday, October 25, 2018 at St. Thomas More**

- **Candidates** will meet in the St. Thomas More School Cafeteria at 6 pm
- The Bishop will meet with the candidates between 6:15 and 6:30 pm
- **Sponsors** will go directly to the church and sit in the pews as assigned during rehearsal. Please arrive by 6:45 pm.
- **Parents, families and friends** are to sit in the general congregation pews. Seating is reserved only for the candidates and their sponsors.
- The Mass and Sacrament of Confirmation begins promptly at 7 pm

### Dress Code for Confirmation Mass

Gentlemen: Suit or dress slacks with coat and tie, dress shoes, dress shirt

Ladies: Nice dress, blouse and skirt, nice pant suit, dress shoes

### Photography

No photography, including photos and video is allowed in church during the Rite of Confirmation. All cellular devices are to be silenced and unused during this most sacred and solemn celebration.



## STM Confirmation Preparation Service Component

This year we are requiring a service component that is geared to being involved in the St. Thomas More Community. You are required to sign up for one of the following options and provide documentation of completion of your service component.

- **Option 1:**
  - **Work 2 shifts in a game booth or the prize booth at the 2018 STM Festival. – May 4, 5, & 6, 2018. [www.stmfestival.com](http://www.stmfestival.com)**
  - **Sign up to be a lector or usher and serve at 4 Masses from June - October 2018. Contact Bret Jackson – [bret@stmchurch.org](mailto:bret@stmchurch.org)**
  - **Sign up to work a shift at the Parish Picnic (if scheduled before Confirmation is celebrated). – Will be notified by Sarah Neau when date is confirmed.**
  
- **Option 2:**
  - **Sign up for and attend the Blessings Retreat – June 13-18, 2018 – [www.blessingsmission.com](http://www.blessingsmission.com) or contact Rosie Vutera at [youth@stmchurch.org](mailto:youth@stmchurch.org) STM church will pay \$50 towards the \$250 registration cost.**
  
- **Option 3:**
  - **Sign up to be a senior helper during VBS week – June 25-29, 2018 – 5:30-8:30pm – registration opens up on April 15 at <https://membership.faithdirect.net/events/details/1602> This will involve being a leader of a group of 5 kids during VBS or helping within an activity area – your choice when you register. Registration cost is \$10.**

\*\*\*\*\*  
Please fill out and indicate which of the above service options you are choosing to do to fulfill your service component.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ am choosing to do the following option for my service component:

\_\_\_\_\_ Option 1: Festival/Lector/Usher/Parish Picnic

\_\_\_\_\_ Option 2: Blessings Mission

\_\_\_\_\_ Option 3: Vacation Bible School

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date