



## **Confirmation Preparation**

“Through the sacrament of confirmation, those who have been born anew in baptism receive the inexpressible Gift, the Holy Spirit himself, by which they are endowed with special strength. Moreover, having received the character of this sacrament, they are bound more intimately to the Church and they are more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith both by word and by deed as true witnesses of Christ.” – *Divinae Consortium Naturae*, St. Pope Paul VI.

St. Gabriel’s Confirmation candidates follow a 2-year formation program. Youth typically begin the process in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and are confirmed in the spring semester of 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Older youth who have not yet been confirmed are also welcome to join the program.

Confirmation preparation will consist of the following elements:

### **Confirmation Year 1 (Typically 8<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

- Weekly YDisciple Small Group Formation Nights (Wednesdays, Sept.-May)
  - Parent/candidate meetings (One Sunday evening orientation meeting in October and 4 additional Wednesdays throughout the year) Sponsors are also encouraged to come to the intergenerational meetings.
- Attendance at Mass on all Sundays (or vigil Masses) and Holy Days of Obligation
  - Completion of weekly brief Mass journal entry
- Participation in “Confestival” in Advent & Lent
- NET Day Retreat at St. Gabriel
- Steubenville Conference Overnight Retreat – Summer 2026 Dates TBD

### **Confirmation Year 2 (Typically 9<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

- Entrance Interview with Fr. Paul & Mr. Allen
- Weekly Small Group Formation Nights (Wednesdays, Sept.-May)
  - Parent/candidate meetings (One Sunday evening orientation meeting in October and 4 additional Wednesdays throughout the year) Sponsors are also encouraged to come to the intergenerational meetings.
- Attendance at Mass on all Sundays (or vigil Masses) and Holy Days of Obligation
  - Completion of weekly brief Mass journal entry
- Participation in “Confestival” in Advent & Lent
- Completion of three Confirmation Missions (Experiential ways of living out the faith: list will be provided)
- Completion of Saint Project
- Completion of a Candidate-Sponsor Conversation
- Confirmation NET Retreat
- Completion of a Pre-Confirmation Interview (with Pastor, Catechists/Small Group Leaders, or Faith Formation Director)
- Rite of Sending at St. Gabriel 10:30 a.m. Mass – Date TBD
- Rehearsal Dinner
- Rite of Confirmation