

**Youth Ministries: Formation, Retreats/Workshops, Community Service for Grades 6 – 12  
including Confirmation Preparation**

**Mini-Course Model**

Formation for teens in grades 6 – 10 will be offered through small group mini-courses. Each participant will select from the options available for their grade level and completes a total of two mini-course topics each year. Mini-courses meet over four consecutive weeks for 90 minutes each week. Mini-courses will be offered on Sundays 6:30pm – 8pm, Mondays 7:00pm - 8:30pm and Wednesdays 7:00pm – 8:30pm. Attendance at all four sessions is expected unless an emergency situation arises. The full schedule of Mini-Courses and meeting dates will be posted on the parish websites in early September. Please note – each topic is limited to 12 participants and are filled as enrollment forms are received.

**Retreats/Workshops**

Throughout the year there will be several opportunities for youth to participate in retreats and workshops to deepen their faith. Our program expectation is that participants complete at least one retreat or workshop while in Middle School and another in High School prior to confirmation preparation.

**Community Service**

Living a life of discipleship is part of each Catholic person's baptismal call. We provide multiple opportunities for youth to engage in meaningful service throughout the year. Our program expectation is that participants complete a minimum of one parish-based (ministry) service opportunity and one community-based (mission) service opportunity each year.

**Confirmation Preparation**

As it has been the practice for each of our parishes, we will continue to offer preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation beginning in 11<sup>th</sup> grade. In accordance with Diocesan guidelines, youth need to have completed one year of formation prior to beginning immediate preparation and participation in a Confirmation Retreat is required. Our Confirmation Preparation Sessions will be held on Monday evenings from 7:00pm – 8:30pm – they include both large and small group sessions, candidate and sponsor evenings, prayer experiences and more. Detailed information about Confirmation preparation and a full calendar will be available online by September 1<sup>st</sup>. It is anticipated that there will be a single celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation held for our three communities in the Spring of 2023 at a date determined by the Bishop's Office.

**Post-Confirmation Group**

We hold monthly gatherings for recently confirmed high school seniors. The group meets in the Youth Center to talk about how to grow in faith as young adults. Each month's topic is different. Registration is required to participate but there is no program fee.