

Our Lady of Sorrows  
217 Prospect Street  
South Orange, New Jersey 07079  
(973) 763-5454 ext. 238

March 21, 2017

Dear Parents or Guardians of Confirmation Candidates;

Your child's Confirmation is quickly approaching. On behalf of Msgr. Emery, the parish priests, and staff of Our Lady of Sorrows, we share in your excitement for this wonderful day. This letter is to provide you with all the necessary information to prepare for Confirmation Sunday.

Confirmation is Saturday, June 3rd. The ceremony will take place during the 5:30 P.M. Mass. We ask the candidates and their sponsors arrive at Our Lady of Sorrows Lower Church no later than 5:00.

Rehearsal for Confirmation will take place on Wednesday, May 31<sup>st</sup>, at 8:00 pm in the upper church. We ask that all candidates and sponsors be present at rehearsal. The rehearsal will last approximately one hour. If for some reason your sponsor is unable to make it in for rehearsal, please have someone stand in for them.

#### BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATES

**An updated version (a photo copy is not acceptable) of your child's baptismal certificate is required in order for them to receive Confirmation.** We ask that you send us this certificate AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. If your child was baptized at Our Lady of Sorrows, the certificate is still required. Contact the parish office and ask that they put an updated copy of the certificate in my mailbox. If your child was not baptized at Our Lady of Sorrows please contact the parish where your child was baptized and have them send it to us. The certificates are needed by Monday, May 8, 2017.

#### SPONSORS

Each confirmation candidate is asked to choose a confirmation sponsor. This decision should be left entirely up to the candidate and Holy Spirit. The role of a Confirmation Sponsor is to serve as a Catholic role model, a mentor, and someone who will be able to help guide the candidate as they travel their faith journey the rest of their lives. A confirmation sponsor should be any family member, relative or a close friend who is a Catholic "in good standing" and Confirmed. A parent cannot be a sponsor. The enclosed form needs to be presented to your sponsor and should be completed and returned to the Parish Office before Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### CONFIRMATION NAME

It has long been a Catholic tradition that Confirmation candidates "take-on" a confirmation name. The names need to be Christian names. A suggestion would be for the candidate to take the name of a Saint whose life they admire. Please have at least half a page telling us why they chose that name.

### ATTIRE

We ask the confirmation candidate to dress properly for this special Mass and Sacrament. Young men should wear jackets, ties and no sneakers. Young ladies should wear an appropriate outfit, (no dresses above the knee, no spaghetti straps, flip fops, etc.). Appropriate attire is important because it gives the sacrament the dignity it deserves.

### SERVICE PROJECT

Just a reminder, the candidate's service project needs to be completed, and a one-page summary describing what they did should be submitted no later than Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup>. Again, community service projects are just that: the opportunity for the candidate to put the needs of the community before their own. There are no set number of hours, the candidate should do as many as they can and should be able to feel that that have done what they can and be able to say they have done what Jesus would do.

### CATECHIST COURSES

This will be completed during Sunday night Youth Group. Please bring your books with you to the next youth group you attend for signing.

I look forward to seeing you and celebrating this special sacrament with your children. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me on my cell at (862) 216-1885 or you can contact Colleen McDonald in the Religious Education office at (973)763-5454. Peace to you and your confirmation candidate.

In His Name,

Christopher A. Kaiser, Ed.D.  
Youth Minister