

# CONFIRMATION LEVEL TWO 2020-21

## PROGRAM POLICIES (RV 9/23/2020)

General policies for the WeGrowFaith@Home Program apply to the Confirmation Program with the addition of the following. The diocesan certified St. Walter Faith Formation ReOpen Plan is available online at <https://www.stwalterchurch.com/cff/news>

**GROUPS:** Candidates are assigned to a group of peers, facilitated by two adult group leaders. There is no guarantee that candidates will be in the same group as they were in L1.

**CURRICULUM:** The L2 Confirmation process is designed to help our candidates grow in their knowledge and understanding of Scripture and what it really means to be a follower of Jesus Christ. We begin each session by reading and reflecting on the upcoming Sunday Gospel scripture passage by using *Lectio Divina* prayer.

Additionally, L2 will use the ALPHA Youth Series videos and other Sacrament of Confirmation preparation curriculum.

**PREPARATION:** Candidates are expected to bring the following to each in-person AND online class:

- Red Bible from 6<sup>th</sup> grade
- 50ct spiral notebook
- Red Confirmation folder
- Pen
- Any work assigned by the group leader or the Faith Formation Office per the calendar.
- Missing Bibles can be purchased from the office for \$10/each.

**SESSION TIMES:** For the hybrid session there are 8 in-person sessions and 6 online sessions. For the ALL REMOTE group, there are 13 online sessions and 1 in-person session. Both have "Specials" that occur outside the regular session time.

Unless otherwise noted, Tuesday in-person sessions occur 7:00-8:30pm. **YOUTH MUST ARRIVE ON CAMPUS between 6:45 and 7:00pm.** Doors to St. Francis Hall will be locked after that time. Late arrivals are not permitted and the session will need to be made-up.

**Online sessions** begin PROMPTLY at 7:00pm. All youth are expected to log at 6:55.

\*\*\*Due to COVID-19, only staff, volunteers and youth are permitted in the school during Confirmation sessions.

- ***YOUTH MUST ARRIVE ON CAMPUS between 6:46-7:00pm.*** Doors to St. Francis Hall will be locked 5 minutes after the start of the session.
- Late arrivals are not permitted and the session will need to be made-up.
- Any youth not in attendance at their day school because of illness is not permitted to attend Confirmation class.
- Any youth exposed to COVID-19 within 2 weeks of class is not to attend class
- Any youth experiencing COVID like symptoms after school but before Confirmation class is not to attend class.
- **Parents of youth not in attendance for in-person class are asked to call the Faith Formation Office before 6:00pm to report the absence and reason for absence.**
- Youth are required to wear a face mask over the nose and mouth the entire time on St. Walter campus and in St. Walter buildings.
- Youth are to check their temperature and wash hands prior to leaving the home for class.
- **DROP OFF: Vehicles will enter the church circle drive from Pine Avenue.** All youth will undergo a health screening by Faith Formation staff prior to exiting the parent's vehicle which includes asking about COVID like symptoms and a body temperature scan. All individuals in the car, including the driver, **MUST** wear a face mask when the staff member conducts the screening.
- Once cleared, youth will enter St. Francis Hall with mask on to sanitize their hands. Then proceed to classroom.
- Missed in-person sessions must be made up at home before the Confirmation retreat. The office will contact you with a make-up assignment.
- The retreat, may or may not have a make-up opportunity.
- Except in the case of illness, early dismissal will not be allowed.
- The Sacrament of Confirmation will be offered only if all requirements are completed.
- All youth and parents must sign and submit **the REVISED Diocese of Joliet Youth Permission Form** prior to the first Confirmation session.
- **PICK UP: Parents will park in the St. Walter main parking lot only.** Youth will be escorted out of the building by their leader and then walk to the parent's vehicle. The church circle drive is **NOT** used for pick-up. Parents are to wait next to or inside their vehicle.

## **DISMISSAL FROM SESSIONS for BEHAVIOR VIOLATION**

- In cases where this code is violated, the candidate will receive a SINGLE verbal warning by the catechist.
- Afterwards, the candidate will be escorted to the office, and the parent will be contacted to pick up their child.  
The candidate will be required to make up the session.

## **VIRTUAL CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS FOR YOUTH AND PARENTS (for all remote learners)**

To ensure a positive, productive and enjoyable learning experience for all youth, it is important that all students and parents/guardians adhere to these Zoom Meeting Expectations, which include online behaviors for students and privacy guidelines for parents.

### **Behavioral Expectations for Students**

To ensure a positive and productive learning environment during these sessions, it is important that all youth adhere to the following behavioral expectations.

- All youth are to log at 6:55. Session begins promptly at **7pm**.
- All clothing must reflect Christian values. Daytime clothing is to be worn.
- Youth are to be seated at a table, desk or similar piece of furniture in their home. Sitting in bed during an online session is not permitted.
- Youth may use only the St. Walter approved classroom photo provided for their virtual background or use an area in their home with minimal background distractions.
- Youth may not eat or drink during online session.
- Youth are to always be respectful and courteous to other youth and adult group leaders during Zoom Meetings. Inappropriate, offensive or threatening comments; misrepresentation of identity, and/or disruptive behavior by any participants during virtual sessions will not be tolerated.
- Login credentials must not be shared. Sharing of login information violates other youth's and adults' rights to confidentiality, and could allow group participation by unauthorized persons and/or lead to disruptive behaviors that detract from a productive and positive learning environment.
- Youth who are disruptive and/or "trespass" Zoom sessions will receive appropriate consequences in accordance with the Diocese of Joliet Youth Behavior and Permission Form. Consequences may result in dismissal from the St. Walter Confirmation Program for the duration of the year. Youth receiving this consequence may would have assignments provided to the youth's parent/guardian.

## Privacy Guidelines for Parents/Guardians/Youth

To maintain a positive, productive learning environment and assure confidentiality for youth and adults during distance learning, all parents/guardians/youth are to follow the following privacy guidelines.

- Zoom Meetings are designed for youth. To prevent disruptions to the learning environment, parents/guardians should not actively participate in check-in sessions, although parents/guardians may assist their child with technology and/or remain nearby.
- Do not video record, audio record, photograph, live stream, or transmit in any other way any part of a Zoom Meeting, including not posting on any social media platform.
- Any confidential or personally identifiable information related to students participating during Zoom Meetings should not be collected, discussed or shared.
- Parents/guardians should not engage with students during Zoom sessions. If you need to speak with your child during a virtual session, first mute your child's microphone.
- If a parent/guardian has a question, please email the St. Walter Faith Formation Office or your teen's leader.

### MISSED SESSIONS:

- Parents are to contact the FF Office if your child will be absent for illness.
- Due to illness or unforeseen circumstances, candidates will be offered opportunities to make up missed sessions.
- After the monthly session, parents will be contacted, via email, with details regarding the make-up options.
- The director may intervene if there is an abuse of the makeup policy.

### L1/L2 SUNDAY MASS REFLECTIONS:

The Mass is the most perfect prayer for Catholics. It is where we are fed with the spiritual food of Christ's own Body and Blood. Life is difficult, but Christ promised us He would remain in us. It is by consuming the Holy Eucharist that we become nourished.

Each candidate will complete **SIX (6) Sunday Mass** reflections (one per month per schedule) as a way to grow deeper in their understanding and appreciation for the Mass. Candidates are to attend Mass weekly, either in-person or online and once/month complete the **L1/L2 Sunday Mass Reflection**. The L1/L2 Sunday Mass Reflection can be completed using the online Google Form located on the parish website, or youth may submit a paper copy. One paper copy is provided in this packet. **Monthly Sunday Mass Reflections are due per Confirmation L2 Calendar.**

**SUNDAY MASS FAMILY REFLECTIONS:** The candidate also has the option of completing the **SUNDAY MASS FAMILY REFLECTION** if he/she has younger siblings in the program. This option will be accepted provided it is clearly evident to CFF Staff that both the parent AND the youth each participated in responding to the reflection questions.

Both reflection forms are available online under Faith Formation on the parish website.

## **PERSONAL DISCIPLESHIP PLAN**

The Sacrament of Confirmation gives us the grace to go forth and live as a follower of Jesus Christ—a disciple. What is a disciple? A disciple is one who learns about and lives like the Master. In our case, the Master is Jesus Christ. So to be a disciple of Jesus Christ you need to study Him (knowledge/scripture/lives of Saint/Catholicism), live like Him (Christian Service) and know Him deeply and personally (vibrant prayer life).

Each of us needs to grow in different areas as a disciple, a follower of Jesus Christ.

- Some of us need to learn to talk to Jesus, to get to know him better by developing a stronger, more regular prayer life (Adoration, Rosary, Daily Mass Readings, weekly Mass, Lectio Divina, Nightly Examen, etc).
- Some of us need to act more like Jesus and grow in loving our neighbor by living out the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy (Feed My Starving Children, Cards for Shut-ins, commitment to an elderly neighbor or relative, Phil's Friends, Roselle Food Pantry, NIFB, etc).
- Some of us need to grow in our knowledge of our Faith through reading religious books, watching videos, or listening to Christian music, podcasts. Reading the Gospels and meditating on them help us to know Jesus.
- Most of us need to work in all three areas! What are your strengths? Where do you need to grow?

Candidates will develop a plan to grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ. Candidates will develop his/her **Personal Discipleship Plan** by explaining how they will grow as a follower of Jesus Christ and then **list and describe three (3) concrete actions they will do to achieve this goal.** Each candidate AND parent will sign off on the **Personal Discipleship Plan**. The candidate will complete the listed actions in his/her plan and then journal about the experience using the *Confirmation Discipleship Reflection Form* to record thoughts/responses to the questions for each activity. The **Personal Discipleship Plan is due October 13. The Confirmation Discipleship Reflections are due November 30, January 12 and March 9.**

**SUNDAY MASS REFLECTIONS:** The Mass is the most perfect prayer for Catholics. It is where we are fed with the spiritual food of Christ's own Body and Blood. Life is difficult, but Christ promised us He would remain in us. It is by consuming the Holy Eucharist that we become nourished. Each candidate will complete **SIX (6) Sunday Mass** reflections (one per month per schedule) as a way to grow deeper in their understanding and appreciation for the Mass. Candidates are to attend Mass either in-person or online once/month and then respond to the Mass Reflections located online. Monthly Sunday Mass Reflections are due per Confirmation L2 calendar.

The candidate also has the option of completing the **SUNDAY MASS FAMILY REFLECTION** if he/she has younger siblings in the program. Both reflection forms are available online under Faith Formation on the parish website.

**VIRTUAL CANDIDATE/SPONSOR DAY:** It is our intent to offer a virtual event for the Candidate and the Sponsor. Tentative date is on the calendar. Details will be available when finalized.

**RETREAT:** All candidates must fully participate in one of the retreat opportunities. Options will be available for an in-person retreat and an online option. Details will be sent once available. If a candidate is unable to attend one of the three in-person retreats held at our parish, we will arrange for the youth to complete the online retreat in March.

**DISCIPLESHIP FAITH CONVERSATIONS:** All candidates will participate in a conversation with a member of the parish staff, or other member of the parish, to discuss their experience of sacramental preparation, and consider ways of continuing their faith journey. Online alternatives will be available. Conversations will take place in March. More information regarding the interview will be available at a later date.

**CONFIRMATION MASS:** Once we receive the assigned date from the Bishop's Office, we will contact you with the pertinent information, including rehearsal date/time and Mass date/time.

**St. Walter  
CONFIRMATION PROGRAM  
LEVEL TWO 2020-2021**

**Confirmation Policy Agreement Form**

Name of Student (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent /Guardian (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

This statement verifies that I have read the *Confirmation Level 2 Program Policies 2020-2021*, and agree to its terms including:

- Unfulfilled requirements from Level 1 must be completed in the second year.
- Students in Confirmation Level 2 must complete all sessions, assignments and specials per the 2020-21 L2 Calendar and as described in the 2020-21 Program Policies, including
- Failure to complete all requirements of the two-year Confirmation program may result in a delay of reception of the sacrament by one year.
- I understand that in-person arrivals after 7:pm will not be allowed.
- I understand that early dismissal from in-person sessions will not be allowed.
- We will sign and submit the REVISED Diocese of Joliet Youth Permission Form.
- In case of illness or emergencies, there will be opportunities to make up missed sessions. The Faith Formation staff will communicate the make-up information.
- In cases of misbehavior, including failure to abide by our COVID-19 requirements of properly wearing a face mask while attending in-person events, or failing to adhere to social distancing requirements, the candidate will receive a **SINGLE** verbal warning by the leader. Afterwards, the candidate will be sent to the office, and required to make up the session.

Youth/Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_