

St. Francis of Assisi Faith Formation
1031 Chenango Street
Binghamton, NY 13901
607-722-4177

Dear Parents and Candidates,

Welcome to Confirmation! This year we hope to challenge as well as stimulate your faith formation. **There will be an orientation meeting regarding the Sacramental process for Parents and Candidates, Tuesday, October 10th at 7:00 PM in the Parish Hall. *Because we have made changes to the sacramental process all candidates and a parent must attend this meeting.*** The biggest change for the candidates is that class will meet once a month on Sunday 9:30 AM-1:30 PM. The class will attend 11 AM Mass, they can sit as a group or preferably with their family. There will be assignments for the candidates to complete, **before the monthly class.** We will be using Decision Point by Dynamic Catholic. I have purchased workbooks for each candidate. The information is online as well. The assignment will be in the workbook and candidates will complete that before class. This information will then be explored in depth in class. After Mass we will have lunch and a guest presenter or panel that compliments the session information. Students will begin classes on November 5th and celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation in the fall of 2018.

Candidates and Parents are also required to attend at least one session of the Parish Mission described below. Our mission, *Faith on Fire* will be presented by Rev. Kevin Beal. The Mission will be held at St. Francis of Assisi Church Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, October 2-3-4, at 7 PM.

The candidates will identify a saint to research and journey with throughout the course. The idea is to emulate a patron saint for this sacrament and keep this devotion for the rest of their life.

The candidates need to volunteer in a service project throughout the year. They can do this project with their family, sponsor, or work on something with another candidate—provided that the project has been approved by Mrs. Glenn and/or Mrs Kirk in advance. The candidates will then present their service project/opportunity to the parish in early September. This “Service Expo” will give the candidates the chance to share how their project has helped them understand service as a way of life and fulfilling our baptismal vows. Candidates will also have the opportunity to serve at the Harvest Dinner and distributing Thanksgiving Baskets at Catherine’s Cupboard. Sign-Up sheets will be at the information meeting.

I will need sponsor information and proper eligibility documentation by the December session. I have included paper work to bring to our first meeting which is Tuesday, October 10th. It will start promptly at 7 PM in the Parish Hall. **It is critical that the parent and candidate attend this meeting.** We will go over the expectations and additional information that you will need for the next year. This meeting is very important and sets the tone for the entire year. Your attendance is **required** at this kick-off meeting. If you have not already registered your child for Faith Formation classes, please do so and bring that form, which was mailed in August and is available online or at church, with you to this meeting. If you have questions or concerns please call me on my cell, 607-222-1477. Please feel free to place these forms in an envelope to my attention and mail them to me or put them in the collection basket in advance of the meeting.

Sincerely,
Maria Kirk, Director of Faith Formation

2018 Confirmation Calendar

- All sessions are required. If a student must miss a class due to illness, a makeup session must be scheduled with Mrs. Glenn and two other candidates who did attend the missed class.
- Attendance at Mass is part of our faith, if you sometimes visit a different parish please bring in a bulletin from that church. Bulletins must be submitted each month at class.
 - Sessions meet on Sunday from 9:30AM – 1:30 PM, unless otherwise stated

October 1(Sunday)	Parish Mission Family Concert St. Mary of the Assumption 7 PM
October 2-3-4	(M-T-W) Parish Mission at SFA 7 PM (Parent/Candidate required to attend 1 session)
October 10 (Tues)	Parent/Candidate Information Meeting 7 PM Parish Hall Registration/ Baptismal Certificates needed
November 4-5 (Sat-Sun)	Harvest Dinner – sign up will be at the Information Mtg
November 5 (Sun)	1st Session – Complete Chapters 2-3 before class
November 18 (Sat)	Thanksgiving Baskets distribution sign up will be at the Information Mtg
December 3 (Sun)	2nd Session – Complete Chapters 4-5 before class Rite of Acceptance at 11 AM Mass Sponsor Information DUE! Saints essay DUE! Panel from Neuman Center
January 6 (Sat)	Retreat at Neuman Center 10am—5pm Complete Chapters 6-7-8 before retreat Sunday Mass included
February 4 (Sun)	3rd Session – Complete Chapters 9-10 before class
February 16 (Fri)	Service Retreat (9 am-2 pm)—details to follow—Drivers Needed
March 4 (Sun)	4th Session – Complete Chapters 11-12 before class Interfaith Panel
April 15 (Sun)	5th Session – Who is Jesus? Personal Beliefs Statements Due

Confirmation Information Sheet

Please fill-in completely and mail to Maria Kirk or bring it to the Information Meeting

Candidate's Name _____ Allergies _____

Church of Baptism *

Candidate's Email address

Candidate's Cell _____

Confirmation Name (by January)
(Does not need to be your Saint's Name)

Parent's Name

Mom's Maiden Name _____

Parent's Mailing Address

Parent's Email address

Cell/Phone number

Sponsor's Name

Sponsor's Parish**

Additional Sponsor information on separate sheet needed by December class

You are required to identify a Saint that you will learn about and pray to/with during this year. This saint should be someone whom you admire and that you would like to model your life after. Your Saint Report is due at your November class.

Saint's Name

* I will need a copy of your child's baptismal certificate if they were not baptized at St. Christopher's, St. Rita's or St. Catherine's. **Please circle the specific church.**

** This is NOT where your sponsor was Baptized or Confirmed. Please give the name of the church your sponsor's attends today. They must be a **registered member** of that parish, to be eligible to act as your sponsor. (See blue sheet for diocesan requirements)

Confirmation **Sponsor** Information

(Due at your December Class)

Each Candidate for Confirmation will be accompanied by a sponsor. It is desirable, though not mandatory, that the sponsor who undertook the role of sponsor at Baptism be a sponsor at Confirmation. A sponsor may be male or female and must be at least 16 years of age. A sponsor must be a Catholic who is fully initiated—that is, he/she has received the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist—and who is in good standing with the Catholic Church. While parents may not serve as sponsors in the strict, they may present their child to the Bishop for the reception of the sacrament.

The role of sponsor is to be a “companion on the journey” with the candidate, to be friend and mentor, both during the process of preparation for the sacrament and beyond. As such he/she should be invited to be an active participant in the preparation process.

Taken from the Diocese of Syracuse Confirmation Guidelines

Candidate's Name _____

Year of Confirmation _____

Sponsor's Name _____ Preferred phone # _____

Sponsor's Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Sponsor's Email _____

Your sponsor **must** be a registered member of a parish to be eligible to act as a sponsor for any sacrament. That includes **St. Francis of Assisi**. If your sponsor is not a **registered member** of St. Francis they will need to obtain a “Certificate of Eligibility” from their parish.

I must have this certificate by your December class.

Sponsor's Parish _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Briefly state why you chose this person as a sponsor

