

Dear Parents and/or Guardians,

The Confirmation Retreats are just around the corner. Confirmation Retreats are an opportunity for our 8<sup>th</sup> graders to look at what it means to be a disciple of Christ and deepen their relationship with God. Archbishop Lucas asks every candidate for Confirmation to participate in a retreat.

Please click the Sign Up Genius link

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/409094aa4a82fa31-confirmation1> to register. Be sure to enter the candidate's name (not the parent). Each retreat is strictly limited to 36 youth participants so dates are available on a first-come, first-served basis. If you do not indicate a preference by September 23, your student will be randomly assigned to a retreat and you will be notified by email. Changing retreat dates after they are assigned is not possible except in extreme cases.

- **Location:** St. Vincent de Paul Meeting Room, located by the Parish Offices here at the parish.
- **Dates:** We offer the option of four (4) different dates. Youth need to attend only one (1). The dates are **October 1, October 2, November 12, or November 13**
- **Times:** Students should arrive at 12:45 pm for check-in. The retreat will start promptly at 1 pm and will conclude with students attending the 5 pm Mass. Parents and families are strongly encouraged to be present for the closing Mass. The youth will sit together in the section nearest the piano. There will be a special blessing for the Confirmation candidates at this Mass.

#### **What to bring**

- Please wear appropriate clothing. Since it will be in early Fall, long pants or jeans and covered shoes, would be appropriate attire. Bring a sweatshirt or long sleeve shirt, as the conference room can get cool.

#### **What not to bring (will be confiscated)**

- **Cell phones or other electronic devices.** Ask your child to give you their cell phone before the retreat. These become a major distraction. If they would like to bring an empty, spill-proof drink container they may do so, water will be available during the retreat.

**ADULT HELP IS NEEDED.** In order for the retreats to be held, there is a need for Safe Environment Certified adult table assistants to serve as small group table leaders. Volunteers may be parents, sponsors or other adults (age 21 or older) who can relate to students.

Volunteers will sit with a group of 8 young people and help monitor discussions on topics assigned by the Retreat Facilitator and help keep their group on task throughout the afternoon. If you would be able to help with this important step in the faith journey of these young parishioners, please use the Sign Up Genius link above.

For questions, contact me in the Religious Formation Office at 402-493-1642.