

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

# Confirmation Prep

Student Handbook – Year 2



*“Come Holy Spirit fill the hearts of Your faithful and  
kindle in them the fire of Your love.”*

# **2017-2018 Confirmation Year 2 Schedule**

## **Sundays 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM**

September 17<sup>th</sup> – Orientation (7PM – 8PM)

October 1<sup>st</sup> – Due: Statement of Intent and Ministry Selection

**October 7<sup>th</sup> – Mothers Retreat (1PM – 4PM)**

October 15<sup>th</sup>

October 29<sup>th</sup>

**November 11<sup>th</sup> – Fathers Retreat (1PM – 4PM)**

November 12<sup>th</sup>

**November 26<sup>th</sup>: No Class - Happy Thanksgiving!**

\*November 26<sup>th</sup>: Confirmation Retreat Option #1 (11AM – 5PM)\*

December 3<sup>rd</sup>

December 17<sup>th</sup>

**December 31<sup>st</sup>: No Class - Happy New Year!**

January 7<sup>th</sup> – Due: Saint Report

January 21<sup>st</sup>

**February 4<sup>th</sup>: No Class – Super Bowl Sunday**

February 11<sup>th</sup>

**February 25<sup>th</sup> – Guest Speaker: Pat Millae (Parents and Candidates)**

\*March 2<sup>nd</sup>: Confirmation Retreat Option #2 (3PM – 9PM)\*

**March 11<sup>th</sup>: No Class - Spring Break**

March 25<sup>th</sup> – Interview must be completed or scheduled.

April 8<sup>th</sup>

April 22<sup>nd</sup>

May 6<sup>th</sup>: Final Class

***May 10<sup>th</sup>: Confirmation Ceremony at 7 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Paul***

# Requirements

## Attendance

Students are expected to be present for all classes. If a conflict arises, please inform Mariah ([msmith@seasparish.org](mailto:msmith@seasparish.org)). Make-up work will be required for each absence. Guidelines for make-up work are listed in the next section. If more than 3 absences occur, the student must schedule a meeting with Mariah or one of the priests to go over missed curriculum. Meetings can be scheduled through Mariah ([msmith@seasparish.org](mailto:msmith@seasparish.org)).

If a student has three absences without reason, Mariah will schedule a meeting with you in order to discuss whether you are ready to receive the sacrament or participate in another year of prep.

## Make-Up Policy

For each absence, make-up work must be submitted. Make-up work should be submitted no more than two weeks after absence. The instructions for make-up work are as follows:

- Pick one of the following podcast channels and select an episode to listen to:
  - **Father Mike Schmitz** (<https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/umd-newman-catholic-campus-ministry/id273537688?mt=2>)
  - **Catholic Answers Live** (<https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/catholic-answers-live/id129684370?mt=2>)
  - **Do Something Beautiful** (<https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/do-something-beautiful/id1159764896?mt=2>)
  - **Bishop Robert Barron** (<https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/bishop-robert-barrons-sermons/id75551187?mt=2>)
  - **Catholic Stuff You Should Know** (<https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/catholic-stuff-you-should-know/id412678859?mt=2>)
  - **The SaintCast – Catholic Saints on Call** (<https://itunes.apple.com/us/podcast/the-saintcast-catholic-saints-on-call/id129577744?mt=2>)
- Listen to selected episode and then type a 150 word summary/reflection on it.
- Summaries/reflections can be submitted via email to Mariah ([msmith@seasparish.org](mailto:msmith@seasparish.org)).

## Spiritual Component

It is important to learn about our faith and understand the teachings of the Catholic Church. However, in addition to that, we must also come to know the actual person of Christ. How do we do this? Prayer. Through prayer, we are able to draw closer to Christ and better understand His love and will for us.

Once a month, you may pick from one of the following opportunities in order to fulfill the Spiritual Component of your Confirmation prep requirements. One must be completed each month from October – April. If you attend Dominus Est, Adoration, or Daily Mass, you must submit a slip (provided in your folder) signed and dated by one of your parents or one of the priests.

Parents and sponsors, if possible, are encouraged to participate in the Spiritual Component with their candidate.

### **Dominus Est**

*Come spend an hour with the Lord!*

*Benediction, Eucharistic Adoration, Praise and Worship, Confession*

**Time:** 7:30-8:30 PM

**Where:** St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church

**Dates:**

Oct 24<sup>th</sup>

Nov 28<sup>th</sup>

Dec 18<sup>th</sup>

Jan 30<sup>th</sup>

Feb 27<sup>th</sup>

March 20<sup>th</sup>

April 24<sup>th</sup>

May 29<sup>th</sup>

### **Adoration**

*Here at SEAS, we are blessed with Perpetual Adoration. What is Perpetual Adoration? Perpetual Adoration is a Eucharistic devotion whereby members of a given parish unite in taking hours of adoration before the Most Blessed Sacrament, both during the day and throughout the night, seven days a week. This allows anyone to come in and pray anytime they want.*

**Time:** Visit must be 1 hour

## **Lifeline (permission form required)**

*Join NET Ministries and over 1,000 young people on the first Saturday of every month for Lifeline Mass. With contemporary music, energetic crowds, and powerful presentations, Lifeline is focused on giving 8-12th graders in the Minnesota area the chance to experience the beauty of Mass with their peers.*

**When:** First Saturday – Bus leaves from SEAS at 4:30 p.m. and returns at 10 p.m.

**Where:** NET Center

### **Dates:**

Oct 7<sup>th</sup>

~~Nov 4<sup>th</sup> SOLD OUT~~

Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>

Jan 6<sup>th</sup>

Feb 3<sup>rd</sup>

March 3<sup>rd</sup>

April 7<sup>th</sup>

May 5<sup>th</sup>

## **High School Youth Group**

*Join us once a month for discussion, prayer, and a chance to grow in Christ-centered friendships. This year, we will be working through the “YOU” series by Augustine Institute.*

**When:** Wednesdays, 6:30-8 PM

**Where:** JPPI Youth Room

### **Dates:**

Oct 18<sup>th</sup>

Nov 29<sup>th</sup>

Dec 13<sup>th</sup>

Jan 31<sup>st</sup>

Feb 21<sup>st</sup>

March 28<sup>th</sup>

April 18<sup>th</sup>

May 2<sup>nd</sup>

## **Daily Mass\***

*Did you know that Mass is offered every day of the week? Here at SEAS, Mass is offered every Monday – Saturday at 8 AM and on Tuesdays at 5:15 PM.*

**\*Daily Mass does not fulfill your Sunday Mass obligation.**

## Ministry Component

Being Catholic is so much more than just attending Sunday Mass and going to confession every now and then. Being Catholic means that you are part of the Body of Christ, His Church. Just as we are meant to spend time with our families and contribute to them, so too are we meant to do this in our parish family. There are so many ministries within our parish which are in need of your time and talent.

Each Confirmation student is required to select a ministry within our parish and remain involved in it for the entirety of their Confirmation prep.

You can select your ministry from the options listed below:

### **Liturgical Ministries**

Contact: Kellen O'Grady – Director of Liturgy and Music

Email: [kogrady@seasparish.org](mailto:kogrady@seasparish.org)

#### **Altar Server**

*Vest and assist at Sunday Mass.*

- Undergo training
- Participation at least once per month
- Participation in at least one major liturgy per semester (*[Semester 1: Solemnity of All Saints; Commemoration of All Souls; Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception; Christmas; Epiphany]* *[Semester 2: Ash Wednesday; Palm Sunday; Sacred Paschal Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil); Easter Sunday; Pentecost]*)
- Mentor one younger altar server as they learn for themselves

#### **Lector**

*Proclaim the word of God through one of the readings at Mass.*

- Undergo training
- Participation at least once per month
- Spend at least 30 minutes in contemplative prayer with the whole set of readings before the Blessed Sacrament in the week before you lector. (Readings may be found at [www.usccb.org/readings](http://www.usccb.org/readings))
- Participation in at least 1 major liturgy per semester (*[Semester 1: Solemnity of All Saints; Commemoration of All Souls; Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception; Christmas; Epiphany]* *[Semester 2: Ash Wednesday; Palm Sunday; Sacred Paschal Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil); Easter Sunday; Pentecost]*)

### **Cantor or Instrumentalist**

*Lead the assembly in song at Mass. (Placements dependent upon audition)*

- Undergo an audition and training
- Participation at least once per month
- Rehearse with Kellen the week prior to the Mass you cantor or play
- Spend at least 15 minutes before the Blessed Sacrament contemplating the psalm you will proclaim

### **Ensemble**

*Sing in one of the choirs or ring hand bells. (Placement dependent upon audition)*

- Undergo an audition
- Participate at least once per month on Sunday
- Attend at least two rehearsals per month

### **Liturgical Assistant**

*Help with office work, music filing, photocopying, and liturgical environment*

- Set office hours with Kellen at least 3 hours scheduled per month
- Make a Holy hour once per month in prayer for particular intentions of the parish

## Catechetical Ministries

Contact: Mariah Smith

Email: [msmith@seasparish.org](mailto:msmith@seasparish.org)

### **EDGE Small Group Co-Leader**

*1-2 Wednesdays per month, lead a small group of middle school kids attending EDGE. You will help lead discussion, activities, and prayer in your small group.*

- Be available for all EDGE nights unless you get an approved absence from Mariah.
- Be present for catechist meetings 30 minutes before each EDGE night starts.
- Actively participate in the night and be a positive role model for all middle school participants.
- Pray for all the kids in your small group.

#### **Dates:**

|                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Sept 20 <sup>th</sup> | Feb 28 <sup>th</sup>   |
| Oct 11 <sup>th</sup>  | March 21 <sup>st</sup> |
| Nov 15 <sup>th</sup>  | April 4 <sup>th</sup>  |
| Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>  | April 25 <sup>th</sup> |
| Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup>   | May 16 <sup>th</sup>   |
| Jan 24 <sup>th</sup>  |                        |

## **Over the EDGE Core Team**

*1 day each month come and help lead a fun activity or service project for middle school participants. As this only takes place once a month, you must be present for all dates.*

- Attend all dates plus two Core Team meetings.
  - Sunday, Oct 8<sup>th</sup>(12:30 p.m.) and Sunday, Feb 11<sup>th</sup>(1:30 p.m.)
- Be a witness of God's love to all middle school participants.
- Pray for all the kids involved with Over the EDGE.

### **Over the EDGE Dates:**

Fri, Sept 29<sup>th</sup> Over the EDGE Kickoff Night 6-8 PM

Thurs, Oct 19<sup>th</sup> Movie Night at SEAS 6-8:30 PM

Wed, Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> Feed My Starving Children 8:30AM – 12PM

Fri-Sat, Dec 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> Winterblast 6PM-7AM

Fri, Jan 28<sup>th</sup> Snow Tubing 2-5:30PM

Fri, Feb 16<sup>th</sup> Feed My Starving Children 1:30-5PM

Wed, March 14<sup>th</sup> Evening of Lenten Reflection 7-8:30PM

Fri, April 13<sup>th</sup> Sandwich Project 5-6:30PM

Fri, May 4<sup>th</sup> MORP 5:30-8PM

## **Clubs**

Contact: Mariah Smith

Email: [msmith@seasparish.org](mailto:msmith@seasparish.org)

### **Catholic Movie Critics Club**

*Meet once a month to watch a pre-selected film together followed by discussion.*

- Attend every meeting.
- Actively participate in discussion.
- You must have a signed permission form for this club from your parents as some of the films may be rated R.

**Time:** 6 – 9 PM

**Where:** JP II Youth Room

**Dates:**

Tues, Oct 17<sup>th</sup> – Secondhand Lions (PG)  
Tues, Nov 21<sup>st</sup> – The Blind Side (PG-13)  
Thurs, Dec 28<sup>th</sup> – Les Misérables (PG-13)  
Thurs, Jan 25<sup>th</sup> – There Be Dragons (PG-13)

Thurs, Feb 15<sup>th</sup> – Belle (PG)  
Tues, March 13<sup>th</sup> – The Passion (R)  
Fri, April 27<sup>th</sup> – The Help (PG-13)  
Fri, May 18<sup>th</sup> – The Avengers (PG-13)



## **Pro-Life Club**

*Meet once a month for discussion, prayer, and service centered on the pro-life movement. We are the Pro-Life Generation!*

- Attend every meeting.
- Actively participate in discussion.
- Take steps to support the pro-life movement beyond monthly meetings through prayer, service, conversation, or pro-life rallies

**When:** Mondays, 6 – 7:30 PM

**Where:** JP11 Youth Room

**Dates:**

Oct 30<sup>th</sup>  
Nov 27<sup>th</sup>  
Dec 18<sup>th</sup>  
Jan 29<sup>th</sup>  
Feb 26<sup>th</sup>  
March 26<sup>th</sup>  
April 30<sup>th</sup>  
May 28<sup>th</sup>

## Parish Ministries

### **Eucharistic Adorer**

Contact: Mary Ann Bambenek

Phone: 651-437-4546

*Here at SEAS, we are blessed with Perpetual Adoration. We could not have this if it were not for people who commit to an hour of Adoration every week. There are a few empty spots on the schedule as well as some hours that are in need of a second adorer.*

- Be on time and present for your weekly hour of Adoration
- If you are in need of a sub, it is your responsibility to find one.
- Fulfill all duties of an Adorer.

### **Be Our Guest**

Contact: Sheila Jones: 651-437-6282

Jesse Starkson: 507-837-9928

*Once a month help serve a meal for those in need.*

- Be present and on time for each dinner.
- Serve dinner guests with love and joy.
- Pray for all dinner guests.

**When:** Second Thursday of each month from 6-7 PM

**Where:** SEAS – Mother Seton Hall

### **Seaside Nursery\***

Contact: Faith Siebenaler

Email: fsiebenaler@seasparish.org

*Help care for children in the Seaside Nursery during the 8 AM and 10 AM Masses on two Sundays a month.*

- Must be 16 or older
- Must complete Virtus
- Must be on time and present for all shifts

**\*Working in the nursery does not fulfill Sunday Mass obligation.**

### **Dishwasher**

Contact: Faith Siebenaler

Email: fsiebenaler@seasparish.org

*Be trained to run the dishwasher in SEAS kitchen. Once you are trained, you will be added to the phone list. You will then be called and asked to help with Doughnut Sundays, weekend funerals, and other parish events. You must help with at least one event each month.*

- Attend dishwasher training.
- Work diligently.
- Respond promptly to any dishwasher requests from parish contact.

### **Kitchen Staff for EDGE**

Contact: Sarah Sprinthall

Email: ssprinthall@seasparish.org

*For all EDGE nights, come and help our parent volunteers set up and serve dinner.*

- Be present for all EDGE nights
- Be respectful and listen to parent volunteer instructions.

**When:** Wednesdays, 5:30 – 7:00 PM

**Where:** SEAS

**Dates:**

|                       |                      |                        |                        |
|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Sept 20 <sup>th</sup> | Dec 20 <sup>th</sup> | Feb 28 <sup>th</sup>   | April 25 <sup>th</sup> |
| Oct 11 <sup>th</sup>  | Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup>  | March 21 <sup>st</sup> | May 16 <sup>th</sup>   |
| Nov 15 <sup>th</sup>  | Jan 24 <sup>th</sup> | April 4 <sup>th</sup>  |                        |

### **Families of Faith Station Leader**

Contact: Jennifer Schneider

Email: jschneider@seasparish.org

*Choose to volunteer on either one Monday or Wednesday a month as a station or small group leader for Families of Faith. As a station leader, you would lead whatever activity or discussion has been assigned to you. As a small group leader, you will be in charge of leading a small group of kids to each station. Sessions are held on the first Monday and Wednesday of each month unless there is a holiday then it will be the following week. You must decide to participate in all Monday sessions or all Wednesday sessions.*

**When:** Mondays 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. or Wednesdays 6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

**Where:** SEAS

### **Families of Faith Kitchen Help**

Contact: Jennifer Schneider

Email: jschneider@seasparish.org

*On one Sunday each month help cook, serve, and clean up the meal for Families of Faith participants.*

**When:** Sundays, 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**Where:** SEAS

## **Saint Report**

As part of your preparation for the sacrament of Confirmation, you will select a saint whose name you will take for your Confirmation name. When deciding on a Confirmation name, the goal is to pick the name of a saint you admire, can relate to, or aspire to be like. This saint will be bonded to you spiritually and will be your model in life and can be the one you turn to for guidance and protection. Throughout the Bible, there are many examples of people taking on new names, dating back to the Old Testament. God changed the names of many to reflect the special roles they'd play throughout the history of the Church. For example, God changed Abram's name to Abraham meaning, "father to a host of nations." This name change signified that God was making a covenant with Abraham that would make him the first of God's people on earth. Simon's name was changed to Peter, meaning "rock" and refers to Peter becoming the first pope: "And upon this rock I will build my church" (Matthew 16:17-18).

So, how do you do it? Well, there are many different ways to go about picking a Confirmation saint. Perhaps, you could just pick up a book of saints and start reading. One may stand out to you. You could find out who the patron

saint is of your favorite hobby or interest. Are there certain virtues or characteristics that you admire? Find a saint who has them! You could also simply pray about it. God may have the perfect saint in mind for you, and all you need to do is ask Him who it is. Lastly, maybe you already have a saint name. Many of you were named after saints already, and you would like to choose that same saint to be your Confirmation saint.

Once you have selected your Confirmation saint, you will type a report on your saint. Try not to see this as a school assignment, but rather as a chance to share what you find interesting about your saint and how you came to pick them.

Use the following guidelines in order to type your report:

- Facts: Name of your saint and short summary of their life
- Describe the virtues of your saint and some of the key moments in their life.
- State your reasons for picking this saint and what you are hoping to learn from this saint.
- 12 point Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins, 250 words

## Sponsor

In addition to selecting a saint, Confirmation candidates must allow select a sponsor. A sponsor is meant to be your guide in the faith. They are someone you look to for guidance in your faith, as well as someone you can rely on to pray for you and be there for you when you are in need.

The requirements for a sponsor are as follows:

- They cannot be one of your parents.
- They must be at least 16 years old and have already received the sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation in the Catholic Church.
- They must be practicing Catholics who attend Mass on all Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
- They must be an active parishioner at their Catholic parish.
- If married, they must be married in the church, or their marriage must be recognized as valid.

As long as they meet these requirements, you can pick practically anyone as your sponsor. Perhaps you choose one of your older siblings or another family member. Maybe you choose a family friend that you have always looked up to. You could choose someone at church whom you have always admired. There are so many options, but be sure that you take time to pray about it. This person is meant to always be a part of your life and may end up having an extraordinary impact on your life. Allow God to guide you in this decision.

## Retreats

Before receiving the sacrament of Confirmation, each student is required to attend a Confirmation retreat. SEAS will be hosting two NET retreats at the parish on November 26<sup>th</sup> and March 2<sup>nd</sup> (permission slip in folder). You may attend one of these or pick one of the weekend Confirmation retreats at the NET Center. If you are unable to make one of these options work with your schedule, please let Mariah know as soon as possible. You may have to attend a Confirmation retreat at another parish if neither of the SEAS retreats works for you.

## Interview

Given that you have fulfilled all of your other requirements, your final requirement will be to complete an interview with either Mariah Smith, Jill Skaife (Director of Faith Formation), Fr. Michael Barsness, or Fr. Dave Hennen. The interview is meant to see what all you have gained from your Confirmation preparation, discuss how you plan to move forward in your faith, and ultimately discover whether or not you are fully prepared to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

The following are guidelines to help you prepare for your interview:

- Why do you want to be confirmed?
- Who is your Confirmation saint and why did you pick them?
- Who is your sponsor and why did you pick them?
- In what ways have you grown in your faith this past year?
- What are some of the struggles you have had with your faith?
- How do you plan to continue growing in your faith and building up the Kingdom of God?
- Recite the Apostles Creed. (Found on a handout in your folder)
- List and explain the 7 Gifts of the Holy Spirit. (Found on a handout in your folder)

Please be assured that these interviews are not meant to be intimidating or stressful. They are simply an opportunity for us to talk with you and help you be as ready as possible to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

A sign-up sheet for interviews will be released sometime in March. Interviews will most likely begin the week of spring break. We do our best to have as many available times as possible.