



**High School  
Confirmation Program  
Parent Packet  
2019-2020**



Dear Parents,

I'm so happy to begin this journey with you! My name is Lisa Fiamingo, and I'm the new youth minister at St. Catherine's. I'd like to share with you my vision for this ministry. As you read, please know that your family is very important to me, and I welcome any phone calls, emails, or texts about the needs of your teen or any prayer requests you might have.

As new parents, when we had our children baptized, we had such big dreams for them and their faith, but for most of us, life hasn't taken shape the way we had planned. Our teenage children are developing much differently than we had expected, and our relationships with them are different as well. For many of us, we did not expect all of the distractions from our faith and all of the external demands from school, coaches, friends, and even technology. And now we've found ourselves in a place where our children may not even want to go to church or youth group.

If you're in this situation, I completely understand. I've been working with teenagers and college students for about 30 years, with my first job here at St. Catherine's. So, I get it. It's not easy. In addition, in my personal journey as a mom, I have encountered all of the same distractions and have had to find ways to keep my own children engaged in their faith. My boys played travel baseball for many years, and we struggled to find time to get to Mass on Sunday, never mind youth group or Confirmation class. Fortunately, we did figure it out, and my kids have remained faithful Catholics through it all.

If it is your goal to keep your kids faithful to God and the Catholic Church, I hope to make this easier for you. I am creating a program for our teens that will be engaging and keep them interested in their faith and connected to the parish in an organic way where it will come naturally to them to come to the church to seek the truth, find help in a crisis, and have good friends. It is our goal to let your teen know that St. Catherine's is their home away from home and a place to find love, acceptance, and encouragement.

In order to make this happen, we will have a few changes to the current program. We will be changing from a once a month program to a weekly youth group style Confirmation preparation that will be fun, engaging, and spiritually inspiring. While it may be difficult for some to come on a weekly basis, it is important for the teens to make the effort to come to the church regularly in order for habits to develop and friendships to build. Our new Confirmation program will begin on September 8. It will run weekly from 3:00-4:30 pm in the Parish Hall. We will follow the Cobb County schedule which has lots of breaks, and we will take those breaks as well. Your teen is allowed to miss 4 Sundays throughout the year. I find it best to get the calendar out now and plot out when you'll miss according to sports schedules and such. And if they have to miss more than 4, their small group leader will give them some make up work to do at home. Our team will be very understanding with personal issues or other commitments, while offering the best quality programing that your teen will not dread each week.

The most important thing to me is that your teen continues being involved in the Church after Confirmation. Therefore, I will be working hard on our post Confirmation program which is called **RELENTLESS**. These teens will meet at the same time as the Confirmation preparation program, and your teens will be seeing these teens every week when they come to the church. They will be like big brothers and sisters in the faith for the Confirmation teens. In addition to this, we will have a group called the College Crew that will be helping us to make all of these programs fun and engaging.

I know these are changes that require a lot of trust. I hope you'll give it a try. And as always, if your teen is not happy with this process or needs anything at all, please call or email anytime.

Sincerely in Christ,

*Lisa Fiamingo*

## HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

Each Confirmation candidate will need to spend time reviewing their faith and learning how to live as a faithful Catholic. Saint Catherine's offers several options to accomplish this, including Church Study, Home Study, and Catholic School.

### CONFIRMATION PREPARATION CHOICES (select one)

- **Church Study Program** - \$95 plus retreat fee  
Meets Sundays 3:00-4:30pm in Parish Hall (PSR registration required)
  
  - **Home Study Program** - \$95 plus retreat fee  
This program is for children not participating in the Church Study program and not attending a Catholic high school or an accredited Catholic homeschool program. Teens will complete a home study using the *Decision Point* study and turn in the completed workbook by Tax Day, April 15, 2020 (PSR registration required).
  
  - **Catholic High School** – no fee – pay only retreat fee  
If your child attends Catholic high school or an accredited Catholic homeschool program, you will only need to complete the paperwork in this packet and attend either one of our retreats or a one-evening workshop held closer to the date of the Confirmation ceremony (PSR registration not required).
- 

### CHANGES FOR 2019-20

1. Church Study Classes meet every Sunday from 3:00-4:30pm in the Parish Hall.
2. We will no longer require service hours. Service is encouraged but not required.
3. There is no longer a sacramental fee and tuition in 10<sup>th</sup> grade.
4. Confirmation teens must attend one of the following retreat. There are three options to choose from (there will be fundraising events for those who need it).
  - February 7-9, 2020 - Camp Gideon, Acworth, GA - \$150
  - March 6-8, 2020 - Camp Gideon, Acworth, GA - \$150
  - July 10-12, 2020 – Steubenville Conference, Duluth, GA - \$300

Contact

Lisa Fiamingo, Youth Minister  
lisaf@stcatherinercc.org

Melissa Robinson, Confirmation Admin  
melissar@stcatherinercc.org

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### SPONSOR

- *Does my teen need a sponsor?* Yes all candidates need to choose someone to sponsor them who is at 16 years or older, and a faithful Catholic.
- *How should this person be chosen?* The teen should choose someone who is an inspiration to them. It can be a family member, but not a parent.
- *Can my child choose one of the God parents?* Yes.
- *What is the role of the sponsor?* The role of the sponsor is to help guide the candidate through the preparation process and to be available in the future when spiritual issues arise. Guidance during the preparation process means to check in periodically and see how the candidate is doing and if they have any questions.

### CHURCH STUDY PROGRAM

- *Are the teens required to come to all the classes?* They are allowed to miss 4 classes in the year.
- *What do they have to do if they miss class for some reason?* When a teen misses class, they will need to contact their small group leader and they will be assigned a home assignment.
- *What if my child is not connecting in his/her small group?* This is vital to their experience and needs to be addressed. Please contact Lisa Fiamingo and she will help with some other options.

### CEREMONY

- *When is the ceremony?* The ceremony will be in the fall of 2020. The date will be determined by the Bishop's office in the spring sometime, and we will let you know as soon as we find out.
- *Is there a practice/rehearsal?* Yes, it will also be close to the ceremony date.
- *Will there be pictures at the ceremony?* Yes, there will be pictures.
- *Does the Bishop celebrate the Confirmation Mass?* Yes, he does.
- *What does my child wear to the ceremony?* Dress pants/tie or suit for the guys and dresses/skirts/dress pants for the girls. You can choose any color you would like.

### RETREAT

- *Will the retreat cost any money?* Yes it will. The details of that will come out a few months before each retreat.
- *What do I do if I have concerns about my child attending the retreat/conference?* Contact Lisa Fiamingo. She is more than willing to help you with this.

### CATHOLIC PROGRAM

- *What if my child attends a Catholic school?* Students who attend Catholic high school or an accredited Catholic homeschool program are only required to attend a retreat or a one-day event to prepare for the sacrament and send in their Saint Name. The parents are required to turn in the paperwork in this packet.

### HOME STUDY PROGRAM

- *What if my child cannot attend the Church Study program on Sundays and does not attend a Catholic school?* Families may participate in our Home Study program. Parents must agree to oversee their child's religious formation during this process. Parents are to turn in the necessary forms by All Saints Day, November 1, and have their teen complete the *Decision Point* workbook provided by the church and turn it in by Tax Day, April 15, 2020. The students are required to attend a retreat unless other arrangements are made with Lisa Fiamingo.

## **STEPS TO FOLLOW**

1. Read over the packet carefully.
2. Select which program your teen will attend and register for the appropriate program on the PSR Registration form online at [www.stcatherinercc.org/psr-registration](http://www.stcatherinercc.org/psr-registration).
3. Fill out the included Confirmation Form (you will need to know your child's chosen Confirmation saint name) and drop off or send in to:  
St. Catherine's Church  
1618 Ben King Road  
Kennesaw, Ga 30144
4. Turn in a copy of your child's Baptism Certificate and First Communion Certificate.
5. Get the Sponsor Verification Form to the chosen Sponsor and have them fill it out and return it to the address above.
6. Begin praying about which Retreat will work best for your family. Registration forms for retreats will be emailed to you in August. Let Lisa know if you need your teen to do fundraising.

**Deadline for Paperwork is All Saints Day, November 1, 2019**

Contact

Lisa Fiamingo, Youth Minister  
[lisaf@stcatherinercc.org](mailto:lisaf@stcatherinercc.org)

Melissa Robinson, Confirmation Admin  
[melissar@stcatherinercc.org](mailto:melissar@stcatherinercc.org)

## **2019-2020 High School Confirmation Calendar - Sundays 3:00-4:30**

September 8, 2019	First Class
September 15, 2019	Class
September 22, 2019	No Class
September 29, 2019	No Class
October 6, 2019	Class
October 13, 2019	Class
October 20, 2019	Class
October 27, 2019	Class
November 3, 2019	Class
November 10, 2019	Class
November 17, 2019	Class
November 24, 2019	No Class
December 1, 2019	No Class
December 8, 2019	Class
December 15, 2019	Class
December 22, 2019	No Class
December 29, 2019	No Class
January 5, 2020	Class
January 12, 2020	Class
January 19, 2020	No Class
January 26, 2020	Class
February 2, 2020	Class
February 9, 2020	Class
February 16, 2020	No Class
February 23, 2020	No Class
March 1, 2020	Class
March 8, 2020	Class
March 15, 2020	Class
March 22, 2020	Class
March 29, 2020	Class
April 5, 2020	No Class
April 12, 2020	No Class
April 19, 2020	Class
April 26, 2020	Class
May 3, 2020	Last class



**ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA**  
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

Parish School of Religion  
Sacrament Registration  
Year 2019 / 2020

# Confirmation Form

**T-Shirt Size:**  
YS\_\_YM\_\_YL\_\_AS\_\_AM\_\_AL\_\_AXL\_\_

Was your child Baptized? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ / At St. Catherine of Siena? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Did your child receive First Communion? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ / At St. Catherine's ? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

**Baptism Certificate Attached** Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ **First Holy Communion Certificate attached** Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

School Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ **Chosen Saint Name** \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip

Parent Cell Number \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Email (print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
MM/DD/YYYY City State

Date of Baptism \_\_\_\_\_ Church of Baptism \_\_\_\_\_  
MM/DD/YYYY Name City State

**Confirmation Sponsor Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Confirmation Sponsor Email** \_\_\_\_\_

Family Name (if different from child's) \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Mother's Full Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

Mother's Maiden Name \_\_\_\_\_

Place of Religious Education last year \_\_\_\_\_  
(If not at St. Catherine of Siena a letter from the parish where the child attended class last year is required.)

**Please turn this in by All Saints Day, November 1, 2019**





**ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA**  
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

1618 Ben King Rd. NW Kennesaw, GA 30144 | 770-428-7139 | 770-428-0131 (fax)

**SPONSOR FORM**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ have been asked to be a sponsor for \_\_\_\_\_

for the sacrament of \_\_\_\_\_ Baptism or \_\_\_\_\_ Confirmation on \_\_\_\_\_. (Date)

In accord with Canon 874 of the Code of Canon Law and in accepting this responsibility, I truthfully state the following:

- I am not the parent of the above-mentioned person.
- I am at least 16 years of age.
- I have received the Sacraments of Baptism, First Holy Eucharist, and Confirmation in the Catholic Church.
- If married, I am validly married according to the norms of the Catholic Church.
- I attend Mass regularly on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
- I try to live my life according to the values of the Gospel and the teachings of the Catholic faith.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Sponsor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Sponsor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's email \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor's cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsor's Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Please turn in this form by All Saints Day, November 1, 2019**

Contact  
Lisa Fiamingo, Youth Minister  
lisaf@stcatherinercc.org

Melissa Robinson, Confirmation Admin  
melissar@stcatherinercc.org