December 2023

Dear Grade Seven Students and Parents,

On behalf of St. Philip Neri Parish, I am sharing with you the following information about the 2024 Confirmation Preparation Program. This year’s program is being offered to all students of the parish who have received the sacraments of Baptism and First Holy Communion and are in grade seven or above. The sacrament of Confirmation will complete what was started in Baptism and Holy Communion and will strengthen your child to be a witness of Christ in our world.

This year’s program involves a required series of eight (8) catechism sessions for students to attend in person. These sessions will be 75 minutes in length and will take place on Saturdays, from 3:00 – 4:15pm at St. Antoine Daniel School (located next to the church) between February and April 2024.

As parents, I am sure that you are aware that your child’s life is full of distractions and detours that can easily set a young person on an unintended path. Therefore, a relationship with Jesus and faith in His church will help to provide the grace that is needed to help young people make a difference in the world and to be all that God is calling them to be. The Church recognizes that you, as parents, are the primary educators of your children in matters of faith and morals. Nothing can take the place of a strong faith in God: not friends, not money, nor a formal education. It is our hope that as parents you will support your children’s full participation in this program as well as their regular attendance at one of the weekend masses. By helping you to fulfil your duty as parents, our Pastor can fulfill the church’s duty to ensure that the confirmandi have been sufficiently prepared for the sacrament of Confirmation.

The celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation will be on May 4th and May 11th. Schools are assigned a specific date/mass time (**see attached Confirmation Preparation Schedule**).

Each confirmandi needs a Sponsor. For guidelines on how to choose a Sponsor, please refer to the registration form and Letter to Sponsor which will be given out on the registration night.

We are offering an information and registration meeting on Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 7:00pm and Thurs. January 11, 2024 @ 7:00pm in Hall #1 of the church. PLEASE ATTEND ONLY ONE OF THESE SESSIONS. At that time, more information about the program will be provided. **Please attend the session with your paperwork completed, including a copy of your child’s Baptismal Certificate (if baptized at a church other than St. Philip Neri).** If your child was baptized at St. Philip Neri, you need only to provide us with the date of baptism.

An electronic copy of the registration form is available on our parish website. To recover the costs of program materials our parish is suggesting a donation of $60. Payment options:

1. Cash
2. Cheque (please indicate in memo: Confirmation 2024)
3. E-Transfer (To: [parish@stphilipneri.ca](mailto:parish@stphilipneri.ca). Please indicate in memo: Confirmation 2024)

**Confirmation Program Curriculum**: *Decision Point* by Dynamic Catholic.

On behalf of the Confirmation Preparation Team, we are looking forward to working with you to ensure that your child/ren receive optimal instruction and sacramental preparation. Should you have any questions, please contact the Confirmation Co-ordinator, Linda Maselli-Jackman, at 416-241-3101 ext. 245.

May God bless and keep you and your family,

The Confirmation Catechism Team

**CONFIRMATION PREPARATION SCHEDULE**

**Information and Registration Meetings (St. Philip Neri Church – Hall #1)**

Wed. Jan 10, 2024 @ 7:00pm **OR** Thurs. Jan 11, 2024 @ 7:00pm (**choose ONE only**)

**Registration 2024**

Wed. Jan. 10 – Wed. Jan. 17, 2024

Please drop off completed documents to Parish Sacramental Prep Office or Main Office

**Documents at Registration**

Completed registration form must include:

1. Copy of the Baptismal certificate (other parishes) **OR** the date of Baptism if conferred at St. Philip Neri, AND
2. Suggested donation (to cover administration/program costs) $60.00 (cash/cheque)

**To do**: Submit your completed documents by no later than **Wed. Jan. 17, 2024**

**Candidate/Sponsor Meeting (St. Philip Neri Church – Hall #1)**

Wed. Jan. 31, 2024 @ 7:00 pm (St. Andre and St. Conrad)

Thurs. Feb 1, 2024 @ 7:00 pm (St. Raphael and Other Schools)

**Enrollment Mass Dates (St. Philip Neri Church) – Register with Confirmation Co-ordinator**

Sat. Feb 3, 2024 @ 5:00 pm

Sun. Feb 4, 2024 @ 9:15 am

Sun. Feb 4, 2024 @ 12:00 noon

**Confirmation Preparation Session Times/Location**

3:00pm-4:15pm at St. Antoine Daniel C.S. 20 Beverly Hills Dr, North York, ON M3L 1A1

**Confirmation Preparation Session Dates**

Session 1: Feb 3

Session 2: Feb 10

Session 3: Feb 24

Session 4: Mar 2

Session 5: Mar 23

Session 6: Apr 6

Session 7: Apr 13

Session 8: Apr 20

**Rehearsal and Reconciliation Dates (St. Philip Neri Church)**

Wed. May 1, 2024 @ 7:00 pm (St. Andre)

Thurs. May 2, 2024 @ 7:00 pm (St. Conrad)

Wed. May 8, 2024 @ 7:00 pm (St. Raphael and Other Schools)

**Confirmation Masses (St. Philip Neri Church)**

Sat. May 4, 2024 @ 11:30 am (St. Andre)

Sat. May 4, 2024 @ 2:00 pm (St. Conrad)

Sat. May 11, 2024 @ 11:30 am (St. Raphael)

Sat. May 11, 2024 @ 2:00 pm (Other Schools)