



St. Cecilia – Faith Formation
2017-2018

9th & 10th Grade Confirmation Policies

Requirements for Progression

- Mass attendance
- Class attendance (no more than 4 absences)
- Faith Alive points – Due March 13th, 2018
- Class retreat - TBD
- Evidence of Christian baptism (if not at St. Cecilia's)
- Saint report – Due Jan 16th (10th grade only)
- Sponsor form – Due Jan 16th (10th grade only)

Mass Requirements

- Each student is required to attend Mass every Sunday, as well as all holy days of obligation. This is the first precept of the Church as outlined in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (see no. 2042). The participation in the celebration of the Eucharist is the 'source and summit' of our Catholic lives. All students will be required to sign in before or after Mass.

Class Attendance

- Students are required to attend all classes for the 2017-2018 program year. Each student is allowed 4 unexcused absences for the year. Any student who misses more than 4 classes may not be eligible for progression.

Faith Alive

- Our faith in Christ demands for us to lovingly engage the world. Thus, all students are required to actively participate in the life of the Church. A point scale has been established. Each 9th grade student is required to achieve at least 10 points, while 10th grade students are required to achieve 20 points. All points are **due by March 13th**. More details are below.

Retreats

- Each 9th and 10th grade student is required to attend a one day class retreat. The dates are to be determined.

Saint Names / Reports

- Each 10th grade student will be selecting a saint to learn more about. The name of the saint will be presented to the bishop along with the candidate at Confirmation. Students may select a saint based on their own name or the inspirational life of that saint. To deepen the connection between the candidate and the saint, each 10th grader will be required to write a one page report on the saint he or she chooses. All saint reports are **due by January 16th**



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Sponsors

- Every 10th grader will need to have a sponsor to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. The Sponsor must be a practicing Catholic who has received all of the sacraments of initiation (Baptism, Eucharist, and Confirmation). The sponsor should be someone who is a spiritual role model and will serve as an encouragement for the candidate to continue and grow in his or her faith life. All approved sponsor forms are **due by January 16th**.

Parent / Student / Priest Conferences

- All students and parents in 10th grade will be required meet with at least one of the priests of the parish to discuss and determine the eligibility of the child to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. Conferences will be scheduled for early February and will be only 15 minutes long. At least one parent will need to be present along with the student.

Discipline

- The sacrament of Confirmation is to be received as a free and personal act of faith. Students who enroll and participate in the faith formation program should be present because it is their choosing, and they should not be forced or coerced by external forces. Since all students are to be freely attending, all students are expected to live up to the Christian values taught by the Catholic Church. All teachers and students are freely choosing to participate in this program as a way to live out their call to holiness. First and foremost, all students are called to be respectful and courteous to all teachers, staff, fellow students, and to themselves. Disruptive and disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated. If a student demonstrates actions contrary to the mission of this program, the parents will need to become involved, and the student will be asked to reevaluate his or her intentions. Any student that comes to class under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be dismissed from the program entirely.

Calendar

- Classes will meet Tuesday evenings from 7:00-8:00pm. All classes will gather in the cafeteria at Divine Mercy Academy. The building will be open 15 minutes before classes begin and closed 15 minutes after classes end. Please be punctual with drop offs and pick ups. Also, please be mindful of parking lot restricted areas and local resident driveways.



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Faith Alive!

While faith is a personal act, it is also not an isolated act. Our faith comes to us as a gift from God passed on to us by the Church, family, and friends. Our response to that gift of faith is to 'love God and neighbor'. The Faith Alive program is a way for the confirmation students to learn how to live their faith.

Each student will be required to earn a certain amount of points before he or she can progress to the next year or to Confirmation. Students can earn points through a variety of different spiritual, intellectual, or service oriented functions. **Points are distributed on the official Faith Formation business cards and must be signed by a priest or the director to be valid.** Students are to be responsible and save all of the Faith Alive points they accumulate. They can turn in their points to their teachers or to the director at any time so that they can be officially recorded. Points are not officially recorded until they are turned in.

Points can be earned but are not limited to the following ways. There are countless ways for students to earn points around the parish week to week. Regular emails will be sent notifying parents and students of point opportunities around the parish. Points should be earned in the context of the Church, particularly St. Cecilia parish. Some point opportunities outside of the parish may be approved, but please confirm first with the office before assuming points will be rewarded.

- **2 Points**
 - Confession
 - Daily Mass (Mon – Sat. morning)
 - Youth Holy Hour (once per month)
 - Thursday evening Faith Formation events
 - Assist as an aide for the younger kids' Catechesis classes
 - Attend Youth Group meeting
 - Assist at a Mass as alter server, lector, or choir member

- **5 Points**
 - Rockaway March for Life (January 20th, 2018)

- **7 Points**
 - Life Runners 5K (February 2018)

Point Requirements:

- **9th grade 10 Points**
- **10th grade 20 Points**

All points are due by **March 13th, 2018**