

Confirmation Guidelines for Saint Mary of the Hill Parish

Saint Mary of the Hill Parish offers the following guidelines for those who wish to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, echoing those listed in *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* (CCC 1319). A Confirmation candidate:

- ✚ Must have attained the age of reason for comprehending the Sacrament (In the Milwaukee Archdiocese the age for Confirmation is sixteen and above).
- ✚ Must profess the Catholic Faith.
- ✚ Must be in a state of grace.
- ✚ Must have the intention of receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- ✚ Must be prepared to assume the role of disciple and witness to Christ, both within the ecclesial community and in the larger global community.
- ✚ Must actively participate in the Sacramental Life of the Church (frequent reception of the Sacraments of Confession and the Eucharist).

As individual members of the Body of Christ, united in the Eucharist, community is central to full participation in the Church. The need for community extends from the personal level to that of the parish family, and further into the world as a whole. Accordingly, each of these levels of community will be fundamental to preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. It is the decision of Saint Mary of the Hill Parish that those who participate in the Confirmation program likewise fulfill these requirements:

- ✚ On the level of the individual, it is expected that each Confirmation candidate personally challenges him or her self toward a deeper relationship with Christ, the Blessed Mother, and the Saints.
- ✚ On the level of the parish community, each Confirmation candidate is required to actively participate in bi-monthly classes centering on those truths of the Faith fundamental to a thorough understanding of the Sacrament, as well as the retreat(s) offered. Additionally, candidates are required to attend the Holy Mass preceding these classes, worshipping with the same parish community which supports them with their prayers.
- ✚ On the universal level, those individuals preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation must live out their Faith in acts of service within the community at large. Service projects can be planned throughout the year but must be completed before a set date prior to the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation.
- ✚ If an individual experiences personal conflicts with the communal aspects of Confirmation preparation, specific allowances may be made for particular class days with the expectation that such exceptions are rare and that missed class material is still completed.

Wherein “the Sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace” (CCC 1285), Saint Mary of the Hill welcomes all those sixteen years of age or older who have not previously received this Sacrament to inquire into joining the Confirmation program. An examination into one’s understanding of the basic truths of the Faith – facilitated by the pastor and youth minister – may be required.

Signature Fr. Jude Peter, OCD

Date Sept 7, 2021