

## St. Thomas Aquinas Confirmation Program 2019 - 2020

Welcome Sophomore student Families!

*Christian Smith a Notre Dame sociologist has discovered that the largest factor that determines faithfulness in young adults is the faithfulness of their parents. With this discovery in mind, we have tried to create a Confirmation program that fosters family participation. We start our Confirmation class with Mass. We encourage families to join us at the Teen Mass. Come support your child as they lead our Mass as ushers, lectors and musicians. We also have some amazing faith filled speakers coming to talk to the students about their faith journey. We encourage you to attend the events with your child so you can grow your faith together.*

Our Classes, Teen Masses, Retreats, Youth Rallies, Service Activities, and Guest Speakers are all designed to help draw your son or daughter into a personal relationship with Jesus.

If you would like your son or daughter to participate in our Confirmation program below are our expectations:

**Service Project:** Students are required to do a minimum of 5 Service Hours. Examples include: mission trips, helping at Senior Center, working at Country Fair, helping at Fish Fries, serving Love Inc meal, and other various activities through their high school, clubs, sports, etc.... When your child has completed their 5 hours they can turn in the Service Reflection form included in this email.

**Teen Mass:** Students are expected to come to Teen Mass and participate. If your child likes to sing or plays an instrument, we would love to have them join our Teen Worship band! Please let me know, I will make sure Christian includes them in her emails.

**Classes:** Students are expected to attend class on a consistent basis. I realize that High School students have busy lives. I will be having a Make Up class for most of the classes on Wednesdays in the gathering space from 6:30 p.m. – 7:45 p.m. if they can't make the regular scheduled class on Sunday.

**Retreat:** Sophomores are required to attend one of the following retreat options. If they would like to attend more, they of course are more than welcome to attend additional retreats. More information about these retreats will be emailed out when the dates get closer.

**October 26th - Spiritus Retreat** - This is an all day retreat at St. Thomas.

**November 21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> - NCYC** – Your student had to sign up for this retreat last spring.

**March 14<sup>th</sup> - Wisconsin Youth Rally** – This is an all day Youth Rally with other Wisconsin High School students at Carroll University.

The Sophomore class will also have the opportunity to help serve a Meal at Love Inc on November 19th. Please mark your calendars. I will send out more information, as the date gets closer.

The cost of the program is \$100.00. I realize this could be a financial difficulty for some. Please let me know. We will NOT turn away any student for financial reasons.

I hope you and your child are ready to go on this journey with us! If you have any questions or concerns, please let me know. The St. Thomas church community is here for you and walks this journey with you.

**Please fill out the registration form, photo release form and return a check (made to St. Thomas for \$100) to the Parish office by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Thank you!**

God Bless,  
Joy Hearden  
514-3175 or [hearden@tds.net](mailto:hearden@tds.net)

*“God did not tell us to follow him because he needed our help, but because He knew that loving Him would make us whole.”*

*St. Irenaeus*