

June 2010

Dear Student and Parents of Candidates for Confirmation,

Welcome to confirmation, which will enhance your spiritual growth in your relationship with God and your fellow Catholics.

The Faith Formation program you are beginning this year has been especially designed to guide you to becoming an adult Catholic in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The presumption of this program is that God is first in your life and will take precedence over any other activities. Putting God as the least important person in our lives is compromising our faith experience.

It is my expectation that you will give one hundred percent of your energies to becoming a faith filled Catholic adult. There are many distractions in life that will constantly try to pull us away from a rich faith experience. It is my hope that these two years will help to give you a good basis for meeting those distractions and not letting them triumph over you. We have a very rich faith tradition. Every class is important and will help you have a fuller understanding of who we are as a faith community.

We ask each student to find an adult in this church to mentor you during these two years. You need to be looking for an adult who can walk your faith journey with you. This person can be your sponsor or your mentor. Your mentor and/or sponsor needs to be in good standing with the Catholic Church. If you need help finding a person I will gladly help you find your mentor. We will have a retreat for all Sacramental youth, parents, teachers, sponsors and mentors on August 28th. 10AM-1PM (lunch will be provided). You will obviously need to have a mentor by this time period.

Parents, we need your support! Fr. Doug and I have decided to make it mandatory that all parents who have children in Faith Formation need to volunteer at least 10 hours a year to our Faith Formation Program. Please see enclosed "areas that we need.." and commitment sheet for you to return, signed with your commitment. As parents of a Confirmation Student, we need your help, for your child to take these two years seriously they need to know you are serious. How better to do just that, than by volunteering as a teacher, being a chaperone, or to work with our Youth Board. The success of this program is a vital part of your child becoming a life long catholic. We need you to pray over this confirmation program and please accept the responsibility of the requirements outlined on the Commitment page in the Confirmation Handbook. Please understand that if these requirements are not met, we strongly suggest that your child should consider not making a commitment to be a part of this Confirmation program and wait until they are ready to make that commitment at a later time.

We are asking you to sign and date page one entitled, Sacrament of Confirmation.

Yours in Christ,

**WELCOME TO**

**ST. ANNE'S**

**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**

**\*\*\* The full outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the  
Apostles on the Day of Pentecost\*\*\***

## SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

### WHAT IS THIS SACRAMENT:

Baptism, the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Confirmation together constitute the “Sacraments of Christian Initiation”. Confirmation is a very important step on your spiritual journey. A step that is up to you and how it will change your relationship with Christ forever.

Many think that Confirmation is simply a rite of passage into Catholic adulthood, but it is much more than that. Confirmation brings you an increase in the grace given to you at Baptism; it allows you to be a courageous leader to practice your faith and it also calls for you to stand up for what is just. Being Confirmed will give you a permanent spiritual mark, which is characterized by the dwelling of the Holy Spirit in you and to be counted as a life-long follower of Christ.

### COMMITMENT TO THIS SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM:

St. Anne’s Confirmation program is a two-year program with the celebration of the Sacrament by the Bishop in one of our churches in the Deanery. Each candidate and parent or guardian is asked to sign this letter of commitment. Please understand that you are making a promise to involve yourself and meet the following required participation commitments.

1. Attend Mass each Sunday and on Holy Days. . . the center of the Church’s life.
2. Meet the class attendance requirements of 85% ( or missing no more than four days per year) attend one Diocesan Retreat (Connections or Search), 40 hours per year in service to the community and church parish, and involvement in class projects, which includes presentation of the Stations of the Cross, Easter Triduum, and one Deanery Retreat in your second year and events that come up.
3. Participate in Youth Masses once a month.
4. Actively participate in Post Confirmation to service Parish in the form of working with Faith Formation Teachers, Youth Representative on Parish Council, Lector, Greeting-Gift Bearing, Usher, or Altar Server.
5. Participate in the Youth Board.

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**STUDENT SIGNATURE**\_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE**\_\_\_\_\_

**DATE**\_\_\_\_\_

**CONFIRMATION FORMATION TEAM MEMBERS**

<b>Spiritual Advisor:</b>	Fr.Doug	-	482-2617
<b>Dir./Faith Formation</b>	Wendy Callahan	-	333-0371
<b>Team Members:</b>			
	Frank Barbara Jones	-	482-0305
	Jeri Oltman	-	482-0218
	Ron & Clara Smith	-	482-7051
	Jim Butler	-	793-4413
	Walt & Rosemary Smith	-	426-5365
	David Macias	-	209-1579
	Mary Santana	-	482-8919
	Wendy Callahan	-	333-0371
	Fr. Doug	-	333-1920

Please contact these teachers if you are not able to attend their class. They work very diligently and are quite organized. If, they know you will not be attending they will be better prepared for the class as a whole. Everyone one of our teachers has asked for this requirement {Some of the responses to this have been: "Should have a courtesy call if the child will not be attending", "very frustrating for us when we have taken a 3-4 hours to put a class together and only one or no one shows up", "do the parents understand that we volunteer and take time away from our families to teach their children" (some food for thought)}.

## CONFIRMATION FORMS

\_\_\_\_\_ **Proof of Baptism.** Receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation will complete your Christian Initiation. In order to do this we must have proof of your Baptism.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Acceptance of Candidacy.** All the necessary persons are required to sign this form and the student will bring it to class.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Sponsor Information.** Your sponsor needs to fill in the necessary information and the student will bring this form to class. A due date will be assigned for this form during the First year.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Confirmation Name.** Complete this form and bring it to class. A due date will be assigned for this form during the second year.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Statement of Desire to be Confirmed.** This form will be completed in class during the second year.

**NOTE: A COPY OF EACH OF THESE FORMS FOLLOWS THIS INFORMATION SHEET. THESE ARE YOUR FORMS - - PLEASE KEEP THEM IN A SAFE PLACE SO YOU WILL HAVE THEM AT THE REQUIRED TIME. YOU MAY WANT TO KEEP RECORD OF COMPLETION OF THESE FORMS BY PUTTING THE DATE SUBMITTED ON THE LINE PROVIDED.**

**PROOF OF BAPTISM**

If you were baptized at St. Anne's we will simply look up your records. If you were Baptized at another Church, you must provide us with your original Baptismal Certificate. You can obtain an original certificate by contacting the Parish in which you were Baptized and ask them to send you one. This is done all the time so all Parish Offices are familiar with this request. This may take some time so please don't wait until the last moment before requesting this certificate. I need this certificate my May 2011.

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**YOUR FULL BAPTISMAL NAME:**

\_\_\_\_\_ I was Baptized at St. Anne's Church, Edenton, NC. The approximate date was \_\_\_\_\_.  
My Birthday is:

\_\_\_\_\_ I was Baptized at a different Church.  
Name of Church  
Address  
State and Zip Code  
My Birthday is:

Parents Name:

Mother's Maiden Name:

## ACCEPTANCE OF CANDIDACY

We agree to

1. Cooperate to the best of our ability with the Parish Program preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation.
2. Participate in the classes and activities and try to the best of my ability to place our talents at the service of others.
3. Cooperate in a study of some aspect of Church life or of the Sacrament of Confirmation.
4. Pray for growth in faith, hope, and love.
5. Strive for greater holiness and wholeness in our relationship with Family, Church, and Community.
6. I need this by January 2012.

We ask the help of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in this agreement.

(Signature of Candidate)

(Signature of Sponsor)

(Signature of Team)

(Signature of Pastor)

(Date)

## **S P O N S O R   I N F O R M A T I O N**

**CANDIDATE'S FULL BAPTISMAL NAME:**

**SPONSOR'S FULL NAME:**

**ADDRESS:**

**CITY, STATE & ZIP:**

**PARISH ADDRESS:**

**Why Have You Asked This Person to be Your Sponsor?**

**Need to have a letter of good standing in the Catholic Church if person is not from our church. Date to bring to me is September 2011.**



**MENTOR INFORMATION**

**CANDIDATE'S FULL BAPTISMAL NAME:**

**MENTOR'S FULL NAME:**

**ADDRESS:**

**CITY, STATE & ZIP:**

**PARISH ADDRESS:**

**Why Have You Asked This Person to be Your Mentor?**

**Due date to bring to me is September 2011.**

## **C O N F I R M A T I O N   N A M E**

**YOUR FULL BAPTISMAL NAME:**

**CHOICE OF CONFIRMATION NAME:**

**1. Reason for choosing this name:**

**2. Some information about the Saint whose name you have chosen:**

**3. If you are choosing the name of a person whom you admire, list any qualities or virtues of that individual that you would like to see imitated by yourself or by others:**

**Due date September 2011.**

**ENROLLMENT OR STATEMENT  
OF DESIRE TO BE CONFIRMED**

I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
have completed the preparation program for the Sacrament of Confirmation.  
I desire to live out the call to Christian commitment in my daily life, to  
participate responsibly in the Catholic faith, and to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit  
which will help me mature in this faith.

I, therefore, state my readiness and desire to be confirmed by  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_ On \_\_\_\_\_.

Due date September 2011.

(Signature of Candidate)

(Witnessed by Sponsor)

(Witnessed by Pastor)

Parish Seal

(Date)

## S P O N S O R

To emphasize the unity of the Sacrament of Baptism and Confirmation, and if possible, it is encouraged that the sponsor be one of the baptismal Godparents.

**REQUIREMENTS:** The sponsor needs to have completed the initiation process (received Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist). The person must be at least sixteen years of age and must obtain a letter of recommendation from their own Pastor (if not presently a member of St. Anne's parish). The sponsor may not be a parent. This letter from your Sponsor's Parish tells us that your Sponsor is a Confirmed, practicing Catholic who is free and able to carry out this responsibility. If Sponsors are students who are away at College, they too must obtain a letter of recommendation.

**ROLE:** The Sponsor is to assist in the preparation of the candidate for this Sacrament, to present the candidate to the Bishop, and to help the candidate in the fulfillment of his/her Baptismal promises. The Sponsor should demonstrate an active and deep commitment to the Catholic Church, particularly through a serious attempt to live out the implication of the Gospel message. We encourage the sponsors to attend as many activities with the candidate as possible. Some suggestions are to attend church devotions with the student, assist with the development of the conscience, pray together, and encourage and support the student in their choice of a commitment to the Parish Community during the year following Confirmation.

## **MENTOR**

**REQUIREMENTS:** The Mentor needs to have completed the initiation process (received Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist). The person must be at least sixteen years of age. The Mentor may not be a parent.

**ROLE:** The Sponsor or Mentor is to assist in the preparation of the candidate for this Sacrament and to help the candidate in the fulfillment of his/her Baptismal promises. The Sponsor/Mentor should demonstrate an active and deep commitment to the Catholic Church, particularly through a serious attempt to live out the implication of the Gospel message. We encourage the sponsors/Mentors to attend as many activities with the candidate as possible. Some suggestions are to attend church devotions with the student, assist with the development of the conscience, pray together, and encourage and support the student in their choice of a commitment to the Parish Community during the year following Confirmation.

## CONFIRMATION NAME

Your name gives you identity. It tells others who you are. When you were Baptized, your parents chose your name. If you do not know your parents' reason for choosing your name, ask them about it. Now that you wish to be Confirmed, it is time to choose the name you will take as a sign of your growth in faith.

The tradition of taking on a new name to show a new role can be traced back to the Old Testament. When Abram was called to lead his people to believe in the one God, his name was changed from Abram (meaning father of many) to Abraham (meaning father of many nations). In the New Testament we find Simon's name changed to Peter (meaning rock) because he was to become the rock upon which Jesus founded His church. Again in the New Testament, Saul's name was changed to Paul upon his conversion.

Your Confirmation name should reflect your new role as a mature Christian. Perhaps you would like to take the name of a person whom you admire. Many Confirmation candidates, recognizing the growing bond of love with their parents, take a parent's name. A Godparent's or Sponsor's name would also be meaningful. You may even wish to keep your own name as a sign of the extension of your Baptismal commitment which you will make in Confirmation. Your choice of a name, however, must be a Christian name — e.g., a Saint's name or a variation of it.

**COMMITMENT LETTER - POST CONFIRMATION**

**TO WORK WITH:**

Preschool, Kindergarten and First Grade Teachers-volunteer time in class  
Parish Council  
Lector –Regular Mass  
Greeter/Gift Bearer  
Altar Server  
Usher  
Event Chair-to work with Knights of Columbus, Women’s Club, Bereavement,  
Serve on Youth Board, volunteer when special events take place.

**FROM:**

Through the Sacrament of Confirmation I have been asked to live the life of Jesus by serving others in my Church community. I understand this commitment to love and help others is an essential part of this Sacrament.

God, through the Holy Spirit, has given each of us special gifts and talents. To share some of my gifts with others, I agree to commit one hour once a month to the following group at St. Anne Catholic Church \_\_\_\_\_ .

If I am unable to follow through with this commitment, I understand that I am to contact the Ministry Coordinator or Teacher before my commitment date and I must, myself, find a substitute.

Due date December 2011

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

Date

cc: Post Confirmation Student  
Parish Office

## **IN CONCLUSION.....**

If you have any questions about your participation in the Confirmation Formation Program here at St. Anne's, please do not hesitate to ask for help. The Spiritual Advisor, Director of Faith Formation and Team Members are all willing to assist you in your preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

**MOST IMPORTANT:** Pray that the Holy Spirit will become more a part of your life and that you will grow and mature in your Faith Journey. Your Family and your Church community will be praying for you also in the next 2 years. **YOU ARE NOT ALONE!**