To begin, we want to thank you for all you do for your children. Thank you for supporting and loving them as this is an exciting time for your Confirmation student within their faith journey. All of us here at St. Philip are happy to accompany you all in this journey. We are here to help you with this process as much as possible! We want to make sure we are providing all the necessary tools, experiences, and communication to make this a meaningful and impactful process. Never hesitate to reach out to myself either by email or a phone call.

I hope you all join us in prayer over the next year or two for all the youth, that they may open their hearts to Jesus. That they may have meaningful encounters with Jesus, and they make their faith their own. I encourage you all to constantly discuss and share what they learn in their confirmation classes and all the experiences we are requiring of them as they are preparing for confirmation.

Below I will outline the different requirements for each year of confirmation prep. Please join me in supporting and encouraging your child through the different requirements of Confirmation prep. I am a parent, I am also a son. From both perspectives I recognize how important our role can be in the confirmation process. It is our duty to encourage and support our children in this life. But first,

Introductions:

- Juan Magana Assistant Director of Faith Formation for Youth and Young Adults supporting:
 - Middle school faith formation: Edge
 - High school faith formation: Connect
 - Confirmation preparation program
 - Young adult formation
- Myra Huddleston Director of Faith Formation supporting:
 - Faith Formation Office which includes:
 - Religious education
 - Youth programs
 - Young adult programs
 - Adult programs
- Catechist's introductions:
 - Have Catechists introduce themselves briefly.

Communication

All communication will come from Flocknote. All reminders, emergency notifications, etc. will be sent via Flocknote. Should we need to cancel class for any reason, we will notify you via Flocknote. If you have not been receiving emails from Flocknote, please email jmagana@stphilipfranklin.com so you can be added to the correct group. Also, make sure to add mail@flocknote.com to your email safe sender list.

Confirmation Saint & Sponsors

Year 1 (St. Paul) Confirmation students should begin discerning who their Confirmation Saint and sponsor will be. They should know by the end of year 1. As soon as they know who their sponsor is, they should be joining the student in their faith journey towards Confirmation. The name of your child's Confirmation Saint and Sponsor needs to be submitted by **May 1st**. Use the QR code below to access the form.

Year 2 (St. Peter) Confirmation students should know who their saint and sponsor are by now. Please continue to encourage your students to ask their saint and sponsor for their intercession throughout this journey. The name of your child's Confirmation Saint and sponsor need to be submitted by **December 1st.** Use the QR code to access the form.



The role of the sponsor is to serve as a spiritual companion and guide to the person who is preparing to receive Confirmation. "...it is for the sponsor to see that the confirmed person acts as a true witness to Christ and faithfully fulfills the obligations connected with this sacrament" (Code of Canon Law §892).

The Church requires that a person meet certain requirements in order to serve as a sponsor: The requirements are outlined in the Code of Canon Law and are connected to the requirements of sponsors for Baptism (Code of Canon Law §§872-874).

In brief, to be a sponsor, one must:

- Be 16 years of age or older
- Be fully initiated in the Catholic Church
- Live a life of faith
- Cannot be a parent
- Cannot be bound by any other canonical restrictions

Attendance

Regular attendance is necessary for proper formation and preparation to receive the Sacrament. It is asked that students have no more than <u>three</u> absences a year. Students who miss class may be asked to complete make-up work, as we cover a great deal of material. Parents are asked to attend the **Family Faith Formation sessions.** These counts towards attendance. These meetings take place once a month on Sunday's during the Confirmation classes. They are an opportunity for building community with other families and for catechetical formation in the faith. Students, families, and sponsors are also expected to attend Sunday Mass.

The Religious Education Calendar can be found on the St Philip website: https://stphilipfranklin.com/formation/youth/

Service

This year, Confirmation students will need to complete two separate Ministry Service events per year. Participation in a liturgical ministry is considered a service and will be seen as the equivalent to **one** service event/opportunity.

Once a student completes any type of ministry service for their confirmation requirement, the following form can be used to submit any service event/opportunity. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfyJPLKbqG99INsBfDeolms3HOo-xBTDv9YGNzLnZN71Y s1A/viewform?usp=sharing&ouid=110161301781474554973



While this year we will not be requiring a specific number of hours for service, students and parents are encouraged to volunteer where their gifts can be best utilized. Service can be done in the parish, with their school, or anywhere in the community.

We want to encourage and teach our students to live out the Gospel mandate to love God with all their heart and to love one's neighbor as oneself. It is important to not only know about one's faith but to put it into practice. God gives everyone gifts and talents that can help someone in the church, community, and at home. A great example of this is the Corporal and the Spiritual works of mercy.

Corporal Works of Mercy

- 1. Feed the hungry.
- 2. Give drink to the thirsty.
 - 3. Clothe the naked.
- 4. Shelter the homeless.
 - 5. Visit the sick.
- 6. Visit the imprisoned.

7. Bury the dead.

Spiritual Works of Mercy

- 1. Admonish the sinner.
- 2. Instruct the ignorant.
- 3. Counsel the doubtful.
- 4. Bear wrongs patiently.

- 5. Forgive offenses willingly.
- 7. Pray for the living and the dead.

6. Comfort the afflicted.

Confirmation Preparation Program

- It is a **2 year program**, from 7th grade 8th grade.
- **Teen OCIA** is for teens in high school who need to receive any or all 3 Sacraments.
- Weekly sessions
- We use "Alpha Youth Series" by Alpha Youth and "Purpose" by Life Teen as the curriculum.
- Typical session layout:
 - Start with prayer
 - o An ice-breaker group activity
 - Teaching
 - Small group discussion and/or an activity based on teaching
 - Learn about a Saint
 - Close with a prayer.
- We cover topics like:
 - God's love for us
 - Jesus' public ministry
 - o The Church
 - Sacraments
 - Who the Holy Spirit is
 - Many other topics
 - We also hope to emphasize the importance of the lives of the Saints
- Part of Confirmation preparation also includes:
 - Attending Mass
 - Participating in the sacraments like Reconciliation
 - Family catechesis participation*
 - Ministry service*
 - Retreats*
- Edge Middle School Youth Group Highly Recommended!

Religious Education Schedule

- We follow the Williamson County School Schedule. (Printed schedule available, also on parish website stated on schedule page)
- Regular attendance is required
- Classes we have available are:
 - Sundays 9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m.
 - Sundays 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
 - Wednesdays 5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.
- *Teen OCIA participants must attend Connect along with their weekly session:
 - o Teen OCIA session: Wednesdays 5:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

o Connect HS youth group, Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.

Family Catechesis Participation

• A workbook is passed out to guide your monthly family catechesis formation.

Ministry Service

- 2 ministry service events minimum per year (Liturgical ministry participation is considered **1** service).
 - *Alter Servers are reserved for boys and young men.
- Help ministries around the parish.
- We have a tracker that you can use to submit your children's time. (Available on service page + on parish youth site)
- We will follow up throughout the year with updates on your child's service.

Retreats & Important Dates

- Year 1: (St. Paul)
 - All Saints Day Relic Exposition
 - Saturday, November 1st after the 5:00 PM Mass
 - Location: St. Philip, 113 2nd Ave S, Franklin, TN 37064.
 - Sealed *Mandatory
 - Saturday, February 28 9:30 a.m. 5 p.m.
 - Location: Catholic Pastoral Center, 2800 McGavock Pike, Nashville, TN 37214.
- Year 2: (St. Peter)
 - All Saints Day Relic Exposition
 - Saturday, November 1st after the 5:00 PM Mass
 - Location: St. Philip, 113 2nd Ave S, Franklin, TN 37064.
 - ADOREMUS 8th grade Retreat (Overnight) *Mandatory
 - Friday, January 30 Sunday, Feb 1
 - Partnered with St. Thomas Aguinas Parish
 - Location: Camp Clements, 5401 Sparkman Town Rd, Doyle, TN 38559
 - Confirmation Rehearsal & Penance Service w/ Sponsor
 - Saturday, February 28th at 6:00 PM
 - Location: St. Philip, 113 2nd Ave S, Franklin, TN 37064.
 - Confirmation Mass
 - Sunday, March 1st at 3:30 PM
 - Location: Catholic Pastoral Center, 2800 McGavock Pike, Nashville, TN 37214.
- Teen OCIA:
 - All Saints Day Relic Exposition

- Saturday, November 1st after the 5:00 PM Mass
- Location: St. Philip, 113 2nd Ave S, Franklin, TN 37064.
- Fall Retreat: Consumed by the Holy Spirit (Overnight)
 - Friday, December 5th Sunday, December 7th
 - Location: 2695 Jackson Bridge Rd, Bowling Green, KY 42101
 - Fundraising opportunities will be available
- ADOREMUS Retreat (Overnight) *Mandatory
 - Friday, January 30th Sunday February 1st
 - Partnered with St Thomas Aquinas Parish
 - Location: Camp Clements, 5401 Sparkman Town Rd, Doyle, TN 38559
- Confirmation Rehearsal & Penance Service w/ Sponsor
 - Saturday, February 28th at 6:00 PM
 - Location: St. Philip, 113 2nd Ave S, Franklin, TN 37064.
- Confirmation Mass
 - Sunday, March 1st at 3:30 PM
 - Location: Catholic Pastoral Center, 2800 McGavock Pike, Nashville, TN 37214.

Confirmation Year 1 Checklist

Requirement	<u>Date</u>
 Punctual Mass Attendance for Sunday Obligation 	All Year
 Receive Sacrament of Reconciliation 	Once a year
□ Family Catechesis Meeting	Monthly
□ Parent Meeting #1 @ 9:45 AM	Sunday, October 19
□ Spanish Parent Meeting #1 @ 11:45 AM	Sunday, October 19
□ All Saints Day Relic Exposition	Saturday, November 1
□ Sealed retreat *Mandatory	Saturday, February 28
 2 Service Requirements Submitted 	Sunday, Feb 15
□ Saint & Sponsor Form	Sunday, May 17
 Last Day of Religious Education (Sunday classes) 	Sunday, May 17
☐ Last Day of Religious Education (Wednesday classes)	Wednesday, May 20

Confirmation Year 2 Checklist

Requirement		<u>Date</u>	
	Punctual Mass Attendance for Sunday Obligation	All Year	
	Receive Sacrament of Reconciliation	Once a year	
	Family Catechesis Meeting	Monthly	
	Parent Meeting #1 @ 9:45 AM	Sunday, October 19	
	Spanish Parent Meeting #1 @ 11:45 AM	Sunday, October 19	
	All Saints Day Relic Exposition @ 6:00 PM	Saturday, November 1	
	Saint & Sponsor Form	Monday, December 1	

Copy of Baptism Certificate Submitted	Monday, December 1
ADOREMUS Retreat *Mandatory	Fri, Jan 30-Sun, Feb 1
2 Service Requirements Submitted	Sunday, Feb 15
Confirmation Rehearsal	Saturday, Feb 28
Confirmation Mass @ 3:30 PM	Sunday, Mar 1
Last Day of Religious Education (Sunday classes)	Sunday, May 17
Last Day of Religious Education (Wednesday classes)	Wednesday, May 20

TEEN OCIA Checklist

<u>equirement</u>		<u>Date</u>	
	Punctual Mass Attendance for Sunday Obligation	All Year	
	Receive Sacrament of Reconciliation (If able to)	Once a year	
	Connect - High School Youth Group	Weekly	
	Family Catechesis Meeting	Monthly	
	Parent Meeting #1 @ 9:45 AM	Sunday, October 19	
	Spanish Parent Meeting #1 @ 11:45 AM	Sunday, October 19	
	All Saints Day Relic Exposition	Saturday, November 1	
	Saint & Sponsor Form	Monday, December 1	
	Copy of Baptism Certificate Submitted	Monday, December 1	
	High School Fall Retreat	Fri, Dec 5-Sun, Dec 7	
	ADOREMUS Retreat *Mandatory	Fri, Jan 30 - Sun, Feb 1	
	2 Service Requirements Submitted	Sunday, Feb 15	
	Confirmation Rehearsal	Saturday, Feb 28	
	Confirmation Mass @ 3:30 PM	Sunday, Mar 1	
	Last Day of Religious Education (Wednesday classes)	Wednesday, May 20	