CONFIRMATION INFORMATION
FOR 7TH GRADE PARENTS
Fall 2018

Dear 7th Grade Families,

As you may already know, the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation has been moved to 8th grade here at OLG. A lot of things occur during the 8th grade year in preparation for this awesome sacrament (Discipleship Groups, Confirmation lessons, picking a Confirmation saint, etc.) but Fr. Kevin has asked that some Confirmation-related things now begin in 7th grade. Beginning this year, the following will be added in 7th grade:

1. **Confirmation Opening Mass and Social** - **Saturday, October 27th, 5:00 pm.** Mass followed by treats and socializing. End time of event not yet solidified, but will not go past 8:00 pm. Event is for 7th grade students and their families (parents, siblings, etc.).

2. **Choosing a Confirmation Sponsor** - I would suggest students do this **by early/mid-November,** though a sponsor won’t actually be needed until the date of the sponsor event listed below. Please see the next page for information on choosing a sponsor.

3. **Confirmation Sponsor and Candidate Event** - **Wednesday, December 5th, 6:00-7:15 pm.** For sponsor and student. If sponsor absolutely cannot make it (due to living out of town, sickness, etc.) a parent can fill in on their behalf.

4. **Sponsor/Candidate Interview - Round 1** (round 2 will occur in 8th grade) - **Sometime in January or thereafter.** Consists of students asking their sponsors some get-to-know-you questions and faith-related questions (e.g. What do you remember from your Confirmation?). Students will be given about a month to complete this assignment.

5. **Parent/Candidate Interview - Round 1** (round 2 will occur in 8th grade) - **Sometime in January or thereafter.** Same kinds of questions as Sponsor/Candidate Interview. Students will be given about a month to complete this assignment.

All other big Confirmation-specific happenings will occur in 8th grade. If you have any questions about any of this, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Thanks, and God bless!

Greg Aitchison
CONFIRMATION SPONSOR INFO

Below are some guidelines and tips for acquiring a Confirmation sponsor:

- The sponsor must be chosen by the one to be Confirmed (parents may certainly suggest possible sponsors, but should not choose the sponsor for his/her child).
- The sponsor must be someone other than the candidate’s mother and father.
- The sponsor must be a practicing Catholic who has received Baptism, 1st Communion, and Confirmation, and leads a life in harmony with the faith.
- Godparents can be a great choice if they are still active in their faith and someone the candidate looks up to.
- Sometimes sponsors are chosen as a way to honor a relative or flatter a friend, but this should not be the reason for choosing them. A sponsor’s primary role is to be a companion on the journey of faith. They will be asked to share their advice and faith with your child and will be expected to take their role as a spiritual mentor seriously.
- If students are having a tough time thinking of a sponsor:
  - Think of family members (grandparent, aunt/uncle, cousin, etc.)
  - Think of friends of your own that you could suggest to your child
  - Ask your child to think of their friends’ parents and see if any of them would be a good option
  - Call or e-mail other 7th grade parents to see if they have any suggestions