

St. Mark's Catholic Church

277 Park Lawn Road, Toronto, ON M8Y 3J7

Tel. 416-259-6790; Fax. 416-255-9323; stmarkset@archtoronto.org; stmarkset.archtoronto.org

THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

September, 2024

Dear Parents of **Grade 7 and Grade 8** Students,

Sacraments are received within a parish. They are *not* received “*with the school*”. Normally people receive the sacraments in their own parish. If you belong to a parish other than St. Mark's, ***please contact your own parish priest as soon as possible*** for the procedure to follow with respect to Confirmation in your parish.

If you come to Mass to St. Mark's Church, and would like your son or daughter to be confirmed in our parish, then the procedure here is as follows. Students in **Grade 7 or older** (as well as any adults) need to register to receive this sacrament. To obtain a registration form, they have to attend one of our weekend Masses: **Saturday 5:00 p.m.; Sunday 8:30 a.m.; 10:00 a.m. (Polish); or 11:30 a.m.**, and see me at the Mass. **Your son or daughter must attend one of the weekend Masses in person to obtain the registration form from me.** They are to return it to me ***at the Church***, with a photocopy of their baptismal certificate, ***by Sunday, November 17, 2024***. There will be an **Enrolment Ceremony** for those who have registered on **Sunday December 15**, at the **11:30 a.m.** Mass, at which the candidates will receive a special cross.

Students and parents must attend four (4) preparation meetings in the Church on Saturday mornings, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., on March 22, March 29, April 5, and April 12, as part of the immediate preparation for Confirmation.

The date for Confirmation is **Saturday, April 26, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.** Please note that **no photographs or videos are permitted during the Confirmation Mass**, but they are welcome afterwards. There is no special dress requirement for this or any of the sacraments. What is important is the inner faith and preparedness of the person who wishes to be confirmed. At the same time, students should wear what is appropriate for Church. (Shoulders, for example, should be covered.)

Those to be confirmed should be showing their genuine commitment to the Catholic faith. This is done above all by daily prayer, and trying to live a holy life, obedient to God's commandments. The greatest prayer of all is the Mass. That is why Catholics should be attending Mass every week. We should want to come to Mass regularly to receive Our Lord, the Bread of Life, in Holy Communion. Those preparing for Confirmation need to make a special effort to attend Mass to show their true commitment to the Catholic faith, and their love for Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. Parents can encourage their sons and daughters in this regard above all by their own good example.

We pray that the Holy Spirit may indeed come down upon all of our young people in a very special way this year, and bestow his gifts upon them in abundance.

Sincerely yours in Our Lord,



(Rev.) Edward Koroway, Pastor