

*It is possible that you have received this letter by mistake, if so, please contact us at the Parish Office and we will be sure to update the database with the proper information. Also, if you know someone who did not receive this that should have, please feel free to forward this information on to him or her and have him or her call the Parish Office to let us know.*

September 9, 2010

Dear Confirmation Candidate and Parent(s):

I am writing to you today to ask you to consider participating in the program to explore whether you would like to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation here at Holy Rosary Parish.

#### **WHEN IS CONFIRMATION AT HOLY ROSARY?**

We will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation sometime near the first week of March. There will be a reception to follow in the Parish Hall.

#### **A WORD (OR TWO) ABOUT CONFIRMATION ITSELF...**

Our hope is that through this program candidates will have the opportunity to explore what it means to be a Catholic Christian and what the Catholic Church is about. Candidates will have the chance to examine the Church as institution and the Church as community; to be able to integrate the Presence of God into the decisions and issues that they are facing in their life. This is a lifelong process but the hope is that this program will give each candidate some tools and resources with which to continue on their faith journey in the years ahead.

#### **WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS?**

The Archdiocesan guidelines reflect the thinking that a Sacrament is a gift and not something to be earned. That being said, however, there are some requirements that the candidates will be asked to fulfill. Because these are minimal requirements, candidates are expected to fulfill them to display their commitment to the exploration of the faith prior to their discernment regarding the acceptance of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

- **Candidate/Coordinator Meeting** – An individual meeting at the beginning and end of the preparation process;
- **Sessions and Retreat** – Candidates will be expected to attend:
  1. *Archdiocese of Seattle Confirmation weekend retreat – January 21-23, 2011*
  2. *6-7 sessions* – Approximately every other Sunday from **12:30-2:30 pm** starting **November 7th**
  3. *Rehearsal – February 27<sup>th</sup> (tentative date)* – sponsors are expected to attend;
- **Weekly Mass** – Candidates will be expected to participate in weekly mass;
- **Ministry/Service** – Candidates are expected to actively participate in at least one Ministry available through Holy Rosary for at least 8 hours during the five months prior to Confirmation;
- **Rite of Enrollment** – Candidates and sponsors are expected to participate in the *11am mass on Sunday, January 9<sup>th</sup>* ;
- **Reconciliation** – Candidates will be expected to attend a reconciliation service during the program.

#### **WHAT ABOUT A SPONSOR?**

A sponsor should be a confirmed Catholic and someone that the candidate can talk to regarding their thoughts and questions about their faith. Parents cannot be sponsors of their own children. Candidates will be asked to meet with their sponsor regularly throughout the preparation program so candidates should pick someone they feel comfortable and able to do this with. *Please fill out the enclosed sponsor form and bring with you to the parent and candidate meeting.*

#### **HOW DO I REGISTER?**

Please fill out the enclosed registration form with \$140 (please make checks payable to Holy Rosary) and return to me after mass on the weekends of September 12<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> or to the Parish Office. I look forward to getting to know you and being a part of your journey of faith. As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to email me at [lanceg@holyrosaryedmonds.org](mailto:lanceg@holyrosaryedmonds.org) or call the Parish Office at (425) 778-3122.

Sincerely,

Lance Groesbeck  
High School Confirmation Coordinator