



St. Laurence Church  
565 Standish Street  
Elgin, IL 60123  
(847) 468-6900

RE: Confirmation for 7th and 8th Grade Students

Dear 7th and 8th Grade Parents:

I hope this finds you all well and that you all are having a relaxing and restful summer! For those who do not know me, my name is Briana Collins and I am beginning my second year as St. Laurence's Coordinator of Religious Education. Encompassed within being in charge of the Wednesday evening Parish Religious Education Program (PREP), Fr. Andrew and I are responsible for helping to prepare the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade PREP and St. Laurence Catholic School students to receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

In an effort to strengthen and add to your son/daughter's overall faith enrichment, we will be moving Confirmation classes to Sunday mornings. The classes will be held from 9:30-10:45 A.M. in the St. Laurence School.

We are very excited about this slight modification for three different reasons. First, this will create more community-building opportunities. Both the St. Laurence students and the PREP students will be learning together. Secondly, this small modification will allow for more service opportunities for the students in two different ways. All students will be able to volunteer during the Wednesday evening (K-6th grade) PREP classes, and one Sunday of each month, both the 7th and 8th grade students will do an "alternative activity". Examples of "alternative activities" include making rosaries for the elderly or visiting a local nursing home – all of which may count toward service hours. In other words, these Sundays will be used as "engaged learning" where the students' faith will be put into action. Finally, by hosting classes on Sundays we are increasing the number of opportunities that students can participate in liturgy. More information to come!

Confirmation preparation spans two years – 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade.\* The first Confirmation class will be held on Sunday, September 18. More program details can be discussed at the Confirmation Parent Meeting on Sunday, September 25, at 9:45 AM, but for the purposes of scheduling I wanted to make the change known as soon as possible.

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Fr. Andrew or Briana Collins at the Parish Office (847) 468-6900.

Thank you and have a blessed rest of your summer,

Briana Collins  
Coordinator of Religious Education  
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\*Given that St. Laurence is a smaller program, Confirmation occurs every two years. Students who will be in 8th grade this year will receive Confirmation when they are in 9th grade. Upon completion of the 7th and 8th grade class, if students must wait until their 9th grade year to be confirmed, no additional requirements will be necessary between the end of their 8<sup>th</sup> grade year and the time of Confirmation.