

April 4, 2011



Dear Parents and Confirmation Candidates,

It is finally time to register for our 9th grade immediate preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. The program consists of a session on the Sacrament of Confirmation (held on a Saturday morning), a guest speaker, and an evening of reflection. In addition to these requirements, candidates are to attend at least 4 Life Nights between June and October. See registration form.

Parent and Candidate Classes

The Parent/Candidate sessions will run as follows.

Session #1: The Sacrament of Confirmation & the Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Schedule: 9am Mass followed by two sessions in the Parish Hall until 12 noon.

Choose between 1 of 4 dates: (indicate selection on registration form)

September 24th October 1st October 8th October 15th

Session #2: Apologetics and Living a Catholic Life—Sunday, October 16th 7-8:30pm

Jim and his father founded San Juan Catholic Seminars, a lay organization devoted to explaining and defending the Catholic faith. At first, it only presented out-of-town speakers. Then Jim teamed up with a local priest, Father Frank Chacon, to give local seminars themselves. Since then, San Juan Catholic Seminars has grown into a full-fledged apologetics ministry, offering seminars, tapes, and the hugely popular series of Beginning Apologetics booklets.

Session #3: Evening of Reflection and Reconciliation

Schedule to come on the indicated day:

Last Names: **A-K** will attend on **Wednesday, November 9th at 7pm in the Church**

Last Names: **L-Z** will attend on **Thursday, November 10th at 7pm in the Church**

During this evening of reflection, Msgr. Bellow will speak to the candidates and we will provide an opportunity for them to attend the Sacrament of Reconciliation and sit in Eucharistic Adoration. They will also write a letter to the Bishop explaining the reasons why they desire to be confirmed.

Life Teen Experience: Candidates are to attend 4 Life Nights

Beginning May 22, 8th grade students are invited to attend Life Nights and Catholic Athletes for Christ, as well as any High School Youth Ministry program.

Each candidate will need to choose 4 Sunday nights to attend our Life Teen program (between June 5 and Oct 9, see registration form for specific dates). I ask that you indicate on your registration form which dates you plan on attending. I realize that it is very early to determine due to schedules; however, we need a rough estimate on how many students will attend each night (since there will be approximately 50 extra teens at each of these Life Nights).

For more info please contact our Coordinator of Youth Ministry, Tim Flynn (704) 948-1306, x105, or by email at stmarklifeteen@gmail.com or visit the youth ministry website at www.stmarklifeteen.com

Confirmation Mass

Lastly, I know many of you are curious in regards to the date for Confirmation. As of today we are still waiting for this from the Bishop and as soon as I know, you will know. You can plan that there will be a Rehearsal the week of on Wednesday and Thursday evenings. All candidates should be at their assigned rehearsal. You will be able to assigned a day/time in September.

As you know, I am preparing to leave St. Mark for a new youth ministry position at St. Thomas Aquinas. Donna Smith is in the process of interviewing candidates and plans to hire for June 1st. During this time of transition, please contact Donna if you have any questions or concerns at any time: phone (704-948-1306, x104) or email. (dsmith18@bellsouth.net). When the position is filled, he/she will contact you (stmarkedge@gmail.com).

Peace in Christ,

Katie Herzing

To His Soldiers of Christ: *The Lord calls you to holiness, to be his disciples, always ready to listen to his voice, to fulfill his will and to realize it in the daily accomplishment of your duties. This will help make of you 'good Christians' and at the same time 'exemplary soldiers,' animated by that evangelical spirit which makes each of the baptized a 'leaven' to uplift the rest and a 'light' that shines and warms in the places you live and work.* Pope

Benedict XVI



St. Mark Catholic Church
14740 Stumptown Road
Huntersville, NC 28078

For More Information:
Middle School Youth Minister
stmarkedge@gmail.com
(704) 948-1306, x117

Registration forms are due by June 15th with the \$30 fee (checks payable to Saint Mark Church), ** All registrations of current students received after that date will incur a \$20 late fee. **

Immediate Preparation for Confirmation

Over the course of two months, parents and candidates will attend sessions together to further explore how the Holy Spirit can, is, and will work in their lives. The candidates will also experience our youth ministry program here at St. Mark, the Life Teen program on Sunday evening. The cost for this Confirmation program will be \$30 to cover class supplies, Confirmation Mass, guest speakers, etc.

Family Name _____	Home Phone _____
Address: _____	City _____ ZipCode _____
Family E-Mail Address(es) _____ (we will communicate frequently by email, please include both parent's addresses)	
Father's Name _____	Religion _____ Work/Cell Phone # _____
Mother's Name _____	Religion _____ Work/Cell Phone # _____

<p>The Immediate preparation combines two programs—the Parent/Candidate Classes & the High School Youth Ministry Program. Please choose the dates that work best for your family.</p> <p>Candidate Name: _____</p> <p>School 2011-2012: _____</p> <p>Please check the Parent/Candidate Session you wish to attend, all are Saturday from 9am to noon:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> September 24th</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> October 1st</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> October 8th</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> October 15th</p>	<p>Please check the 4 Life Nights from our High School Youth Ministry Program you will attend</p> <p>Sunday evenings: 5:00 Mass, dinner immediately following with the Life Night until 8:00 pm.</p> <table><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> June 5th</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> August 28th</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> June 12th</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Sept. 11th</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> June 19th</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Sept. 18th</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> June 26th</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Sept. 25th</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> July 10th</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> October 2nd</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> July 24th</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> October 9th</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> August 14th</td><td></td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> August 21st</td><td></td></tr></table>	<input type="checkbox"/> June 5th	<input type="checkbox"/> August 28th	<input type="checkbox"/> June 12th	<input type="checkbox"/> Sept. 11th	<input type="checkbox"/> June 19th	<input type="checkbox"/> Sept. 18th	<input type="checkbox"/> June 26th	<input type="checkbox"/> Sept. 25th	<input type="checkbox"/> July 10th	<input type="checkbox"/> October 2nd	<input type="checkbox"/> July 24th	<input type="checkbox"/> October 9th	<input type="checkbox"/> August 14th		<input type="checkbox"/> August 21st	
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<p>Parental support with the Preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation is vital for the success of our program. Below are listed several ways you as a parent can help support this life-changing ministry, please choose one:</p> <p>_____ Table Facilitator (Sat Session) _____ Meal Team for Life Nights (1x/month)</p> <p>A Table Facilitator will help keep our discussions on track during our Saturday morning sessions during the candidate portion on Gifts & Fruits of the Holy Spirit.. You will be given all materials that you might need.</p>
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