

Hello 8th Grade Parents and Guardians,

You are receiving this letter because you have a student going into the 8th grade who may be interested in being confirmed this year! My name is Megan Vina and I am the Confirmation Coordinator for St. Peter's Catholic Church. I joined St. Peter's staff in 2023, and have additionally run our monthly programming for young adult gatherings. It is my pleasure to have the opportunity to help prepare your children to receive this beautiful sacrament.

Confirmation is a gift from God that fortifies and strengthens our relationship with Christ, through an outpouring of the Holy Spirit! I encourage you as parents to begin talking with your youth about your own experiences with Confirmation, why it is important, and how as a family you are going to prepare together. We know that unless parents assume their role as the *primary formators*, or the ones that are **directly involved in this preparation process**, children are likely to leave the faith later in life. My invitation to all of you as parents is to allow this experience to be a strengthening of *your own faith* and a deepening of your bond with Christ as an entire family.

Here's the essentials you need to know: We will have our first meeting with parents, candidates AND SPONSORS on **September 13th, 2026, from 11:45am-12:45pm in the Gathering Space of St. Peters** to kick off the year. Please ask and invite your child's sponsor to attend this meeting. At this meeting I will explain the program and expectations for the year and give additional information about our overnight confirmation retreat at **Damascus, October 2-4th, 2026.** This retreat is **MANDATORY** and a requirement of the Diocese, so if your child is involved in sports or has a prior commitment, please make appropriate arrangements now to ensure your child can attend. If your child doesn't attend with our group for any reason, you will need to register him/ her individually and attend a retreat on a separate weekend. Registration forms and fees can be found and paid online at <https://www.stpetersshuron.org/confirmation>, or you can scan the QR code on the postcard contained in this mailing. Confirmation this year will be on Sunday, March 7th, 2027 at 3pm at Rosary Cathedral, downtown Toledo. This fulfills your Sunday obligation.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to an awesome year growing closer to the Lord! As Pope John Paul II once said, "Life with Christ is a wonderful adventure!"

In Christ,
Megan Vina
St. Peter Parish Confirmation Coordinator
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