

August 10, 2016

Dear Confirmation Families:

I am really excited to begin this confirmation journey with you. I know I have huge shoes to fill in the departure of Mrs. Jean DesRochers. It has been my privilege to learn from Jean for the past several years as a confirmation teacher, and I look forward to building upon the success of the program.

For those of you who don't know me, I am a genuine fixture at St. Matthew parish. I have been a parishioner for over forty years, and in fact made my own Confirmation at St. Matthew (many, many moons ago now!). It has been my great joy to be a catechist for the past 10 years. I sit on the social concerns committee, coached the bible quest team, give children's homilies, and Lector. One of the best things that I do at church is drive the bus for our elderly or homebound parishioners taking them to and from Saturday mass. My faith has been the foundation for my life. It motivates, inspires, and comforts me beyond belief.

This year, I am especially grateful to lead and be part of the Confirmation experience. It is especially exciting because I know many of the candidates and your families. It is comforting and exciting to share this journey with you all. I look forward to seeing many familiar faces, and I really look forward to getting to know the families that I haven't met yet. Towards that end, I am going to set up 3 dates for a pizza meet and greet for confirmation families to briefly speak to you all and hopefully get to learn more about you. You can choose to attend one, or more of those pizza events. On those nights, I will also be happy to answer any questions that you may have about the Confirmation program.

I consider Confirmation to be a journey for the whole family. It is a journey made together to support, motivate and ignite the many gifts that your children already possess, and help them learn to share those gifts in their family, in the parish, and in the community, as they grow closer in their relationship to Jesus. I look forward to us all working together to help achieve that goal.

I know that some parents have already offered to volunteer and I can't thank you enough. Being a visible supporter of your child as they go through the Confirmation process is one of the most effective things we can do together.

We welcome parent volunteers for hallway monitors, service project leaders and chaperones, and for other aspects and events of the Confirmation program. We especially welcome any parent who wishes to teach Confirmation.

Please know I am available at any time for questions, cares or concerns. You can email me at the parish office or to my home email which is mer313@sbcglobal.net. In addition, please feel free to contact me on my cell phone (203) 722-9367.

Again, I am very much looking forward to sharing this Confirmation journey with your child and you all.

Many thanks, and all my best wishes for a great year,

Liz Reid