

June, 2010

Dear 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Student and Parent/Guardian;

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you into the Holy Cross Confirmation preparation program. **This for students who complete Grade 8 in May/June 2010.** Confirmation is a sacrament that completes Baptism, initiates you fully into the Catholic Church and bestows the seven gifts of the Spirit upon you. It is your answer "YES" to our Lord's invitation to follow Him as a disciple. It is not a sacrament to be taken lightly. Confirmation preparation requires both time and commitment on the part of the youth preparing and the family. I ask that you take the next few days to pray and discuss as a family your desire to receive the sacrament. It is the Church's desire that the youth makes the final decision to be confirmed.

Once you have made the decision to be confirmed your parish community, along with the youth ministry office, will strive to make the Confirmation program a very spiritual, joyful and prayerful experience for both the teen and the family. We find it much easier to accomplish this when we have all the information we need from our parents. Enclosed is a registration application, an emergency form, Confirmation preparation information, a guide on choosing a sponsor and a sponsor verification form, a School Reach information form, as well as a list of important dates including the dates of the parent/teen meetings and Confirmation retreat. (This retreat is **mandatory** for all Confirmandi.) Please take the summer to choose a sponsor as well as a Confirmation name. **All forms are due in the youth ministry office no later than August 15, 2010.**

We look forward to taking this faith journey with you and your family and hope that the coming year of preparation strengthens your relationship with Jesus Christ.

May God Bless Your Family,

Tracie Reinhart, Coordinator  
Youth Ministry

TR/mm  
Enclosures