

Freshman year

Bagels & Basics:

Because we believe that “Bagels & Basics” provides a foundation for Confirmation Preparation & Youth Ministry,

14 BAGELS & BASICS classes in the time of Covid and we ask everyone to do at least 1 of the 2 Reconciliation opportunities offered.

The Bagels & Basics schedule in the time of Covid offers virtual options and in-person options. No matter which option you choose, we will cover the same material. We'll look at what it means to be a confirmed Catholic, the relationship between sexual abstinence & faith, the difficult moral choices we face, how our choices reflect what we believe, and how each of us is called to serve. We'll pray, laugh, read and talk together on the way to a deeper understanding of our faith and ourselves.

One-Day Retreats:

You may choose one of several dates offered.

(Not required for EHS students or for anyone who goes on a Mission Trip, NCYC, or one of the more extended overnight retreats.)

Retreats may be 1-day pilgrimage retreats or may be a late-night retreat at QP. We'll spend time exploring our faith, our culture, our past and our future while praying, talking, and learning how our relationship with God guides our lives.

SERVICE:

10 Hours of service Stewardship - using our time and our talents doing the work of God, is an important part of who we are as Catholic Christians learning to 'walk the walk we talk'. Use the Faith WORKS component to push your envelope - go beyond your comfort zone and make a difference! FYI - I will not ask for an accounting of service hours. Instead, when each student nears Confirmation, they will be asked to share a story of how service in the name of God impacted their life.

What comes next

Mini-Courses:

3 Mini-courses required. (2 for EHS students) Schedules vary. Courses for each quarter will be posted in the newsletters & mailings and on our website. Topics will include areas that explore our call to Discipleship, your relationship with God, how we live as Catholics in our culture, and how we grow in faith.

Overnight Retreat:

We do ask everyone to do an overnight retreat.

A variety of retreats with different schedules are held at a variety of sites. Location details, like mini-courses, are announced in newsletters & mailings and are posted on the website. Again, we'll spend time talking about faith, our culture, our past and our future while praying, laughing, eating, and learning how our relationship with God guides our lives. But this time, we'll delve deeper.....

SERVICE:

20 Hours of service. Serving, reading, singing, ushering etc. at Mass is a wonderful way to get your hours. So is tutoring, raking leaves for a neighbor, visiting with someone who is lonely or working in a food pantry. Push your envelope even further.....

At least 2 of these hours should be spent helping people truly in need. This could mean serving at a meal program, a housing shelter, a Food Pantry, the Boys and Girls Club or on Mission Trip or at the CMC.....

Program Fees:

The Fee for High School Youth Ministry is \$150. It is a one-time fee - and covers all registration fees for all 4 years of involvement including most Confirmation preparation events.

Final Confirmation

Preparation:

TGIF

TGIF stands for **Together in Faith**. This session is an opportunity for our students and their sponsors to share a guided discussion on faith, life, struggles, the future...everything. We will offer the session 3 times during the year.

Confirmation Prep Retreat:

Choose 1 of 2 options:

One in August and one in October from 10am-2:30pm. The retreat will focus on how you have prepared for the sacrament of Confirmation, and preparing to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Confirmation Final Prep & Rehearsal:

One shot only: the week before Confirmation. Sponsors and students to be confirmed need to attend!

Youth Ministry Trips:

Mission Trips: Since 1997 Queen of Peace has had a long history of summer mission trips. We have had to change things a bit because of COVID, but we are doing an mission trip this June. Details will follow..

NCYC: A trip with students from throughout the Diocese of a national Catholic high school convention. It's a time of prayer, fun, learning and sharing their faith with Catholic students across the country. (We're planning a trip to NCY in Fall 2023)

Love Begins Here, Camp Gray, and Disciple Camp- either of these would satisfy your Overnight Retreat guideline after a pre-trip and post-trip meeting with Shawn.

Any of these summer trips cover all one-day and overnight retreat guidelines for Confirmation. The Mission Trip also covers all service hour requirements.

When can I be Confirmed?

Students can be Confirmed when they feel ready and when they have prepared to receive the Sacrament. Traditionally at Our Lady Queen of Peace, students have received the Sacrament in Sophomore or Junior year.

But I'm so busy!!! What about make-up sessions?

Your faith is an important part of figuring out who you are. Your faith is like the path you follow as you figure out who you are and how God is calling you to use your talents and where to spend your time and energy. All the energy you spend on academics, sports, music, family, friends - it's all important - because all our friends, family & talents are gifts from God. We know there are lots of different things pulling on your schedule. We also know that it's important to make time to be with God as you follow your path in life.

So – we try to make it easy.....

For example, if you miss Bagels & Basics, you can take Pizza & Theology anytime after first semester Freshman year. Pizza & Theology is an opportunity specifically designed for students who are trying to catch up topics covered in Bagels & Basics events. There are several Pizza & Theology (and Mass & Theology) evenings (in 3-4 hour slots) scheduled throughout the year - at least one a month. Students may sign up for these evenings in groups of up to 12.
(One Pizza & Theology = 2 Bagels & Basics)

And Mini-courses can always be scheduled as independent study events with Shawn. You can do this alone, or with a couple of friends - just come to Shawn with a topic. We try to offer you lots of choices – including preparing privately with your parents as guides. In fact, any time you have a question, call Shawn at 608-231-4609. Or send an e-mail to him at Shawn.Willox@qopc.org



Youth Ministry and Confirmation Preparation Program

First Step:

Bagels & Basics
Pilgrimage Retreat
10 service Hours

Second Step:

(Part of the Second step can run concurrently with the First step, or can begin at the conclusion of Bagels & Basics)

3 Mini-courses
Pizza & Theology sessions
1 Overnight Retreat
20 Service Hours

(with at least 2 of those hours helping people in need at a meal program, shelter, etc.)

Final Confirmation Preparation

1 TGIF session
1 Confirmation Prep Retreat
1 Confirmation Reconciliation Service
and Rehearsal evening