



August 2017

Dear Parents and Confirmation Candidates,  
Welcome to Winona Catholic Community Confirmation Preparation for 2017-2018!

**On Wednesday, September 20, we will begin the Confirmation Preparation with Gathered Session One at St. Mary's Parish (in the Visitation Commons) from 6:30-8:00pm** for all candidates from Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, St. Casimir's, and St. Mary's in grades 10-12 who are planning to celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation in the spring of 2018. **Parents and sponsors should plan to attend as well.** The gathering will be facilitated by the pastors and the Confirmation team.

### **Confirmation Sponsor**

**The candidates will need to choose a sponsor to journey with them during their preparation.** The sponsor should be someone who can relate to the candidate, be mature in practicing his or her Catholic faith, be fully initiated and participates in the Eucharist weekly. Sponsors will be asked to participate with the preparation process on the following dates:

September 20 - Gathered Session One  
October 15 - Rite of Enrollment (at your parish)  
December 13 – Gathered Session with Sponsors  
May 16 – Confirmation Rehearsal  
May 20 – Confirmation Liturgy

### **Confirmation Preparation Sessions**

See the back of this letter for the calendar including all of the dates for gathered sessions and other expectations.

### **Confirmation Preparation Program**

*Called to Mercy* is a new Confirmation preparation program from St. Mary's Press that will be used this school year. It combines online learning modules with gathered sessions, a retreat and service day. The **online fee of \$24.95 will paid directly to St. Mary's Press** when the candidates enroll online. You will learn more about that process on September 20. Go to [www.calledtomercy.com](http://www.calledtomercy.com) for more information.

### **Confirmation Registration Form**

Please fill out the **Confirmation Registration Form** and bring it on September 20. The Confirmation **registration fee is \$25** and checks can be made payable to St. Mary's Parish. **Remember to provide a copy of your baptismal certificate if you were not baptized at your current parish.** We **must** have a copy of your baptismal certificate before you are confirmed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call one of the parish leaders listed below. If you are unable to attend this meeting, please contact Julie Walch.

Together in ministry,  
**St. Casimir/Cathedral**  
Fr. Mark McNea

452-4770  
360 Main St  
Winona

**St. Mary's**  
Fr. James Berning  
Julie Walch ([juwalch@wacs1.org](mailto:juwalch@wacs1.org))  
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1303 W. Broadway  
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