

# 10th Grade "Pre-Confirmation" Policy - 2016/2017

*"Confirmed are made strong and more firmly obliged by word and deed to witness to Christ and to spread and defend the Faith..."  
Title II – Sacrament of Confirmation Can. 879 – Canon Law*

## ***Our Lady of Fatima Church - Lafayette, Louisiana***

### **Pre-Confirmation Philosophy**

In our attempt to prepare, equip and challenge Confirmation candidates to live as soldiers of Christ and bring “good news” to the world, a real and glaring need has become apparent; not everyone has access to solid Catholic Church teaching. At Our Lady of Fatima, we want to reach out to non-Catholic school young people who don’t have access to regular catechetical instruction. To address this need, we intend to provide Pre-Confirmation classes for 10<sup>th</sup> grade students before they enter our Confirmation program in their 11<sup>th</sup> grade year. It is believed such a program will better equip all prospective Confirmation students to live out a commitment to Jesus and the Catholic Church.

### **Pre-Confirmation Expectations for Non-Catholic School 10<sup>th</sup> Graders**

1. **Non-Catholic School Candidates in 10<sup>th</sup> Grade:** 10<sup>th</sup> grade members of Our Lady of Fatima Church Parish who do not attend a Catholic high school, and who intend to be confirmed at Fatima, **MUST** attend the Non-Catholic school Catechetical Sessions in their 10<sup>th</sup> grade year. Pre-Confirmation students will be expected to fulfill all assignments and tests in this given year.
2. **Participation in Pre-Confirmation:** Pre-Confirmation students must successfully participate in the Pre-Confirmation program to be ELIGIBLE for Confirmation preparation and to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at Our Lady of Fatima Church. Student’s who satisfy these requirements can enter the Confirmation preparation program at Our Lady of Fatima in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade of high school.
3. **Registration Forms and Fee Deadline:** Pre-Confirmation students must obtain, complete, and submit all Registration forms and requested fees to the Fatima Parish office.
  - a. **Registration forms can be picked up at the Fatima office or by printing the form from the Fatima website at [www.fatimalafayette.org](http://www.fatimalafayette.org) under the “Religious Education” Tab.**
  - b. **Registration deadline is **August 26, 2016.****
4. **Fees:** A \$25.00 (1- Student) \$45 (2- Students) \$60 (3- Students) Fees are due **at time of Registration.**
  - a. **Late Registration Fee:** A **\$25 Late Fee** will be assessed **after** August 26, 2016.
  - b. **Checks are payable to:** Our Lady of Fatima Church
5. **Safe Environment Class:** TBA! - **Mandatory class - parents AND students must attend.**
6. **Bring a personal Bible to Sessions and Holy Hour:** Each pre-Confirmation student will be expected to have and bring their own personal Bible to sessions. “The New American Bible” for Catholics is a recommended edition.
7. **Have a Catholic Catechism at Home:** Pre-Confirmation students will need access to a “Universal Catechism of the Catholic Church” to complete certain assignments. This can also be found online at

### **Pre-Confirmation Expectations for *Excused* and *Non-excused Absences***

- a) **Excused Absences for a Pre-Confirmation Session:** If, due to a serious illness, injury, unexpected family emergency or a legitimate conflict outside the control of the pre-Confirmation student, one is forced to miss a pre-Confirmation session, it is expected that the following procedures will be followed:
  1. Pre-Confirmation student or parent will initiate a **TIMELY CALL** to the Fatima office notifying DRE of the problem and leave at least a message on the answering machine (232-8945) if after hours.
  2. A written, legible, explanation for the absence will be delivered to the Fatima office “ATTN: Director of Religious Education” by 12:00 p.m. on the following Friday.
  3. The note will be signed by both the Pre-Confirmation student and Parent/Guardian.

- b) **Make-up Work for Excused Absence:** The Pre-Confirmation student will be required to meet with the DRE within seven (7) days, to obtain the assignment for all missed work that is due. **It is the responsibility of the Pre-Confirmation student to initiate this meeting.** If the student does not initiate and complete a Make-up plan within two weeks of the absence, such an absence will be deemed **Unexcused** and noted in his/her file.
- c) **Unexcused Absences:** Unexcused absences are not acceptable. More than two unexcused absences will be reported to the pastor for his discernment regarding the Pre-Confirmation student's continuation in the program **and** eligibility to Confirm at Our Lady of Fatima Church.

## Important Dates

### Class Sessions: For 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> Grades

All session, unless noted, are from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm in Knight Hall Auditorium

- Sept. 13                    MANDATORY Parent/Student Meeting
- Sept. 18                    Class: 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>
- Oct. 2                        Class: 9<sup>th</sup>, 10, 11<sup>th</sup>
- Nov. 6                        Class: 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>
- Nov. 12, 13                Catechism Mass (MANDATORY)
- Nov. 20, 27                NO CLASSES (Thanksgiving Holidays)
- Dec. 4                        Class: 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>
- Dec. 18, 25                NO CLASSES (Christmas Holidays)
- Jan. 1                        NO CLASSES (New Year's Day)
- Jan. 7,8                    CONFIRMATION RETREAT
- Jan. 8                        Class: 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>
- Jan. 15                    NO CLASSES (MLK, Jr. weekend)
- Feb. 5                        Class: 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>
- Feb. 19, 26                NO CLASS: Mardi Gras Holidays
- Mar. 5                        Class: 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> (WAY of the CROSS in Church after Mass)
- Mar. 12                    SAFE ENVIRONMENT

### Class Topics:

- #1 Being Catholic - Why we believe what we believe?
- #2 Reconciliation – Why do we confess our sins?
- #3 Confirmation – Why be Confirmed? The role of the Holy Spirit
- #4 Vocations-Speakers
- #5 Marriage and morality – Church teachings on dating, marriage, contraception, homosexuality, and divorce
- #6 The Four Last Things