

# Sacrament of Confirmation

## Programme 2022

### Family information booklet



*Year 8 Students and above*



Catholic Parish of  
Christchurch North



you<sup>th</sup> ministry  
NORTH PARISH

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# WHAT IS THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

During his ministry, Jesus promised his disciples the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which descended on them on the Feast of Pentecost. It is the same Holy Spirit that descends upon everyone who is baptised, and this is strengthened during the Sacrament of Confirmation.

This booklet will help you and your child understand more about taking the next step in their Catholic faith journey through this Sacrament!

We encourage you to read this booklet, and to reflect, and ask yourself the questions of *'Why do I want my child to partake in the Confirmation programme? Am I prepared to make a commitment to attend Sunday Mass with my children regularly?'*

We also encourage your child to read through this booklet, and to reflect and ask themselves the question of *'Why do I want to partake in the Confirmation programme? Am I ready to take this next step in my faith journey?'*



## CONFIRMATION JOURNEY FOR 2022

For many of the candidates, this may be the first time that they can make the decision themselves to be involved in the sacramental programme, rather it being the decision of their parents, grandparents and godparents.

As the North Parish, we want to be able to support our young people in their faith journey. One of the best opportunities for this is during the Confirmation preparation programme. The Sacrament of Confirmation helps to empower the candidate to live out their Catholic faith.

As a parish leadership team, we want to make the most of this opportunity for our young people to walk alongside them as they experience their faith. Therefore for 2022, we will incorporate the **Confirmation programme into the Parish Youth Group.**

The Youth Ministry for the North Parish believes that the spiritual element in a young person's life is vital, and that having a relationship with Jesus is not just a good thing for a young person, but this relationship allows them to live life to the fullest. Our programmes and events are all aimed at journeying with youth to explore life and faith, as well as growing in fellowship with each other.

## TERM ONE 2022

During Term 1 2022, we invite all the young people who are wanting to be Confirmed to attend the weekly Parish Youth Group. It is during this Youth Group that the Confirmation candidates will be given a space to experience their faith, as well as connect with other young people from the Parish. Youth Group will begin for 2022 on **February 13**.

As parents and caregivers of these young people in this exciting journey, we also would like to offer you a chance to grow in your faith alongside your children. Therefore, we are encouraging parents and caregivers to take part in the Parish Alpha programme, which begins on the **31 January 2022**. More information on Alpha is found in this booklet.

## CONFIRMATION LESSONS

All enrolments for the 2022 Confirmation programme close on **14 April 2022**. The enrolments will be done via the Parish website and will open early December 2021.

### Introduction Parent and Child (Candidate) Meeting

**Friday 6 May at St Joseph's Pastoral Centre from 6.30pm -8pm.**

Join us for a pizza evening and a chance for everyone to gather, meet the team, and the other people taking part in the programme (a koha will be taken to cover costs of the pizzas).

### Confirmation Camp

**13-15 May at Blue Skies, Kaiapoi.**

This will be a Confirmation camp facilitated by the Confirmation sacramental team, and the Youth Ministry team. We want Confirmation to be an experience of faith, rather than lesson based. This camp is for all the candidates, Parents are invited to join us for our Friday night activity and Sunday Mass.

### Confirmation Mass Practice

**Friday 10 June at 6pm at Christ the King Church.**

Both candidates and sponsors are required at this practice.

### Confirmation Mass

**Sunday 12 June at 5pm at Christ the King Church.**

## COST

As we are facilitating a camp for our Confirmation candidates, the cost for the Confirmation programme in 2022 is **\$50** per participant.

However, as a Parish we do not want the cost to stop any young person from taking part in the Sacrament. Therefore if this cost is too much of a financial strain, then please let us know and we can arrange sponsorship.



## YOUTH GROUP

Our programmes and events are all aimed at journeying with youth to explore life and faith, as well as growing in fellowship with each other.

As we are still building and growing our North Parish community, our parish youth groups are a great way for our young people to get to know others from across our Parish!

We already have some events planned for 2022, with one being our Youth camp from the **4-6 March at Waipara Adventure Centre**. This camp is open to young people in years 7-13. More information regarding registration for this will be out soon.

Follow and like us on Facebook to keep up to date with what is happening for the Christchurch North Youth & Young Adult Ministry!

As mentioned earlier, the young people who are wanting to be Confirmed are invited to join Youth Group for Term 1 of 2022.

Please note that this is not compulsory. However, if you and your child make the choice to not attend Youth Group, as a team, we want to make sure that they are involved in something else that will help grow their faith, outside of Mass and school.



**Year 7 & 8's**  
Sundays (during term time)  
4pm - 6:30 pm

**Years 9 - 13's**  
Sundays (during term time)  
5pm - 8pm

Both youth groups are held at the St. Bede's College Performing Arts Centre.

**Mass is the anchor** in which our youth groups revolve, and the **5pm Sunday Mass** at the St. Bede's College Chapel is now part of both youth groups.

Contact Kaelyn Graham for more information  
[youth@christchurchnorth.org.nz](mailto:youth@christchurchnorth.org.nz) or call / text 027 752 7789

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## ALPHA

*Have you wondered what the Christian Faith is all about?  
Do you have questions about life?  
Is there a deeper purpose to our lives?*

*The benefits of participation in Alpha, is that you will literally be walking alongside your child in **your** faith journey.*

Alpha is an opportunity to explore life, faith, and God in a friendly, open and informal environment. The courses typically run over a 12-week period beginning with an evening meal together each week, followed by a series of short videos and a time of sharing. The course usually includes a weekend retreat.

As a Parish leadership team, we have been challenged with how can we best encourage and walk alongside our parishioners (of different ages) in their faith journey. We believe if you participate in Alpha, then the Confirmation programme won't be a 'tick box' activity, but rather give an opportunity to grow in faith!

Our parish leadership team have all completed Alpha courses, and we have all developed a greater understanding of the Holy Spirit in our lives, and the love of Jesus for us all.

To watch the trailer for the Alpha programme, click [here](#) or visit [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fViYK\\_Xb3Wg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fViYK_Xb3Wg)

Contact Brendan Woodnutt - [evangelisation@christchurchnorth.org.nz](mailto:evangelisation@christchurchnorth.org.nz) for more information



ALPHA

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## TOPICS THAT WILL BE COVERED DURING THE PROGRAMME

At the Confirmation camp the candidates will learn about:

- Sacrament of Confirmation
- The gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit (and how they relate to every day life)
- The Saints and why candidates take a Saint's name as their Confirmation name
- Acts of Service
- Sponsors involvement in their life
- And a whole lot of fun!!!

## SOME WAYS TO HELP YOUR CHILD PREPARE

As the Sacrament of Confirmation is an important step in the lives of our young people, here are some ways that you as families can work together to help them in the preparation for the Sacrament.

- Pray together as a family.
- Read, and pray with the Scriptures. For example, the story of Pentecost in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 1:1-11 and Acts 2:1-13).
- Attend as a family Sunday Mass regularly and become part of the parish community.
- Pray for your child who will receive the great gift of the Holy Spirit (a prayer can be found at the back of this booklet).
- Be open to the Holy Spirit -and ask the Spirit to journey with you and your child during this programme.

# FORMED

Our North Parish has purchased a FORMED subscription! FORMED is a platform full of Catholic content for all age groups. Think of it as a 'Catholic Netflix'!

Diving into the beauty of the Faith has never been easier: at home, on the go, or from any internet connected device. Discover thousands of books, audio talks, movies, documentaries, and studies... there is something for every member of the family to help them grow closer to Christ and His Church. This amazing resource is free for all of our parishioners!

To sign up:

Visit [formed.org](https://formed.org)

Select 'sign up as a parishioner'

Type '8053' and select 'Catholic Parish of Christchurch North'

Fill out your name, and email address

Then click 'Sign up'

Enjoy watching great Catholic content which can help your whole family faith development!

# CONTACT DETAILS



Irene Maguire

*Discipleship Coordinator*

Part of Irene's role is to oversee the facilitation of the Sacramental programmes (such as Confirmation & First Holy Communion).

[discipleship@christchurchnorth.org.nz](mailto:discipleship@christchurchnorth.org.nz)

027 622 9415



Kaelyn Graham

*Youth & Young Adults Coordinator*

Part of Kaelyn's role is to oversee the youth & young adult ministry for the parish.

[youth@christchurchnorth.org.nz](mailto:youth@christchurchnorth.org.nz)

027 752 7789

Our Parish office is located at St Gregory's Church (26 Cotswold Ave) in Bishopdale. Our office is open from Monday -Fridays 9am -2pm and the office phone number is 359 1438

# PRIEST TEAM



Fr Rick

*Parish Priest*



Fr Alister

*Assistant Priest*



Fr Edwin

*Assistant Priest*



Fr Kevin

*Assistant Priest*

In the name of the Father, and of the  
Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Come Holy Spirit,  
fill the hearts of your faithful and  
kindle in them the fire of your love.  
Send forth your Spirit and they shall  
be created.

And you shall renew the face of the  
earth.

O God, who by the light of the Holy  
Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the  
faithful, grant that by the same Holy  
Spirit we may be truly wise and ever  
enjoy his consolations,  
through Christ our Lord,  
Amen.