

## Confirmation Syllabus (Second and Fourth Sundays)

Date	Material Covered	Concepts
September 13	Parent / Sponsor / Youth Meeting Catholic Faith - What is it?	Lay out Confirmation program - answer any question Catholic Beliefs and Traditions - Begin to address the roots of the Catholic faith and its value in the world
September 20	Pilgrimage to Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe - Bus to LaCrosse	<b>"Optional"</b> - Open to the parish - Gorgeous fall trip, along the St. Croix - attend traditional Mass at the Shine Church and explore the Shrine.
September 27	Acting as a Catholic	Catholic Social Justice and our call to live the Gospel in service to one another <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charity and Justice</li> <li>• Stewardship</li> <li>• Life Issues</li> <li>• Developing a Servants Heart</li> <li>• Social Justice Project</li> </ul>
October 9 - 11	<b>Confirmation Retreat- REQUIRED</b>	<b>Life in the Spirit Confirmation Retreat</b>
October 11	<b>NO CLASS</b>	
October 25	Sacraments - Graced by God (Baptism and Confirmation)	Looks at the Gift of the Sacraments that Christ has given his Church on earth, our ac
October 30-31	<b>"BE NOT AFRAID" Conference</b> <i>Building a Culture of Life and Love</i> <b>Friday, October 30th • 7:00-9:30pm</b> <b>Saturday, October 31st • 9:00am-3:00pm</b> St. John the Baptist Catholic Church 835 2nd Avenue. NW • New Brighton, MN	<b>"Optional"</b> -Prolife conference for youth and adults - <b>Youth and families strongly encouraged to attend</b> - look for flyer under Faith Formation or Register online. To view or to register, go to <a href="http://www.totustuuscyo.com">www.totustuuscyo.com</a>
November 1	Sunday - All Saints Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Instituted as a Feast Day to honor all Saints - both known and unknown</li> </ul>
November 2	Monday - All Soul's Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a day of prayer and commemoration of all the faithful departed especially a time to pray for all souls in purgatory</li> </ul>
November 8	Sacraments - Graced by God (Eucharist and the Mass, Reconciliation)	Special focus on the gifts that God has given us in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and more especially the gift of himself celebrated at every Mass
November 22	SAFE AND SACRED PLACES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• video / discussion</li> <li>• speaker?</li> </ul>
November 29	Advent Begins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During Advent, we prepare our hearts for the Word who brought light into darkness. It is a particularly fitting time to welcome the light of God's forgiveness into the dark places of our sinful lives by celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Excerpted from <b>How to Celebrate Christmas as a Catholic</b>, copyright © 2005, Our Sunday Visitor Publishing Division, Our Sunday Visitor, Inc</li> </ul>

<p><b>December 8</b></p>	<p><b>Feast of the Immaculate Conception</b> Holy Day of Obligation</p> <p>(Mass 7:00 PM)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A feast of the Conception of Mary began in the Eastern church in the 7th century. It came to the West in the 8th century and in the 11th Century it received the name, the Immaculate Conception. In the 18th century it became a feast of the universal church</li> <li>• In 1854 Pius IX issued the infallible statement: "The most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the savior of the human race was preserved free from all stain of original sin."</li> <li>• This privilege of Mary derives from God's having chosen her as Mother of the Savior; thus she received the benefits of salvation in Christ from the very moment of her conception. This great gift to Mary, an ordinary human being just like us, was fitting because she was destined to be the Mother of God. The purity and holiness of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a model for all Christians</li> </ul>
<p><b>December 13</b></p>	<p><b>The Creed</b></p>	<p>I BELIEVE - investigating the Creed as our statement of belief -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• focus on the Nicene Creed</li> <li>• choosing to believe</li> </ul>
<p><b>December 25</b></p>	<p><b>Christmas ( Holy Day of Obligation)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Celebrates the Birth of Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of the World</li> </ul>
<p><b>January 1</b></p>	<p><b>New Year's Day - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When Catholics celebrate the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God we are not only honoring Mary, who was chosen among all women throughout history to bear God incarnate, but we are also honoring our Lord, who is fully God and fully human. Calling Mary "mother of God" is the highest honor we can give Mary. Just as Christmas honors Jesus as the "Prince of Peace," the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God honors Mary as the "Queen of Peace" This solemnity, falling on New Year's Day, is also designated the World Day of Peace (David Bennett 8/15/2008 . Church Year. Net )</li> <li>• one of the oldest feasts of the Church, it was changed to this date following Vatican II, by Pope Paul VI in 1974</li> </ul>
<p><b>January 10</b></p>	<p><b>Father, Son and Holy Spirit</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God's existence</li> <li>• Holy Trinity</li> <li>• Revelation</li> </ul>
<p><b>January 24</b></p>	<p><b>Mary, Saints and Angels</b></p>	<p>Saying YES! Our models and Our Help</p>
<p><b>February 14</b></p>	<p><b>Gospel (Scripture) and Tradition</b></p>	<p>What do these mean to us as Catholics - How do they worktogether?</p>

February 17	Ash Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Beginning of Lent - 40 days of prayer, fasting and almsgiving - a time of penance and conversion, for cleaning out the old in our lives that hinders our relationship with Jesus Christ. It begins on this day with a signing with ashes and a call to turn from sin and live the Gospel. We are called to perform some actions that will be transformative as we approach Easter - both spiritually and physically, so that we may become more like Christ.</li> </ul>
February 28	Discipleship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What does it mean to be a disciple?</li> <li>Knowing and following Jesus Christ</li> <li>Growing in Faith</li> </ul>
March 12-13	HUNGER for Catholic Mission	<b>Optional Activity: 30 hour fast and service retreat 6:00 Friday to 7:30 Saturday evening (breakout sessions, prayer, service experiences, Mass)</b>
March 14	Morality	Conscience Right and Wrong Self Respect - Chastity
March 28	Palm Sunday Discernment - Who am I Called to Be?	What are your gifts and calling? Catholic Vocation- single, married, religious
April 1-3	Holy Thursday - Good Friday - Passion and Death of Jesus Holy Saturday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Triduum</li> <li>Institution of the ordained Priesthood, and the Eucharist</li> <li>Passion and Death of Jesus</li> <li><b>Easter Vigil - the Church begins to Celebrate the Light of the Resurrection</b></li> </ul>
April 4	EASTER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Celebration of the Resurrection continues and will for the next 50 days</li> </ul>
April 11	Catholic Connections - One, Holy, Catholic, Apostolic - Cathedral Visit	Belonging to the universal Church
April 24	Rite of Sending	<b>4:30 Mass followed by dinner reception for all confirmands, families and sponsors - Service projects due and displayed</b>
April 25	Evangelization - Sending Forth	Living the Gospel and sharing and continued growth in the Faith
<b>MAY 3</b>	<b>CONFIRMATION 10:00 AM</b>	<b>BASILICA OF ST. MARY - MINNEAPOLIS MN</b>