



ST. AIDAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Dear Youth and Parents,

Some of you may be asking, "What about confirmation?" In the past few years at St. Aidan's, we have tried a year long class and most recently a five month class. Our intention is to again offer a five month confirmation class for youth beginning in January of 2009. Candidates would be confirmed at the Cathedral of St. Philip in June 2009. Joey Sargent and I will co-teach the class. We plan to have an information sharing meeting for eligible youth and their parents during Sunday school on November 16th, 2008.

Here are the main things to remember about St. Aidan's 2009 confirmation class:

- We prefer students to be at least thirteen years old. Waiting until an even older age is recommended so that the youth are ready to participate.
- We intend to meet on Sunday afternoons in the hour before EYC begins. This will allow the youth to attend their regular Christian Education classes on Sunday morning. This will help them to keep learning and stay in touch with their friends who are not preparing for confirmation this year.
- Candidates for confirmation are required be involved in the worship life of the church. This means being trained and serving regularly as either an acolyte or a helper to the members of the altar guild.
- In addition, candidates are required to attend church on a regular basis during their preparation for confirmation. This is especially important during Holy Week when candidates are expected to attend the services of the Holy Triduum-- Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and the Easter Vigil on Saturday night.
- Candidates must be involved in an outreach ministry. This can be done with the entire class or with small groups of fellow students, parents, teachers and mentors. Each candidate must complete at least eight hours of outreach ministry.
- Having a mentor is an important part of the preparation for being confirmed. Each candidate can choose a mentor or one can be assigned by the teachers. Mentors are important so that candidates can ask questions openly and develop a relationship with an adult who is living the Christian faith. There will be a required breakfast with the mentors the first Sunday of each month at church.

Please feel free to ask questions or offer suggestions to Joey or me so that we can make the preparation for confirmation a meaningful and memorable experience.

In God's Peace,