



HIGH SCHOOL

RCIA TEEN

HANDBOOK

2016-17

## RCIA TEEN Timeline

- September 17, 2016 Love Stockton
- September 23-25, 2016 Fall Fest
- October 2, 2016 RCIA begins
- November 12, 2016 Sponsor Information due
- December 6, 2016 Essay due
- TBA Rite of Acceptance/Welcome
- December 12, 2016 RCIA/LIFE NIGHT Christmas vacation begins
- January 11, 2017 RCIA/LIFE NIGHT resumes
- January TBA Sponsor's one day retreat (English)\*
- January TBA Sponsor's one day retreat (Spanish)\*
- January TBA Parish Mission\*
- Feb 24-26, 2017 High school retreat (Camp St. Francis)
- TBA Rite of Election (Unbaptized only)
- April 10, 2017 Holy week- LIFE NIGHT vacation begins
- April 13, 2017 Holy Thursday- Eucharistic Celebration ONLY
- April 15, 2017 Easter Vigil- Unbaptized ONLY
- April 30, 2017 Community Service due
- May 7, 2017 Confirmation Name form due
- May 21, 2017 Last RCIA/LIFE NIGHT of the year
- August 18, 2017 6pm Rehearsal Confirmation – ONLY
- August 19, 2017 11 am Confirmation

\*Attendance at **ONE** of these meets the sponsor's requirement

## RCIA Process

Teens between 9th and 12th grade are eligible to celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation. The current methodology for RCIA preparation is not considered to be a time to review a summary of all Christian teaching. It simply is a time to explore and open up the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation.

The following should help you understand the process and decide whether **your teen** is ready to participate:

1. The Teen must come willingly to the Sacraments. He/she must complete a summary (50 words or more) on "Why" they would like to celebrate the Sacrament of Initiation. This summary should be turned into the RCIA-Teen Coordinator of Presentation Church no later than **December 6, 2016**.
2. The process assumes that the candidate has NOT had some form of religious formation. This is not an "everything you need to know about the Catholic Church" process. The process does not confuse preparation for the Sacrament with other concerns.
3. You **must have pre-registered** for the process. **We must have a copy** of your teen's Baptismal certificate or Birth Certificate, depending on certain requirements.
4. All Teens will participate in the liturgical life of the church. They can attend any Sunday Mass.
5. All Teens will participate in RCIA gatherings from 3:30pm to 4:45pm and LIFE NIGHTS, from 6:45 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. Sundays. RCIA gatherings are basic Catholic teachings. (i.e., how to pray, explain the Sacraments, basic church teachings, etc.) LIFE NIGHTS are the more advanced catechetical teachings of the Catholic Church. (i.e., social justice, full active participation, service, Saints, etc.) 80% attendance at RCIA gatherings and LIFE NIGHTS must be met.
6. All Teens will learn about basic symbols, rituals, prayers and readings from the Catechism of the Catholic Church.
7. All second year teens will complete 15 hours of community service.
8. All second year teens will attend and participate in a 3 day, 2 night **mandatory** High School retreat. The retreat begins Friday evening and concludes following LIFE TEEN Mass on Sunday.
9. **Parents and/or sponsors** are required to attend the sponsor's retreat, parish mission, join a small church community or other events as the information is received. This will meet the **mandatory** Sponsor's Retreat.
10. The celebrations of the **Sacrament of Initiation** are scheduled for several different dates. Please see the inside cover for specific dates.

If you have any questions or concerns, please e-mail me, Joshua Stoner, Director of Youth Ministry, [youthministry@presentationchurch.net](mailto:youthministry@presentationchurch.net) or call 320-5722 or Amanda Stoner, (AmyRose) RCIA-Teen Coordinator, [arosebond86@gmail.com](mailto:arosebond86@gmail.com) or 209-329-8862.

## *Sponsor Information*

Stated most simply, a sponsor is someone (male or female) who is willing to help the candidate grow in the skills, knowledge, attitudes and practices that are considered essential to being a mature, responsible and committed (confirmed) member of the Catholic Church. In other words, a sponsor is a professed follower of Jesus. The task of the sponsor is to help the candidate take the necessary steps to begin a life long quest to continue to grow in faith.

The sponsor has a unique and important role in the catechetical process towards the celebration of the sacraments. The sponsor is the teacher, spiritual guide and confidant for the candidate. The sponsor should be, therefore, someone whose life is such a powerful witness to the Good News of Christ, that the candidate chooses him or her because of the desire to share in that same way of life. The sponsor is such an important part of the process that the candidate should be given proper guidance in choosing his or her sponsor. The sponsor, in turn, should be made aware of the commitment he or she is making.

### *According to Canon Laws 874 and 893:*

A sponsor must be at least sixteen (16) years old.

A sponsor must be a fully initiated Catholic (one who has celebrated Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist) who “*leads a life in harmony with the faith and the role to be undertaken.*”

A sponsor must not be bound by any church penalty.

A sponsor cannot be either the father or the mother of the person to be confirmed.

A parent can help the candidate select as a sponsor someone who reflects the following characteristics, which are beyond the minimum identified by Canon Law:

- A local residency to insure consistent involvement throughout the Confirmation process.
- Presence at all the Liturgical Rites.
- A positive, comfortable relationship with the candidate.
- A willingness and capacity to engage in the confirmation process as a means of enhancing his or her own growth as a Catholic Christian adult.
- A willingness to continue to be supportive of the newly initiated individual as he or she continues through life on a journey of faith.

The sponsor’s role is functional, not symbolic. He or she is responsible for helping the candidate to prepare for initiation into the Catholic Christian community and for helping the newly initiated member in fulfilling the responsibilities of that membership.

If you need clarification or have any questions, please contact Joshua Stoner, Director of Youth Ministry, [youthministry@presentationchurch.net](mailto:youthministry@presentationchurch.net) or 320-5722 or Amanda Stoner, (AmyRose) RCIA-Teen Coordinator, [arosebond86@gmail.com](mailto:arosebond86@gmail.com) or 209-329-8862.

# Proper attire

for the

## Sacraments of Eucharist & Confirmation

Candidates are **expected** to be appropriately dressed for the celebration of a Sacrament.

### Boys

Collared dress shirt. A tie is optional.  
Dress pants with belt. **No jeans or shorts.**  
Shirt tucked in.  
Clean shoes.  
**Extremely baggy clothing is not appropriate.**

### Girls

Dress with sleeves or jacket  
or  
dressy pant suit with sleeves or jacket.  
Shoulders must be covered.  
  
*Tank top type attire, low midriff is not appropriate.*  
**Extremely short or tight clothing is not appropriate.**

## *Confirmation Name*

Choosing a name for Confirmation is not required. It is a choice. Your Christian name, that is the name given to you at baptism, is sufficient. However, if you would like to choose a name for Confirmation, please complete the following:

Candidates Name \_\_\_\_\_

Confirmation Name \_\_\_\_\_

I have chosen this name because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Reminder:** If you choose a name, it should be the name of a Saint or Martyr that you admire.

Sponsor's signature \_\_\_\_\_

This form needs to be returned to the *Ministry Center* by May 7, 2017

*Community Service Project*

\_\_\_\_\_ has completed 15 hours of community  
(candidate's name)

service as required for the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation.

Please state how the community service was completed.

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Candidate signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sponsor signature

Date \_\_\_\_\_

***Please return completed form to the Ministry Center by April 30, 2017.***

