

March 30, 2025

Dear 2026 Confirmation Candidates and Families,

It is with great excitement that I welcome you as you begin the process to prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation! This is the third and final Sacrament of Initiation to be received by you in your **continuing growth** as a Catholic Christian. In receiving this Sacrament, a *permanent* spiritual mark is imprinted on your soul, which lasts *forever*. This mark signifies that you are confirmed as a witness to Christ and a defender of the Catholic faith...however, it is not the end of your journey! *Faith formation is life-long!*

This process is substantially more involved than any of the other religious education or sacramental preparation that you have completed up to this point. The information that you are learning, however, is generally *not new*...much of it has already been covered during your ongoing faith formation. Your Confirmation preparation will not only assist you in knowing and understanding important information about our Catholic faith but will also help you learn to *apply it* as you live out your life every day.

You are not alone in this process! There are many individuals and groups of people who will support and help you along the way, including your parents, your sponsor, your catechists and teachers, and our parish community. ***Parents and sponsors have a prominent role in the formation of the candidates through the witness of their lives in the examples they set.*** Parishioners also play an active part in leading the Candidates to become enthusiastic, responsible Christians.

If at any time you have any questions about the preparation process or any of the materials contained in the "Red Folder", please do not hesitate to call me at (215) 855-9893 or email me at leonar@ststansilaus.com.

May God bless you and may the Holy Spirit descend upon you and guide you in your preparations for Confirmation! Our prayers are with you!

Sincerely in Christ,

Mrs. Leona Russell
Director of Religious Education

Enclosures

cc: Miss Diane McCaughan
Miss Elizabeth Waltrich