

2020 CONFIRMATION SPECTACULAR

February 1, 2020

Dear Confirmation Leader,

Our 14th Annual Confirmation Spectacular is just around the corner. We are excited to provide this opportunity for young people to gather in the Diocese of Evansville. The purpose of this day is to bring young people together who will be celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation in the next year in order to help them better prepare for this key spiritual reality. Confirmation Spectacular is a great experience for Confirmation candidates. The participants will uncover the power of the Sacraments, explore the treasures of the Mass, and grow in their understanding of the gifts of the Holy Spirit which they will receive in Confirmation.

As the registration process begins, there are a few things that we would like you to consider (lessons we have learned from past years):

1. Young people who are willing participants are most open to all that the day offers. We want you to invite and highly encourage participation, but please do not force young people to participate. Forced participation takes away from the experience of the day for everyone. It is also important for the young people to understand the focus of the day. This is a day of formation. There are parts of the day which are entertaining (we do want them to have fun); there are also parts of the day in which we expect a level of seriousness and reverence. Please help your participants know the difference, and help them stay attentive and focused throughout the day.
2. In order to determine the facility and food needs for the day, we need to have your group registration completed online no later than Monday, January 20th. Parishes can add, subtract or change the number of participants after the above date; however, we cannot take any more group registrations. PLEASE NOTE: Any late registrations will require the payment of a \$5 late fee per person. Parishes will be billed for the number of participants they register, even if fewer participants show up at the event.
3. On the day of the event, registration is from 12:30 – 1:00 p.m. Eastern Time in the St. Joseph Parish Center, Jasper, IN. We need groups to arrive during these times for registration. Arriving too early or too late can disrupt the flow of the day. We also need ONE group leader to register the whole group. If the participants from your parish are responsible for their own transportation to St. Joe's, please make arrangements for a meeting place and time (the group leader must be at St. Joe before the arrival of their participants).
4. Lunches are available for \$5 per person for those wishing to order. Groups who plan to eat lunch should arrive by noon Eastern time. More information is available on the online registration form.
4. This is a day in which we hope that the candidate grows in knowledge, faith and love of God. It is not intended to be a day of building relationships with their sponsor. Sponsors who participate are given assignments to help with the flow of the day and may not be attending the same workshops as their candidate.

Important Details:

Date: Saturday, February 1, 2020

Place: This event takes place at St. Joseph Catholic Church's Parish Center in Jasper, Indiana.

Time: The event is from 1:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. (EST) with registration from 12:30 – 1:00 p.m.

Cost: The cost of this event is \$10.00 per student and adult chaperones attend free. This fee covers snacks, speakers, and a facility donation. A \$5 late fee will be added for each participant registered after January 20th. Parishes will be billed after the event.

Attendance Capacity: Due to space limitations, the number of participants will be capped at 400 (this number includes adult chaperones). We attempt to limit each breakout session to 30 youth, and space in classrooms and the auditorium is limited. Should the capacity be reached prior to the registration deadline, parishes will be notified, and those registrations exceeding the capacity will be wait-listed. Due to this, it is imperative that registrations not be over-estimated.

Service Project: After all reservations have been received, an email will be sent to group leaders asking them to contribute items needed to complete the "Blessing Bags." All items will be sorted and added to the "Blessing Bags" by Confirmation Spectacular participants, and the bags will then be distributed to various homeless shelters in the area.

Dress: The dress for the day is casual. We do expect attire to be modest and appropriate for a church-related function.

Special Needs: Please let Andie Gunter know if there are any special dietary or physical needs for any participant (agunter@evdio.org).

Please Bring: It is expected at registration that group leaders possess an up-to-date list of participants, waivers/medical release forms for each participant, and a contact phone number for the group leader.

Chaperones: Each parish needs to bring one (1) adult chaperone for every ten (10) student participants. Chaperones will be given assignments upon their arrival. Also, to prevent problems from past years, chaperones are expected to attend breakout sessions with their group to address behavioral issues (e.g., youth talking during the session).

Please complete the online registration by January 20th.

Questions: Contact Andie Gunter, Administrative Assistant for Office of Catechesis at agunter@evdio.org or (812) 424-5536.

Registration form and information available at evdio.org/confirmation-spectacular.html