



4D

"BUT YOU WILL RECEIVE POWER WHEN THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES UPON YOU. AND YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES IN JERUSALEM, THROUGHOUT JUDEA AND SAMARIA, AND TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH." ACTS 1:8

Congratulations! You are about to register for the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation at St. Mary's, Westphalia. In this Sacrament, which completes the Sacrament of Baptism, the Holy Spirit wants to empower you to grow in your discipleship of Jesus Christ and become more fully what you were created to be. **If you approach this opportunity with an open mind, an open heart and a longing desire to receive what God has in store for you, 4D** along with the sessions provided through our High School Ministry offering, "The WELL," will help you to grow in love and knowledge of the God Who made you, with His Son Who redeemed you and with His Spirit, Who wants to animate your life in a way you can only expect to be amazing. The 4D sessions will operate in much of the same format as The WELL. We will be adopting the same small group opportunities, short presentations followed by discussion and reflection time with your small group along with opportunities for prayer and discernment of what the Holy Spirit wants to do in your life.

In joining 4D, you are committing to *full attendance* and participation in all 4 **Super Sunday** sessions, the selection of a worthy and proper sponsor *and regular attendance* at The WELL. Reception of the Sacrament will be made possible through your desire for the Sacrament demonstrated by your commitment to and participation in the 4D sessions.

Before registering for 4D, take a moment to chat with your parents and pray about the following:

Do I desire to grow in my relationship with Jesus Christ and receive His Holy Spirit in order to empower me for a life of discipleship?

Am I ready at this point in my life, in the midst of all of the distractions and other obligations to commit to the expectations that 4D presents?

Am I able to take on the serious responsibility of participating in all of the 4D sessions?

If you can honestly answer "yes" to these questions, welcome to 4D!

Please fill out the enclosed registration form and return it to the parish office no later than **Friday, October 23rd**. Please read the entire contents of this packet. Keep the Service sheet for yourself. You will be asked for it in May. Read the portion on choosing a sponsor. You should have your sponsor chosen by the first Super Sunday, 11/22. Pass the Sponsor portion on to the person you choose so they know what their role is. Sponsors are required to attend the final Super Sunday, 6/05. Confirmation is on Monday, June 6th. If you have any questions please call Brian at the parish office.



St. Mary Church

Candidate/Sponsor Form

201 N. Westphalia St. • P.O. Box 267 • Westphalia, Michigan 48894

(989) 587-4201

Confirmation Candidate to complete:

(Please Print)

Candidate's Name _____ Date of Birth _____
Last First Middle

Address _____ Email _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone Number _____

Father's Name _____ Mother's Name _____

Place of Candidate's Baptism _____
Parish Name City, State Office Phone
(If not baptized at St. Mary's, Westphalia, please attach photocopy of Baptismal Certificate.)

Name Chosen for Confirmation _____

(Candidate may either use their baptismal name or choose the name of a saint whom they admire and have a devotion to.)

Sponsor's Name _____ **Relationship** _____

Candidate: Why did you choose your sponsor? (Such as qualities you admire or type of relationship you share.)

As a candidate for Confirmation, I promise to become and remain an active member of the Catholic Church, now and in the future. I understand that Confirmation is not the end of my growth in the faith, but only the beginning of a life of discipleship.

Candidate's Signature _____

Confirmation Sponsor to complete:

(Please Print)

Parish sponsor is registered _____
Parish Name City, State Office Phone

(If not a member of St. Mary Parish, Westphalia, please have "Sponsor Certificate" completed by your pastor.)

Why did you agree to be a sponsor? _____

I testify that I am at least 18 years old, a practicing Confirmed Catholic, and in good standing with the Church. As a sponsor, I agree to support my candidate on his/her faith journey by giving witness to the Catholic faith through my words and actions. I will actively participate in the Confirmation process.

Sponsor's Signature _____

Address _____ Email _____

City, State, Zip _____ Phone Number _____

4D

Paperwork Deadlines

Baptismal Certificates – If you were not baptized at St. Mary’s you must acquire a copy of your baptismal certificate from the parish where you were baptized.

Service Hours — You must turn in the service hour’s worksheet you received as part of the registration packet when you signed up to participate in 4D.

Candidate/Sponsor Forms — You must turn in the Candidate/Sponsor Form which contains your Confirmation name. Your sponsor must turn in the bottom half of that page along with the Sponsor Certificate from signed by the pastor of their parish if they are not a member of St. Mary’s.

***ALL forms are due at St. Mary’s parish office by Friday, May 18th.**



FOR ALL SPONSORS:

Be at your best

If you have been chosen to be a Confirmation Sponsor, congratulations! This person sees in you a profound faith commitment, trusts and knows you are someone who will care about them and their faith. Sounds impressive, doesn't it? It's not all that complicated, but it does take time, a caring heart, and a listening ear. If you're a *Confirmed, mature practicing Catholic*, don't get too worried. Here are a few suggestions on how to be the best possible sponsor for your candidate:

- **Be a living model of faith.** At least a part of what this young person admires in, you is your faith! If the way you practice your faith is not what it should be, "get it together," so to speak. If you honestly can't, this is understandable, but maybe you should decline the invitation to be a sponsor. Your life doesn't have to become artificially saintly, but your faith should be authentic and sincere.
- **Pray for your candidate and yourself.** As candidates decide to be confirmed, they need spiritual strength. Your prayers for them are important, but don't forget to pray for yourself also, that you can share why you value and practice your Catholicism. Attend Mass together, or even have the courage to come to Reconciliation together.
- **Give of your time and share your gifts.** You may be asked to spend time together on various activities. This may mean listening to a speaker or even working on a Christian service project. You could also share your own experiences or write a letter of encouragement. Let your unique God-given talents and gifts shine! Offer a gift of spiritual significance (a new Bible, rosary, or book about our faith or about the saint the candidate has chosen for a Confirmation Name); *be creative and relevant!* Rite of Election is held during a Mass in the fall, and Confirmation practice is traditionally the Sunday before Confirmation after 11:30 Mass.
- **Don't miss the ceremony.** Participating in the ceremony is the easiest part of being a sponsor. Your basic job will be to place your hand on your candidate's shoulder, and tell the bishop your candidate's Confirmation Name. You're there to be a support, but your role on Confirmation Day is only a beginning.
- **Don't forget this newly confirmed Catholic.** After Confirmation Day, remember birthdays and this anniversary. Send a card or make a phone call. Continue to worship together, or from time to time do some Christian service. Put those "Gifts of the Spirit" into practice.

FOR SPONSORS FROM OTHER PARISHES:

If sponsor is not a member of St. Mary Parish, Westphalia, sponsor must present this form to his/her pastor for signature.

Confirmation Candidate's Name: _____

Return signed certificate to Religious Education Teacher or Parish Office along with the Confirmation Registration Form.

St. Mary Parish
 201 N. Westphalia St.
 Westphalia, MI 48894
 office@stmarychurch.net

SPONSOR CERTIFICATE
 †

THIS IS TO CERTIFY

That _____, a member of this Parish, is a practicing Catholic who is qualified to act as a Sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Date _____ Rev. _____

Church of _____

City _____

Office Phone _____

