



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our Confirmation Candidates and Sponsors



Candidate	Sponsor
Noah Adler	Annamarie VanSickle
Ridge Cook	Carla Stricker
Mollie Council	Pam Council
Madison Dickson	Christine Fernandes
Katie Hayes	Nancy McLaughlin
Clara Kinney	Seth Ritchie
Elizabeth Leary	Becky Barnes
Ethan Malinoski	Brandon Willard
Lohan Parker	Mary Veazey
Cole Plutro	JR Graley
Gabrielle Potter	Angela Snyder
Gavin Ramirez	Ron Ramirez
Louis Russo	Jeff Russo
Rachael Saldanha	Shirley Skaggs
Keegan Snyder	Paula Potter
Sean Stricker	Joanne Waskiewicz
Cole White	Paul Manahan
Joseph Zappia	Doug Haag
Michael Zappia	John Hanna

The young men and women named on the facing page have presented themselves as desiring to receive the gift of the sacrament of Confirmation. Jeanne Haas has interviewed each one (along with parents) to be sure that he or she understands the sacred meaning of this gesture. They have each signed contracts in which they committed themselves to full participation in our preparation process.

The nature of Confirmation as a "Sacrament of Initiation" makes demands on all of us parishioners as well, for we will be celebrating their full inclusion in our community life. We must ask ourselves, "Do we really want these young people to be a part of us? How deeply do we want them? How willing are we to encourage them, to assist them, to make room for them and to thank them for their courageous stepping forward in faith?" I'm sure most of us will say something like, "Oh yes! We are happy to have their young hearts and energy to enrich our parish!" I hope we will also say something like "Their participation is so important to the life of our parish that we will set aside some of our time to pray for them, to get to know them and to help them discover the particular ways that they will find fulfillment in sharing the mission of our parish."

Therefore, this Sunday we celebrate the more public "Rite of Covenant" with them to promise our love and support to them to match their personal commitments.

I earnestly ask that each parishioner (young and old!) become a "prayer partner" for one of these candidates. Keep his or her name where you will see it when you pray - and maybe that means in several places like: on your bathroom mirror, on your car's dashboard, in your prayer book, etc. Consciously lift up your candidate each day to ask that they be prepared to recognize and rejoice in the miracles of grace that God surely has in store for them.

Most importantly, may their presence in our minds and hearts remind us all of our responsibility to be instruments of God's love and examples of Christ's values in all that we do. May we all remember to actively seek out opportunities to express our words of encouragement and affirmation to them!

