

ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH MARSFIELD

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11th August 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It is with great pleasure that the Catholic community of St Anthony's would like to invite your child to begin his/her preparations to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

We look forward to supporting you and your family as your child prepares to receive this sacrament.

The Sacrament of Confirmation is open to Catholic children who have celebrated the Sacraments of Baptism, Reconciliation, and Eucharist and who are currently in year 6 or above. A copy of your child's Baptism certificate is required on enrolment. If your child is in year 6 or above and has not yet celebrated their Baptism, First Reconciliation or received their First Communion please contact us. We are here to help.

Enrolling in the Confirmation program is a large commitment for the whole family, one which we hope will be nourishing to all members of the family and help you to grow in love of each other and of God. Essential aspects of the Confirmation program take place during the weeks leading up to the celebration of Confirmation. Commitment to all aspects of the program is essential. We appreciate that every family has its own unique story, and life can sometimes be a little complicated. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is a question or a problem.

Our Confirmation programme

Parent Information Nights – 6.30pm Thursday 17th August **OR** Tuesday 29th August. These information nights are only for the parents and will be held in the church.

Child / parent Conversations – The children AND at least one parent will participate in a child /parent centered program which focuses on helping your child to prayerfully prepare for Confirmation. Each "Conversation" comprises of child /parent centered activities designed to allow you to engage with your child in a way which deepens their understanding of their faith and builds your relationship with your child and with God. These Conversations will take place on 3 Friday afternoons at 3.45pm or 6.15pm- 8th September, 22nd September and 13th October. Please note the Conversations occur either side of the school holidays.

Online learning activities – Each parent will be sent work to be completed with their child at home. These home activities are designed to further your child's understanding and allows the whole family to come together for prayer, reflection, and ongoing conversation. The online learning activities are a core component of the program.

Mass attendance –Please, take your child to Mass every Sunday throughout the preparation period and beyond!! There are two presentation Masses during the Confirmation preparation period. - Weekend of 2nd /3rd September and Sunday 22nd October at the 9am Mass

Meet the Bishop – Bishop Danny Meagher, the bishop who will be Confirming our children will be visiting our parish so that he can meet the children and participate in some activities with them. He will be here in the parish to meet the

children on **Tuesday 17th October at 6.00pm**. This is a great opportunity for your children to meet with the Bishop who will confirm them in a less formal setting.

Rehearsal: The rehearsal for all of the children will be on Tuesday 24th October at 5.30pm.

Confirmation Mass: Friday, 27th October at 7pm

If you would like to enroll your child to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, please complete the enrolment form attached to this letter and return it to the parish office by Monday 28th August 2023. A copy of your child's Baptism certificate is required.

Whilst all Sacraments are given freely, running the Confirmation preparation program costs the parish about \$50 per child. If you are in a position to do so, a donation towards the running costs of this program would be greatly appreciated and would assist the parish in providing this service to all of our children and their families.

Yours sincerely,



Fr Greg Walsh cm
Parish priest



Rachel Murphy
Sacramental coordinator

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IMPORTANT DATES

Thursday 17th August at 6.30pm – First parent information night

OR

Tuesday 29th August at 6.30pm – Second parent information night

Monday 28th August – Enrolments due

Weekend 2nd /3rd September – Enrolment Masses – Sat 6pm, Sun 9am or Sun 6pm

Friday 8th September – Conversation 1 (3.45pm and 6.15pm)

Friday 22nd September – Conversation 2

School Holidays 23rd September- 8th October

Friday 13th October – Conversation 3

Sunday, 22nd October – 9am Family Mass and presentation of the Creed

Tues 17th October – Meet the Bishop. Q&A with Bishop Danny at 6.00pm

Tuesday 24th October – Rehearsal 5.30pm

Friday 27th October - Confirmation liturgy at 7pm

ST ANTHONY'S PARISH
CONFIRMATION

Enrolment Form 2023

Family Name:

Child's Name:

Date of Birth:

School Attending: Year:

Baptism Details: Parish: Date:

Mother's Name: Father's Name:

Address:

..... Postcode:

Phone: Home Mobile

Email Address:

Has your child received the Sacrament of Reconciliation? YES / NO

Church where Sacrament was received:

Has your child received the Sacrament of Eucharist? YES / NO

Church where Sacrament was received:

Name: Signature:

Preferred Conversation time: Friday afternoon 3.45 or Friday evening 6.15

1st Preference

2nd Preference

Please return to the parish office or via email, along with a copy of your child's Baptism certificate, no later than Monday 28th August 2023.