

Some of the benefits of Confirmation Class

- § The opportunity to make new friends or deepen friendships
- § The opportunity to connect with an adult mentor
- § The opportunity to explore and decide what you believe and how you want to live that out
- § The opportunity to have an impact on the work of the church
- § The opportunity to participate in a service project that's meaningful for you
- § The opportunity to teach the congregation
- § The opportunity to hang out with a cool priest like Fr. Kevin
- § A great party at the end!



Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts.

Answering God's Urgent Call. Together.



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**St. John's
Episcopal Church**

A Guide For Youth

What Is Confirmation ?



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What Is Confirmation?

The Book of Common Prayer says this...

“Confirmation is the rite in which we express a mature commitment to Christ, and receive strength from the Holy Spirit through prayer and the laying on of hands by a bishop.” (page 860)

When you were baptized as a baby, your parents and godparents answered questions on your behalf because you were too young to understand what was going on.



Pic of Confirmation-themed stained glass window.

Now it is time for you to really understand what is going on with all this Christianity business.

Confirmation class is an opportunity to dive deeply into just what the

Episcopal branch of the Jesus movement (ie, the Church) IS.

Confirmation Class: Developing a Mature Faith

The confirmation class will help you to really learn what Christianity is all about. It will help you figure out what it



Drawing of a bishop confirming someone.

is that you actually believe about God...not just what you have been told to believe. Confirmation class prepares you to be confirmed in your faith. That happens at the confirmation service itself (see below). Confirmation class is not a hoop to jump through, it is something to help you in your faith journey. It is how you start to become mature in your faith.

Confirmation Service: Laying on of Hands by a Bishop

The Book of Confirmation also says: Those who were baptized at an early age and those baptized as adults without laying on of hands by a bishop are expected to make a mature public affirmation of their faith, recommit themselves to the responsibilities of their baptism, and receive laying on of hands by a bishop. (page 412)

When you were baptized, it came with certain responsi-

bilities (those questions that your parents and godparents answered for you because you were too young to do it). Confirmation class will help you decide if you are ready and willing to live into those responsibilities.

It really is a big deal. After all, how can you accept



or reject anything without understanding it first? Confirmation class prepares you to make an informed decision about whether or not to be confirmed. The picture to the left is of Bishop Bar-

bara Harris confirming someone.

Note: You CAN go through confirmation class and then choose to not be confirmed. Nobody can force confirmation on you (I promise).

Classes will be Sunday nights from 7p-8p, twice a month, September through the end of June.

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