

St Leonard's Church
Naremburn



St Philip Neri Church
Northbridge



St Thomas' Church
Willoughby



Catholic Parish of Lower North Shore

June 2011

Confirmation - Information Pack

Dear Parents,

Confirmation is the next sacrament of initiation after Children's baptism. In the diocese of Broken Bay, this sacrament is generally celebrated when the child is in year 2 at school. This information pack is distributed to all Year 2 students at St Philip Neri School Northbridge and St Thomas' School Willoughby and those attending catechist classes at Castle Cove, Northbridge and Willoughby Public Schools. It includes a letter outlining the process and key dates and an enrolment form for the sacrament.

Information packs are also available from the parish office and at the rear of the churches. Copies may also be emailed to you by phoning the parish office on 9438 1011.

There are two forms – the Enrolment Form and the Confirmation Name and Sponsor Form:

- The Enrolment form is used to obtain information needed for the confirmation register and the preparation sessions. The contact information you provide – including phone, e-mail, and school / class information – will be used to facilitate communication during your child's sacramental preparation over the next two years. **Could you please complete this form during the parent meeting.** If you have not been able to attend the Parent Meeting this form is to be returned to the parish office by no later than 18 July 2011.
- The Confirmation Name and Sponsor Form is self explanatory and is required by no later than 18 August 2011.

As Confirmation is the first of three Sacraments your child will be celebrating we are requesting that a one off payment of \$75 be made for all three sacraments (or \$25 per sacrament). Please make cheque payable to *Catholic Parish of Lower North Shore*.

Additional information about the sacramental preparation process, the selection of a sponsor, and the selection of a confirmation name is provided on the next page. We look forward to assisting you in your child's preparation for the sacrament of confirmation.

Kind regards,

Donna Jones & Annie Kelly
Sacramental Coordinators
Northbridge & Naremburn

Marie Harris
Sacramental Coordinator
Willoughby

Parish Office: 43 Donnelly Rd, Naremburn NSW 2065

Phone: 9438 1011 Fax: 9438 4704

✉ office@lns.org.au 🌐 www.lns.org.au

ABN 48802300677

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

All children in Year 2 or older, who have not made their Confirmation, are eligible to be confirmed in Broken Bay Diocese.

For those of you new to the Sacramental Preparation Process, here is a brief introduction. The Diocese of Broken Bay provides resources for four weeks of preparation prior to receiving each of the sacraments: Confirmation (held in third term), Reconciliation (held in first term the following year) and First Communion (held in second term the following year). Each week there are rituals for home, worksheets for home, small group sessions and rituals at the Sunday Mass. Details of the process, including a booklet for parents, are given at the Parents' Meeting. After the four week period there is a rehearsal and final address to the children by the parish priest.

With regards to the group sessions, one or more parents within each group will take the role of leader of the group. Leaders receive additional support in the form of a leaders' handbook. There is also a leaders' meeting prior to the sessions to provide materials for the group sessions and to show how to prepare the sessions.

Baptismal Certificate: A copy of your child's baptismal certificate needs to be forwarded or, if baptised at St Leonard's, St Philip Neri or St Thomas', the date and details of baptism noted on the Confirmation Name and Sponsor Form.

Photo: A recent photo of your child is required, their last individual school photo perhaps. For Willoughby, please forward hard copies to Marie Harris at the Willoughby office. For Northbridge and Naremburn please email your photo to Donna at email phildonnajones@optusnet.com.au.

Lesson Sheets & Books: Session worksheets and booklets will be provided at the sessions. The leaders' books will be distributed to leaders at the leaders' meeting.

Confirmation name: A child can choose an additional name for confirmation, or be confirmed using their Christian name given at baptism. It often takes children some time to select a new confirmation name. Some useful websites on saints' names are:

<http://www.catholic.org/saints/>

<http://www.catholic-forum.com/saints/indexsnt.htm>

Sponsor: A sponsor is generally a person other than the child's parents, who is sixteen years or older and who has been baptised and received their Confirmation, Reconciliation and first Holy Communion. It is desirable that the sponsor be one of the godparents attending the child's Baptism.

Additional Information: If you are new to our Parish or if you are not yet a registered parishioner please fill out our Parishioner Information Form (PIF). This form can be downloaded from our website www.lns.org.au.

Confirmation Celebration
Saturday 10 September at 1.00pm To be held at Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic School Hall, 23 Yardley Avenue, Waitara