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Dear Confirmandi,

This time of preparation and discernment is an opportunity for each of you to complete your initiation in the Catholic Church and enter more deeply into the mystery of faith through life in the Holy Spirit. As you consider the possibility of presenting yourself for the Sacrament of Confirmation, the Church asks you to take your faith seriously and to love Christ more deeply through active participation in the sacramental life of the church and service to others.

The preparation for Confirmation allows you to discover and use your God-given talents and gifts through a variety of Christian service experiences. Through your active participation in the prayer and worship of this faith community, you will become more aware of the presence of the Holy Spirit. Through active participation in school religion classes or Junior High CCF and youth ministry activities, you will develop a more mature faith.

Your parents and sponsor are an essential part of the preparation process as well. They are eager and willing to provide support and guidance through their prayers and example. Your parents and sponsor are an extension of the larger faith community and have much to offer you regarding lived faith and commitment to the Christian life.

Those youth who have participated in this preparation in previous years have also given you an example of lived faith through their unselfish love and service to others. These young people have worked in soup kitchens, homeless shelters and have provided friendship to sick children and the elderly. They have reached out to the poor and disadvantaged through fundraisers and personal sacrifice. They have developed their gifts to benefit others and have been a visible witness to life in the Holy Spirit. May your participation in Confirmation preparation bear abundant fruit in your life and in the lives of all you meet.

Yours in Christ,

Amy W. de Bernardo Director of Faith Formation

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