

CONFIRMATION AT BMT

At BMT the SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION is not considered a kind of “graduation” from Christian education. It is not primarily an opportunity for car keys nor the enrichment of a bank account. The SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION is no less than one’s first step as a young adult into what we pray will be a life long experience with the Lord Jesus Christ as a Catholic. To that end we hope to provide a variety of experiences that will give young men and women opportunities to worship together, to learn, to practice and to discuss their faith. The program begins in grade nine and culminates with Confirmation in grade 10. Participation at Mass is expected as is reasonable participation in the opportunities of this program. Since schedules today are not easy, we ask that parents help their young adults to manage their time so that they can be present to the Confirmation experience. And since parents will be a part of a young woman or man’s faith life long after the Confirmation experience, we invite parents to participate in programs as their time permits.

This year the program is divided into semesters so that parents and young people might participate in the parish wide- diocesan wide program called **ARISE IN CHRIST**. The first semester will be based in study and faith sharing around the writing of Pope Benedict XVI: Jesus of Nazareth. There will be discussion table leaders for both confirmandi and parents. Meetings will be in Dunn and Seton Halls.

Time: Sunday 2:00PM-3:30PM October 5, 19, 26; November 2, 9, 16

The second semester will meet during the Lenten season. We will focus on what real “conversion of heart – metanoia” might be about. We will again join with the parish and with adults seeking full communion with the church by way of RCIA. We anticipate that many of our young adults will have much to share with people of all ages actively seeking the Lord.

Time: Sunday 1:00PM -3:30PM March 1, 8, 15, 22,29. Confirmandi are also invited at 3:00PM on those Sundays to be part of our “Passion Play”. It is the tradition of Blessed Mother Teresa Parish to proclaim the Lord’s Passion on Palm Sunday by Word and Drama. Young people who participate will be at the 4:00PM, 9:00AM and 11:00AM Mass as the Gospel and homily. Participation will be considered the completion of service hours and retreat commitment for the year.

Participation in the Sunday of the Lord’s Passion (Palm Sunday) April 5 as is participation the Sacred Triduum (Holy Thursday April 9, Good Friday April 10) and Easter is expected.

Other opportunities for service hours and retreat/prayer times are offered as part of our regular program. Students are invited to participate in LIFT – Lifted Higher – which meets one Tuesday each month at Fontbonne Academy. We vanpool from the parish at 6:15PM. The program begin at 7:00PM and ends shortly after 9:00PM. Students can go with us or meet us there. It is an evening of praise in teen music mode, a teen focused

speaker and adoration. Information is available at the parish or by going on line to www.liftedhigher.com. Youth group meets Friday nights beginning 7:00PM We also participate one Saturday night each month in the Boston Catholic Youth Connection: Youth Mass for Peace. Mass at 6:00PM travels among the churches in Dorchester and includes peace building events among the teens in Dorchester, South Boston and Mattapan.

In all likelihood, there will be a joint Confirmation celebration in Dorchester this year that will include other parishes. May 1, 2009 is the tentative date. Location TBA.

There will also be a workshop for parents and confirmandi this Spring that will include other parishes in Dorchester. The date has not yet been established.

A few things to help your planning: Please pick a Confirmation sponsor: either male or female. Relatives are fine. Friends are fine. The person must be Confirmed. If you would like to choose a Confirmation name different from your own name, please choose the name of a saint. Changing your name is not required. But if you do it must be a saint. We tend not to use robes so gentlemen will be in shirt and tie and ladies in modest attire (no strapless or spaghetti straps). Ladies and gentlemen should opt for dress footwear.

Please register for the program even if you go to Catholic high school. While we do make allowances for your work at Catholic high school – we need to know that you are out there. Anyone not baptized at either St. Margaret or St. William should contact the church where they were baptized and ask them to send us your baptismal certificate.

There is no cost for the Confirmation program. Questions: Call Linda at 617-436-2190 Or stop me after Mass.