



I. PURPOSE

1. The Confirmation Retreat is a highpoint in the Confirmation Preparation Program with a time where Candidates spend several hours together in a great experience with activities, worship and fellowship
2. The Retreat is facilitated by Father Chris, Sam Todzia (Youth Ministry Leader), and Roger Gullo (Confirmation Director).
3. The purpose of retreats is to offer the youth with an experience of the faith community by exploring basic Christian characteristics, behaviors, and values of the church in a wider church setting.

II. GENERAL

1. When: Sunday, May 21, 2017
2. Duration
 - i. Runs from 3 – 8:30 pm, not including arrival time and dismissal time.
 - ii. Parents should plan on dropping their child off as early as 30 minutes prior to the arrival time and picking up their child as late as 30 after dismissal time. This will allow for the safe and organized movement of 220 Confirmation Candidates (CC).
 - iii. SGLs will assist prior to and after with setup and breakdown. See the Retreat Schedule in Section IV for the specific times.
 - iv. Dinner will be provided. Please reach out to the Religious Education Director or Confirmation Director for any special meal requests.
3. Attendance
 - i. Attendance is a requirement of all Confirmation Candidates (Public and Catholic School Students) preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation.
 - ii. In the event of an unavoidable absence, Confirmation Candidates must contact the Confirmation Director to be enrolled in the Confirmation 1 Retreat scheduled for next May of 2018. If a Confirmation Candidate is unable to attend either scheduled retreats, it will be their responsibility to arrange to attend a Retreat at a parish in the Archdiocese before receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.
4. Location
 - i. The retreat will be held on parish property with the use of the church, lower chapel, lower church hall, and the Charter School.
5. Smart Phone Use
 - i. TURNED OFF or left home throughout the Retreat.

III. RETREAT HIGHLIGHTS

1. The retreat program is scheduled around the 5 – 5:45 pm parish Youth Mass that all CCs will attend.
2. Father Chris Bea, will be conducting an insightful “walk-through” of the Mass prior to the Celebration of Mass.

St. Mary, Franklin, MA
Confirmation Preparation Program

RETREAT
PROGRAM PLAN



3. Our Retreat Leader is the very special Sam Todzia of Red Barn Ministries (www.RedBarnMinistries.org). Please check out his website.
4. We will be serving dinner in two rotations of 110 CCs each at the school.

IV. RETREAT SCHEDULE

Time (pm)	Event	Location	Leader
2 – 2:30	SGL Setup and Prepare Event Spaces	Lower Church Hall	Mr. Gullo
2:30 – 2:55	All Confirmation Candidates Arrive & Check-In	Lower Church Hall	Mr. Gullo
3:00 – 4:15	RETREAT – ACT 1	Lower Chapel	Sam Todzia
4:15 – 4:45	THE HOLY MASS EXPLAINED	Lower Chapel	Fr. Chris
4:45 – 5:00	Orderly Filing of Candidates to Upper Church	Upper Church	Mr. Gullo
5:00 – 5:45	CELEBRATION OF MASS	Upper Church	Fr. Chris
5:45 – 6:00	Orderly Filing of Candidates to School	Charter School	Mr. Gullo
6:00 – 6:30	DINNER (Group Red)	School Cafeteria	Mr. Gullo
6:00 – 6:30	RETREAT – ACT 2 (Group Blue)	School Auditorium	Sam Todzia
6:30 – 7:00	DINNER (Group Blue)	School Cafeteria	Mr. Gullo
6:30 – 7:00	RETREAT – ACT 2 (Group Red)	School Auditorium	Sam Todzia
7:00 – 8:30	RETREAT – ACT 3	School Auditorium	Sam Todzia
8:30 – 8:45	All Confirmation Candidates Check-Out & Dismissal	School Auditorium	Mr. Gullo
8:45 – 9:15	SGL Breakdown and Clean-Up Event Spaces	School Auditorium	Mr. Gullo

V. LOGISTICS

1. Arrival at the Church Hall

- i. Plan on arriving early.
- ii. Each student will be receiving a Name Tag in the Church Hall. This is their record of attendance. They will fasten it to their clothing for the day.
- iii. Confirmation Candidates have been identified by a Group Color.
 - a. Red has been designated for Fall Session Groups 1 – 18. They will be seated at the right side of the Chapel.



- b. Blue has been designated for Fall Session Groups 19 – 20, Spring Session All Groups, Catholic School Students and Make-Ups from Confirmation 2. They will be seated on the left side of the Chapel.
 - iv. At dismissal time, at the Charter School, the Name Tags will be collected.
2. Celebration of Mass
- i. Candidates' reverence and respect during the celebration of Holy Mass is essential. No gum, drinks, and talking.
 - ii. Candidates will be placed in every other pew on both sides of the center of the Upper Church. This will allow for families and other parishioners to join in the celebration.
3. Movement of Candidates
- i. The Confirmation Director will be responsible for the safe and orderly movement of Candidates.
 - ii. Lower Chapel to Upper Church. Movement will be conducted in a two single files, much in the fashion the Sacrament of Confirmation will be conducted.
 - iii. Upper Church to Charter School. Movement again will be conducted in two single files as we cross the street to the Charter School. Police presence will be requested. Movement will start after Parishioners have left the Church. The Red Group goes to eat dinner first; Blue Group attends Act 2 of the Retreat in the school auditorium.
 - iv. Dismissal at the Charter School. Parents are to use the same pick-up points as they had during Confirmation Classes. Parents may line-up to pick-up their child from Queen Street but need to ensure they are not backed up onto Main Street.