

St. Mary of the Visitation Parish

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September 28, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians,

On behalf of the Parish Community of St. Mary of the Visitation, it is my pleasure to invite you to prepare your child for the Sacrament of Confirmation. At Confirmation we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit who comes to strengthen us as disciples of Jesus.

This year, Bishop Lobsinger will be celebrating Confirmation on **Saturday, April 6, 2024** at St. Mary of the Visitation Parish. There will be three ceremonies on this date: St. Elizabeth School at 11:00 a.m., St. Gabriel School at 1:00 p.m. and Our Lady of Fatima School at 3:00 p.m. If there is a conflict with the time you may choose to join one of the other schools.

In preparation for the sacrament, our young people will follow the curriculum that they receive in school. I will also visit the students in their classrooms. As parents and caregivers, you also have a very important responsibility in preparing your children for the reception of the sacrament.

There will be a parent information meeting on **Thursday, November 23 at 7:00 p.m**. in the church. We ask that you complete the online registration for your son/daughter *prior* to this meeting: www.stmaryhespeler.ca/confirmation-registration (starting October 2, 2023)

You will be required to provide a copy of your child's baptismal certificate if they were not baptized at St. Mary of the Visitation Parish. You may submit this copy electronically or bring a copy to the parent meeting. If your child is not baptized or was baptized in another Christian denomination, please contact the parish office as soon as possible.

There will be a \$20 fee to cover the cost of the Confirmation gowns. Please bring cash or cheque (payable to St. Mary of the Visitation Parish) to the parent meeting. You may also pay by credit card on our website: https://www.stmaryhespeler.ca/donate. Please include the name of your son/daughter in the comments box. Additional information and updates will be communicated to the schools and sent to the email provided in the registration form.

Yours in Christ,

Father Ed Henhoeffer Pastor