



## ST. SIMON & ST. JUDE PARISH

488 ST. CHARLES ST • BOX 130 • BELLE RIVER ON • NOR 1A0

June 28, 2018

Dear Parents of our Parish Youth entering 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:  
Warmest Greetings on behalf of your St. Simon and St. Jude Pastoral Team!

Summer Break has arrived! The next school year will be here before we know it too! This unending cycle of seasons and celebrations reminds us of our own beginnings, growths and rebirths. One such “new beginning” for your child is **Confirmation** – a Sacrament of “Initiation”, and we simply wanted to give you a “heads-up” for your planning convenience...

**~Our Confirmations will take place November, 25<sup>th</sup> 2018 at St. Simon and St. Jude Parish~**

When our families brought us to the parish community for Baptism and First Communion, our initiation began. They spoke for us then, and we grew in the Christian Life. At Confirmation, our Grade 8's are invited to *take ownership* of these promises of Faith made for them in their Baptism. In Confirmation, Jesus seals their relationship with God through the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and empowers them to witness to their Faith in life. They'll become fully initiated into the faith, where the Eucharist will continually strengthen all of us for life.

**Save the Date: Please plan to attend our Parents' Information meeting, on Wednesday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 7:00 pm, in our Parish Hall, regarding your child's Confirmation programming. All important program dates and info. will be provided at this meeting.**

The “**Confirmation Registration Package**” will be available at the Parish Office and on our parish website (see below). Please bring the completed forms to the above Parents' Registration Meeting, along with a **copy of your child's baptismal certificate, if your child was baptized in a church other than St. Simon and St. Jude.** If you do not have a copy, the parish where your child was baptized could fax or provide a copy.

We recognize parents as being the most important and primary teachers of youth. Your home is the domestic church where seeds of faith are first sown. Our youth can prepare for this important moment in their life guided by you, their parents, sponsors, parish and teachers. We support families and youth in making the decision to live their Faith, confirmed in the Spirit of God. Through the ministry of prayer, pastoral visits and instruction at the church, activities, retreats, service projects, celebrating liturgies, your child will be invited to witness and live out Jesus' way of love, justice and peace in our world.

It's a blessing serving you and your children in this important walk of faith – a grace-filled journey we look forward to! Do feel free to contact us any time as we remain,

Yours truly in Service to Our Lord Jesus,

*“Lord, please give me the same spirit you want the children I teach to have.” – Blessed Marie Rose Durocher*  
Mrs. Marguerite Hewer, CPM, CYM, Pastoral Minister/ Coordinator of Youth Ministry,

St. Simon & St. Jude Parish,

488 St. Charles Street P.O. Box 130

Belle River, Ontario NOR 1A0

Tel: 519-728-3381 • Fax: 519-728-1772 • Web: [www.stssimonjude.dol.ca](http://www.stssimonjude.dol.ca) • Email: [stsimonstjude@dol.ca](mailto:stsimonstjude@dol.ca)