Dear Families with Youth Starting Eighth Grade,

It is with great joy that I join you in anticipating your young person's reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation. This is the next significant step on their journey of discipleship, and I am grateful for the work of our families and our catechists in preparing our young people for the Sacrament.

Formation will be offered through the Schools, Parish Faith Formation, and Religious Education ministries of St. Helen, Holy Angels, & Immaculate Conception in English and Immaculate Conception & St. Mary in Spanish. May I please encourage you to complete any appropriate registration for these formation programs by their individual deadline. Please prepare to submit a copy of your child's Catholic baptismal certificate.

We will have the young people from all five parishes within the Bread of Life Family of Parishes come together to celebrate the Confirmation. Please mark your calendars for a rehearsal on **April 13, 2026** <u>at 6pm</u> at Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Church. The teens to be confirmed must attend this rehearsal with their sponsor (or a proxy). The celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation itself is on **April 14, 2026** at 6:30pm at Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Church. (Teens and sponsors will need to arrive <u>no later than 6pm</u>).

In order to help the young people prepare for the Sacrament and for continuing their lives as disciples afterwards, we are asking all teens preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation to complete **at least 12 hours of community service**. There will be six opportunities scheduled throughout the year that teens from the entire Family of Parishes will be able to participate in together, should you choose. Details about these opportunities and the method of tracking will be handled by individual programs.

Each program also includes a required retreat experience for those preparing for the sacrament, please ensure that your young person participates. These are scheduled by each preparation program.

Additional information about these Formation Programs is available on the respective parish websites.

In Christ,

Fr. Satish Joseph

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Pastor, Bread of Life / Pan de Vida Family of Parishes