

## **TOTAL and the Sacrament of Confirmation**

### **WHAT IS CONFIRMATION?**

- A step on the journey – only one step, not the last, not the only, not the most important
- An experience of grace
- A beginning of a fuller life as a Catholic Christian
- A response to God's love
- An increase in openness to the action of God in our lives
- A process of initiation

### **HOW DO WE PREPARE FOR CONFIRMATION AT ST. JEROME'S?**

- Participation in TOTAL, our Youth Group, encouraged but not mandatory
- Immediate preparation during Lent in small group classes
- Service activities – 20 hours of service – can start at any time
- Choose a sponsor in the spring
- Choose a Confirmation name in the spring
- Participate in a Confirmation retreat in the summer or fall
- Rehearsal the week before Confirmation
- **REGULAR ATTENDANCE AT MASS ALL YEAR.** It can be the Teen life Mass or another Mass of your choice.

### **A YOUTH GROUP could be a group of people who:**

- Do things together
- Grow in knowledge and faith
- Help the needy
- Talk about "stuff" and share values and ideas
- Feel comfortable about discussing things together
- Have fun together
- Share talents
- Go places together
- Look forward to being together
- Share our problems and seek others' help

### **To be comfortable and safe at TOTAL, we must:**

- Respect each others' ideas, share with each other, spend time together
- Respect confidentiality, start with prayer, break down the wall between us
- Welcome everybody, gather devoted and responsible members
- Be good listeners, compliment each other, reach out, not put others down
- Be aware of each others' feelings, not pressure others to think and act like everyone else