

# CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Classes will begin next Sunday, December 4, 2011 at 4:00 P.M. in the St. Philip's Room.

Confirmation is open to anyone who is in the seventh grade or older. If you have not yet been baptized, the Sacrament of Holy Baptism will be a part of your instruction.

Teens will meet at 4:00 P.M. with Adults (anyone 9<sup>th</sup> grade and older) at 6:00 P.M. on the following Sundays:

December 11

December 18

January 8

January 15

January 22

January 29

Bishop Wolfe's visitation which will include Baptism and Confirmation will be at 9:30 A.M. on February 5, 2012.

Parents are asked to attend the first and last session with their teenagers.

The instructors for the class will be Fr. Don, and Mr. Chris Holman.

Instructional material will be provided to each person wishing to be confirmed.

Those who have been confirmed in another church (other than the ELCA or Moravian Church) and who wish to become a member of the Episcopal Church are asked to attend the class and consult with Fr. Don. In some cases, you will be received by the Bishop.

Anyone is welcome to attend the class if they would like. Some may wish to make a reaffirmation of their baptismal vows as part of the Bishop's visit and this is also encouraged.

Each class member should purchase and bring an NRSV Bible (please only an NRSV). A Bible with the Apocryphal books is encouraged.

## **Questions?**

**What if you are not baptized?** Please attend the class. As confirmation and baptism are closely tied, you will receive instruction for your baptism with the confirmation class.

**What if you were baptized in another church?** The Episcopal Church recognizes your baptism as long as it was with water and in the Name of the Trinity. If you have questions about this, please see Fr. Don or one of the clergy.

**Can you take the class if you are not yet sure you wish to be confirmed?** Yes, you are most welcome to do so.

**What does being confirmed mean?** It means you take upon yourself the vows of your baptism and become an adult member of the congregation, and the Episcopal Church.

**Do I have to be confirmed to receive communion?** No. In the Episcopal Church you need to be baptized in order to receive communion. Many years ago it was the tradition that teens did not receive until they first were confirmed, but this practice ended in the 1980s.

**What does the Bishop have to do with confirmation?** The Bishop is a living apostle in a succession extending back to the time of the apostles of Jesus. He represents the wider church in the Diocese of Kansas, the United States, the Worldwide Anglican Communion and Christians everywhere. In the Episcopal Church, only Bishops can officiate at the rites of confirmation and ordination.

More questions..... they are welcome! Please write, or call me.

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