

## **Norms for the Administration of Adult Confirmation in the Diocese of St. Augustine**

### **Adult Candidates for Confirmation**

The term “Adult Confirmation” as used in this set of guidelines refers to Roman Catholics who have been baptized, have celebrated their first Communion and are seeking to celebrate their confirmation at an age later than the usual age for confirmation in the Diocese of St. Augustine (ages 13-17). Canon law defines an adult as a person who has completed their eighteenth year of age (Canon 97) and does not lack the use of reason (Canon 99).

### **Confirmation Celebration**

Annual diocesan celebrations of Confirmation for Adult Candidates will be celebrated twice within a calendar year...one at the Cathedral and one at another parish of the diocese. The dates of these celebrations will be announced at a minimum of six months prior to the actual celebrations. Reminders of these dates and bulletin announcements will be provided through Pastoral Briefings by the Office of Christian Formation.

### **Process**

The process of preparation should be based on the RCIA model (see resource manual, page 75 of RCIA ritual book) as well as the basic tenets of adult faith formation set forward in *Our Hearts Were Burning Within Us*. (USCCB 1999). There will be an accompanying set of resources to assist parishes with this process.

### **Recommendations**

1. **Identify** persons in the parish who wish to be confirmed. (suggested means would be parish bulletin, verbal announcements, diocesan website, parish website).
2. **A Preliminary Interview** should be made by Parish Adult Faith Formation Coordinator, RCIA Coordinator, Evangelization Coordinator or Pastor. Interview should take into account:
  - Marital status and circumstances
  - Sacraments received
  - Sponsor identification
  - Motivation
  - Evaluation of how much catechesis the individual has and what they might still need
3. **Registration Form** should be completed and sent to the Office of Christian Formation one month prior to the scheduled celebration of the sacrament. Verification of baptism should be done at the parish level.
4. **Sponsor** should be someone who journeys with the confirmandi throughout the process by attending formation sessions, serving as an example and a mentor.

### **Overall View**

1. Each meeting should be 1.5 – 2 hours long.
2. Preparation can be in individual parishes or by clustering parishes depending on the number of Candidates and the needs of the Candidates.
3. Leadership from the Office of Christian Formation will provide suitable catechists to do the immediate preparation for the parish or parish clusters, if needed and desired.

### **Curriculum**

#### **Liturgical Catechesis around the Sacrament of Confirmation (immediate preparation)**

- Baptism
- Symbols and gestures of Confirmation
- Gifts of the Spirit
- Conformity to Christ ---morality
- Eucharist
- Discipleship
- Reconciliation