

Adult Confirmation, Reception, and Re-Affirmation

Winter & Spring 2020

Overview

In *the Catechism*, The Book of Common Prayer states that “sufficient instruction in the Christian faith” is needed in order for us to express a “mature commitment to Christ” (*BCP 860*). This class will explore various topics of our Christian faith specifically through the lenses of the Episcopal Church. By diving into the history, meaning, and purpose of who we are and what we do, we begin to better understand and appreciate our identity as Episcopalians and as Christians and in so doing, prepare ourselves to encounter the living God in more deeply transformative ways.

Expectations

Our class meets from 6:30 – 8:00 pm on Wednesday evenings in Room 305 of the Parish House. Please eat dinner before your arrival at each class. Pizza and salad is served each Wednesday night beginning at 5:00pm. Coffee and water will be available for us each week.

Each class will build on the previous classes, so we ask that you attend every session. If you would like to be Confirmed or Received, your attendance at each class as well as the Retreat are pre-requisites. Participants are expected to notify The Rev. Matt Wise if they will miss a class and are expected to listen to that class’ recording online and follow up with Matt afterwards.

Questions are **always** encouraged. I’ll do my best to answer if I’m able, and when I’m not able, will offer some guidance about where you might find some answers.

If you have a Book of Common Prayer (1979), bring it. Jot notes in it as we go. It won’t hurt the book, I promise. Who knows? Your notes might speak to you on some upcoming Sunday morning in the middle of worship. The church will also be purchasing one for you as a gift for participating in this process.

There is no required reading for this class. However, I’ve provided a recommended reading list of books and resources that I will reference throughout the class. If you’d like to read them, that would be swell and will most likely add to your learning.

Confirmation Sunday is The Feast of Pentecost (May 31st) and we will have one combined service at 10.00am. We will have a brief rehearsal on Sunday, May 24th following the 11.15am liturgy.

Class Schedule

Class One | January 8
Informational & Group Covenant

Class Two | January 29
Origin Stories:
The Church of England &
The Via Media

Class Three | February 12
Councils & Creeds:
The Bones of our Beliefs

Class Four | March 4
Tools of the Trade:
The Bible, The Book of Common
Prayer, and the Liturgical
Calendar

Retreat | March 7
9.30am – 2.00pm
in the Pavilion at the Bishop Jones Center
111 Torcido Dr., SATX 78209
Being Connected, pt. I:
Sharing our Stories

Being Connected, pt. II:
The Anglican Communion, The
Episcopal Church, and The
Diocese of West Texas

Class Five | March 18
Smells & Bells:
We Are Liturgical People

Class Six | April 1
Outward and Visible:
Sacraments & The Mission of the
Church

Class Seven | April 22
Initiation Rites: Baptism &
Confirmation

Class Eight | May 13
Eucharist:
Feast of Thanksgiving,
Remembering and Sending

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Group Covenant

- We will get up when we need to in order to stretch, get something to drink, use the restroom, and generally take care of ourselves while we are class.
- We won't assume that everyone knows how this stuff works.
- We will be respectful of one another specifically by listening well, by using "I" language, and by taking responsibility for ourselves and our own thoughts/opinions.
- We will question, question, question, even examining our own basic precepts.
- We will speak honestly, telling our own truths, telling our own stories.
- We will be prayerful.