



September 10, 2026

Dear Confirmation Families...

Welcome to FIRE Year 2! Fire is the 2 year faith formation process designed to prepare your child for the sacrament of Confirmation here at St. Brigid's.

This letter serves to inform you of some key information and dates so that you can plan accordingly.

Students and families are to join us for the **Opening Prayer Service on Thursday, September 24 at 7pm** in the Chapel at St. Brigid/Our Lady of Hope Regional School. This is the official first day of class and the kick-off of our formation year.

The **Catholic Youth Bible** will continue to serve as our textbook. Students must bring it with them each time we meet. Note: replacement of lost Catholic Youth Bibles will be the responsibility of the student and family. Families who are new to FIRE this year can request a Bible from the Faith Formation Office.

Students will have a **Confirmation Journal Workbook** that they must complete each year. These workbooks have been available for pickup at St. Anthony's Hall since July for those who wanted to get a headstart as has been communicated each week in our parish bulletin. Students who have not picked up a journal in advance of the first class on **Thursday, October 8** can request one from their Group Leader.

The activities in the Journal Workbook have detailed instructions, but they can ask me or their group leaders if there are any questions. The journals are a requirement and will be collected for review in the spring. It is recommended that students are actively working on completing in order to ensure completion. **Please take note of Section 4: Help For The Journey for the assigned scripture that is to be reviewed BEFORE each session. This will help facilitate dialogue in the small groups after the presentation.**

One of the Journal Workbook activities is for the student to interview a member of the Pastoral Staff. **All interviews must be completed by March 31, 2027;** therefore, I suggest students consider conducting the interviews as soon as possible. I've already had a student interview me this summer!

As a reminder, our program relies on group presentation before students move to their small groups. **To be respectful to guest presenters and program dynamics, it is our goal to start sessions promptly at 7pm each week.** Please have your student signed in prior to that. Doors to the building will be open for entry no later than 6:45pm and will be locked after 7:15pm. Arrivals after 7:15pm will be considered an absence for that session.

Students who miss more than 2 sessions will need to repeat the level in the following school year. There will not be any make-up sessions. Families will be notified upon the second absence.

The complete outline, expectations, and requirements for FIRE is included in the Confirmation Journal Workbook where you can also find the full calendar for reference. The calendar is also included in this letter for your convenience. You can also view all of this information on our parish website.

In addition, we are following NY State guidance related to the use of cellphones during classes. Please ensure that your child is aware that cell phone/technology use during classes is only acceptable at the direction of their Faith Mentor/Group Leader.

Our first **Parent Meeting** is scheduled for **Monday, October 26 at 7pm** in the Chapel at St. Brigid/Our Lady of Hope Regional School. Attendance at this meeting is required for all parents/guardians.

It is a sacred privilege to be able to journey with your child and your families. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have.

Peaceful steps...

Vince Buzzeeo

Director of Confirmation Preparation



FIRE Year 2 - 2026-2027 Calendar

September 24 - Opening Prayer Service, 7pm (Chapel)

Student Sessions:

October 8 and 22, 7pm

November 5 and 19, 7pm

December 10, 7pm

January 7 and 21, 7pm

February 4 and 25, 7pm

March 11 and 24, 7pm (Note: March 24 is a WEDNESDAY)

April 8 and 22, 7pm

May 6, 7pm

Other Dates/Events:

October 26 - **Parent Meeting**, 7pm (Chapel)

January 23 OR January 30 OR February 6 OR February 7 OR February 8 - Confirmation
Retreat (Groups to be assigned)

January 25 - **Parent Meeting**, 7pm (Chapel)

February 22 or February 23, Reconciliation, 7pm (**Church**) - Groups to be assigned

April 12 - **Parent Meeting** (Chapel)