Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish
296 Cedar St. S.
Timmins, ON P4N 2H3
705-268-3053

St. Anthony of Padua Cathedral
73 Spruce St. N.
Timmins, ON P4N 6M9
705-264-0587

October 27, 2026

Dear Parent(s) / Guardian(s):

Greetings from Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish and St. Anthony of Padua Cathedral Parish. My name is Fr. John Lemire, the Pastor of both Parishes.

For your young person this is an important year for them in their faith development as they have an opportunity to celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation and complete their sacramental initiation in the life of the Church.

As such, your grade seven or eight son / daughter (or older) is a candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation this year, if they so choose. The celebration of Confirmation is a significant step in their faith journey, as they seek to grow closer to our loving God.

Confirmation is one of the seven sacraments in our Catholic Faith which belongs to the Rites of Christian Initiation. Along with Baptism and the Eucharist, they empower us to lead more healthy and holy Christian lives as friends of Jesus.

As part of the process of preparation candidates will be formed into small groups of eight to ten young people with a group leader. These group leaders will receive training to help lead our candidates through the preparation process. The main purpose of these groups is to help the candidates talk about and experience our faith, our God, and our Church. In the past we found our small group preparation to be a meaningful and life giving experience for each young person and their family.

During this period of preparation the candidates will participate in an "Ice Breaker" meeting, a Rite of Enrolment ceremony during one of the weekend Masses, six small group sessions with their leader, a meeting with Bishop Martin, and two retreat evenings before the actual celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation (which will take place in the spring of 2027).

All of this will be explained at an upcoming parent meeting on **Thursday, November 12th at 6:30 P.M. at St. Anthony's Cathedral Hall (across from the 101 Mall).** This meeting is for those parents who would like more detailed information on the Confirmation preparation process, program, time line, and the celebration of the Sacrament. **This meeting is for parents only of both Parishes** and will take place in the Cathedral Hall.

In order to help the Parishes prepare for the parent meeting as well as the organization of the small groups, please complete the form at the bottom of this letter and have your child return it to his / her homeroom teacher before **November 6th.**

Should you have any questions about the process or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish (705-268-3053) or St. Anthony's Cathedral (705-264-0587). You can also reach me by email at frjohnlemire2@gmail.com.

May this time of preparation be a blessing in your families' lives. Be assured that I will keep you and your family in my prayers and I hope that I will have an opportunity to meet with you at the upcoming parent meeting on November 12th.

God Bless,

Fr. John Lemire

Father John Lemire
Pastor

❒ Yes, our son / daughter will be preparing this year to make his/her Confirmation at **Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish** and I will attend the meeting on November 12th at the Cathedral.

❒ Yes, our son / daughter will be preparing this year to make his/her Confirmation at **St. Anthony of Padua Cathedral** and I will attend the meeting on November 12th at the Cathedral.

❒ No, our son / daughter will not be preparing this year to make his/her Confirmation.

Child's Name: _____

Signature of Parent: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Please return to the school by Friday, November 6th.