Saint Raphael Parish Office 501 Naugatuck Ave Milford, CT 06460 www.saintraphaelmilford.org

August 5, 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Our records indicate that your teen (entering Grade 9 or older) may be eligible to participate in our 2024/2025 Confirmation program. In the sacrament of Confirmation, we are strengthened by the Holy Spirit to make our own commitment to our special relationship with God that began at our Baptism.

The Confirmation preparation program is a combination of GIFT (Growing in Faith Together) sessions and special Confirmation classes and events for the teens. This year's GIFT sessions will focus on the Nicene Creed. Program requirements also include regular Mass participation, service (parish ministry or projects, not counting hours), several Confirmation program assignments, homily summaries, a fall 2025 Confirmation retreat as well as other events or spiritual opportunities.

The enclosed Confirmation program schedule includes details re: session topics, dates, start/end times, and room locations. Please note that GIFT sessions also require the participation of an adult, e.g., parent or guardian. For the classroom portion of GIFT sessions, parents/guardians will attend the adult breakout session. You have also received Growing in Faith Together (GIFT) registration information in a separate mailing. GIFT program registration is required for all families with teens in our Confirmation program.

Please note there is a required overview session for all Confirmation candidates with a parent or guardian on either *Monday*, *September 16 or Tuesday*, *September 17* – from *7:00 to 8:30 p.m*. in a Parish Center classroom (501 Naugatuck Ave Campus). We will review important details re: the Sacrament of Confirmation and the Confirmation program at this meeting. This meeting is a great opportunity to get your questions re: Confirmation answered!

Thank you for continuing to help your teens to learn and grow in their love of God and their faith. Your example of living our faith in your family is so very important in helping our young people to stay connected with God and our faith! Please contact Maria at atomasetti@snet.net or 203-988-8598 (voice or text) with any questions. We look forward to working with your family!

Sincerely,

Maria Tomasetti Saint Raphael Parish, Milford – Faith Formation Coordinator