

# ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA CATHOLIC CHURCH

ARCHDIOCESE OF CAPETOWN

Cnr: Mimosa & Hakea Street, Kleinvlei

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27 October 2020

Dear Parents/Grandparents/Guardians

## CIRCULAR FOR CONFIRMATION CLASSES.

The COVID 19 pandemic has brought a lot of challenges to all of us. In addition to the health, social and economic difficulties it brought, our regular confirmation classes have been disrupted immensely. Although the country is now on Level one, we are still watchful of a possible “second wave” of the COVID 19 infection and the need to remain cautious at all times. We are also aware of the importance of resuming our catechetical classes so as to enable our children suitably prepare for the sacraments or progress to the next phase.

In order to balance these interests to the best of our abilities, we have set the following plans in place. This plan intends to create the opportunity for our children to continue with the catechism classes, safely attend Masses, observe the health and safety protocols in a way that tries to protect you, your family, our parish community and themselves against the spread of the virus. Your cooperation and commitment in this venture is vital.

In-person and online Confirmation classes have been scheduled as follows:

PRE-CONFIRMATION	
Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	After Mass
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Online class
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	Online class
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Online class
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Online class
PHASE 1	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Online class
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Online class
Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	After Mass
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Online class
PHASE 2	
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	Online class
Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	After Mass
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	Online class
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Online class
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Online class
PHASE 3	
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Online class
Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	After Mass
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Online class
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> November	After Mass
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Online class
Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	After Mass
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Online class

SUMMARY OF SATURDAY CLASSES	
Pre Confirmation	Saturday 31 <sup>st</sup> October
Phase 3	Saturday 7 <sup>th</sup> November
Phase 2	Saturday 14 <sup>th</sup> November
Phase 3	Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> November
Phase 1	Saturday 28 <sup>th</sup> November
Phase 3	Saturday 5 <sup>th</sup> December

**All candidates have to sign up for the Saturday Mass, and attend Mass before the Saturday classes.**

Confirmation classes will close for the holidays on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and will resume on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2021. All online classes for 2020 must be completed by Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

The 2020 Confirmation program is extended and will run till the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 2021.

Confirmation program for the year 2021 will begin on Tuesday, the 9<sup>th</sup> of March 2021.

The following rules and regulations will be in place for all those attending classes:

- All candidates must sign up and attend the evening Mass, followed by the catechism class.
- Upon entering the classroom, all candidates' hands will be sanitised.
- Each candidate must wear a protective face mask at all times, when inside and outside the church building.
- Social distancing of at least 2 meters must be practiced at all times; with no physical contact, such as hand shaking and/or hugging.
- Each catechist will at all times wear a face mask whilst teaching and when outside of the church building.
- The classrooms will be cleaned regularly.
- All hands must be washed regularly with soap and water; or disinfected with a hand sanitiser.

**Declaration for teens attending Confirmation classes:**

I....., parent / grandparent / guardian of .....declare

that I will ensure that:

- My child wears a mask at all times in and around the church, especially when they interact with other confirmation candidates and catechists.
- Observe social distancing at all times, which includes a physical distance of 2 meters.
- Have no physical contact such as handshaking or hugging or similar gestures with any of the candidates or catechists.
- Wash my hands/disinfect my hands regularly.

PLEASE NOTE: COVID 19 disease has been declared a pandemic. We will try our best to promote and observe the necessary health and safety protocols, but we do not guarantee anything. As such, anyone entering the parish premises does so at his or her own risk.

Fr Emmanuel.

