

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

Our Year 2 confirmation retreat is planned for January 18-20, 2019. I am confident that it will be an eye opening, spiritual weekend for your teen. During the retreat, the students will be given the opportunity to stop and think about their relationship with God and how this relationship affects and inspires other relationships in their lives. They will participate in quiet time and group activities.

In addition, part of the retreat will focus on building an everlasting relationship with God our Father and how our faith and family give help to support us throughout all life's trials & blessings and for this part, we need your help in a very special way! We would like to **surprise each youth with a letter or two of encouragement from home**. This will truly be a wonderful gift to your child from you!

If you have never written such a letter, or need a little help to get it started, here are some ideas which may help:

- How proud you are of this young person and of his/her God given talents.
- The special place he/she holds within your family; how he/she has brought love and joy to the family and others;
- Words of encouragement to help them through the rough spots that come up in life;
- The hope that he/she will always strive to grow in his/her relationship with God and live a moral, responsible life.

It is very important for every child to receive at least **one letter from a parent** and **one letter from their sponsor**. However, the time set aside for reading and reflecting on the letters is limited. We suggest that you do not send any more than 5 letters for your child. This will ensure that they have sufficient time to read, reflect and process your words of support and encouragement.

Where and when?

- Each letter should be sealed in its own envelope. On the front side of the envelope(s), print the first and last name of your child.
- Please send or drop off these letters to the Pastoral Office, NO LATER than **Monday, January 7**
- We have found that it is best that the teens are not expecting a letter from you, so I ask that you not send the letter with your child. We want this to be a surprise!

Thank you for taking the time to do this for your child.

Many Blessings,

Chris Patao & Katy Dagampat & Retreat Team