



DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN

Sacramental Preparation
2713 W. Chestnut Avenue
Altoona,, PA 16601
(814) 317-2672
(814) 317-2646

2023-2024 REGIONAL CONFIRMATION RETREATS

The regional retreats will again be offered as electronic Zoom versions.

IMPORTANT NOTES

The regional confirmation retreats are offered as an option by the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown to help fulfill the requirements for Confirmation Candidates. The retreats are open to students from all parishes in the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown and are especially helpful for those who need a retreat as a substitution or make-up. The 2023-2024 schedule should be given to every family. The schedules are also posted on the diocesan website: www.dioceseaj.org/confirmaion

Please note:

- Parish leaders need to provide all information to all students and adults: accurate times of registration and start time, location and directions if needed, etc. Please be as thorough as possible and note the focus of the retreat to candidates and adults. Please remind 2-3 days before to bring a brown-bag lunch. Refrigeration is available. Attendance for the entire retreat time is necessary to satisfy the requirements for Confirmation preparation.
 - **Ninth and Tenth Grade candidates MUST come with a parent and/or sponsor.** Grandparents, aunts/uncles, siblings, can be a substitute for the parent/sponsor if they are not the named sponsor if necessary. This person has to be fully initiated themselves and be older than 18.
 - **For the Eleventh Grade retreat there must be one group leader for every 6-10 youth.** Each parish is to provide the small group leaders (21 years or older). The small group leaders are adults who work well with the youth, and must have up-to-date Diocesan Youth Protection Program and the State of Pennsylvania Mandated Reporting Training.
 - Small group leaders who are parents are normally in groups different than their son or daughter. This often helps with the comfort level and interaction of all the students.
 - Candidates attending a regional retreat as a substitute or make-up retreat, should work with the parish Director/Coordinator to contact the Sacrament Preparation Office for the necessary forms. Attendance certificates are provided at the end of the retreat to bring to the parish.
 - If a student has any particular health circumstance the facilitator needs to be made aware of please contact Jeanne Thompson well in advance and complete the form designated on the back of the roster sheet. We will do everything we can to meet the needs of the youth.
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REGISTRATION INFORMATION and FEE'S

There are **two** forms that must be completed for each retreat and returned to the diocese. Due dates are noted on the schedule. Forms are to be completed by the parish staff.

FORM 1 (number of people attending) FORM 1 emailed, or sent by mail. The Sacramental Preparation Office will then invoice the parish. The invoice reflects the cost for the number of persons sent to us by the parish. We normally do not handle individual payments at the registration table

FORM 2 The Roster of Names to be sent with the payment and Remittance Copy of the invoice 10 days before the retreat. The deadline will be noted on the invoice.

The fee for per person per grade: These are **not** increases from the 2019-2020 last held retreats.

9th Grade - \$12.00

10th Grade Combined Retreat - \$15.00

The fee is for retreat supplies, coffee, refreshments, simple breakfast items and snacks, and the facilitator stipend. Everyone needs to bring a lunch.

11th Grade - \$25.00.

The fee per person is for retreat supplies, coffee, juice, breakfast items, snacks and refreshments throughout the day, dinner and dessert, and facilitator stipend. Everyone needs to bring a lunch.

**MAIL FORMS to: Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown
Sacramental Prep. Office
2713 W. Chestnut Avenue
Altoona, PA 16601-1720**

PER DIOCCESAN GUIDELINES: 9TH AND 10TH GRADE STUDENTS MUST ATTEND WITH AT LEAST ONE PARENT AND/OR SPONSOR.

11TH GRADE: THERE MUST BE ONE GROUP LEADER FOR EVERY 1-6 YOUTH. This number would increase incrementally.

****Minimum to hold and Maximum cut-offs**

Ninth and Tenth Grade:

Minimum of 15 students, with parents/sponsors the group would be at 30.

Maximum size of 35-40 students, with parents/sponsors the group would be at 70-80.

A single parish group larger than 25 students may want to consider contacting Sr. Suzanne personally at 1-814-263-4177, to schedule their own on-site parish retreat.

Eleventh Grade: Required Minimum of 15-25 students, with 3- 4 adult leaders needed.

Maximum of 50 students, with 8 adult leaders needed.

DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN - SACRAMENT PREPARATION OFFICE

2023-2024 CONFIRMATION REGIONAL RETREAT SCHEDULE

2023:

Sat. September 30 **10th Gr.** Gifts of the Holy Spirit and Parables **9:00 AM – 3:30 PM**
FORM 1 due (9-16) **Saint John Gualbert Activity Center, Johnstown**
Number attending **Who:** Students, Parents/Godparents/Parish staff and volunteers
FORM 2 due (9-23) \$15.00 per person - small breakfast items/tea/coffee/lunch snacks; supplies
Names and Fee

Sat. October 28 **11th Gr.** Discipleship **9:00 AM – 7:30 PM**
FORM 1 due (10-6) **Saint Michael, St. Michael**
Number attending **Who:** Students and Adult small group leaders (Day includes Confession and Mass)
FORM 2 due (10-20) \$25.00 per person - small breakfast items/tea/coffee/lunch snacks/dinner/supplies
Names and Fee

Sat. December 2 **9th Gr.** Baptism **9:00 AM -1:30 PM**
FORM 1 due (11-10) **Saint John Gualbert Activity Center, Johnstown**
Number attending **Who:** Students, Parents/Godparents/Parish staff and volunteers
FORM 2 due (11-25) \$15.00 per person - small breakfast items/tea/coffee/lunch snacks; supplies
Names and Fee

2024:

Sat. January 20, 2024 **11th Gr.** Discipleship **9:00 AM – 8:00 PM**
FORM 1 due (1-2) **Saint Catherine of Siena, Duncansville, PA**
Number attending **Who:** Students, Parents/Godparents /Parish staff and volunteers
FORM 2 due (1-15) **Who:** Students and Adult small group leaders (Day includes Confession and Mass)
Names and Fee \$25.00 per person - small breakfast items/tea/coffee/lunch snacks/dinner/supplies

Sat. February 3, 2024 **9th Gr.** Baptism **9:00 AM -1:30 PM**
FORM 1 due (1-16) **Saint Catherine of Siena, Duncansville, PA**
Number attending **Who:** Students, Parents/Godparents/Parish staff and volunteers
FORM 2 due (1-20) \$12.00 per person - small breakfast items/tea/coffee/lunch snacks; supplies
Names and Fee

Sat. February 24, 2024 **10th Gr.** Gifts of the Holy Spirit and Parables **9:00 AM – 3:30 PM**
FORM 1 due (2-5) **Saint Catherine of Siena, Duncansville, PA**
Number attending **Who:** Students, Parents/Godparents/Parish staff and volunteers
FORM 2 due (2-17) \$15.00 per person - small breakfast items/tea/coffee/lunch snacks; supplies
Names and Fee

Sat. March 2, 2020 **11th Gr.** Discipleship **9:00 AM – 8:00 PM**
FORM 1 due (2-12) **Saint Catherine of Siena, Duncansville, PA**
FORM 2 due (2-24) **Who:** Students and Adult small group leaders (Day includes Confession and Mass)
Names and Fee \$25.00 per person - small breakfast items/tea/coffee/lunch snacks/dinner/supplies

SNOW DATES will be determined as needed: FORM 1 (1-27) FORM 2 (2-10) LOCATION TBA

DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN - 2023-2024

CONFIRMATION REGIONAL RETREAT SCHEDULE

Regional Retreat Facilitator: Sr. Suzanne Thibault, C.A.
Bethany Retreat Center: Young People Who Care
P.O. Box 129, Frenchville, PA 16836
814-263-4177

Flat fee per person, for all retreats:

9th Grade on Baptism \$12.00: December 2, 2023 St. John Gualbert, Johnstown
February 3, 2024 St. Catherine of Siena, Duncansville

10th Grade on Gifts of the Holy Spirit **and** Parables \$15.00:
September 30, 2023 St. John Gualbert, Johnstown
February 24, 2024 St. Catherine of Siena, Duncansville

11th Grade on Discipleship: \$25.00
October 28, 2023 St. Michael, St. Michael
January 20, 2024 St. Catherine of Siena, Duncansville
March 2, 2024 St. Catherine of Siena, Duncansville

Students and Adults must be in attendance 20 minutes before the beginning of the retreat for registration. Everyone is asked to please bring a lunch. Breakfast beverages will be served. Snacks are provided.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE REGIONAL RETREATS, CONTACT THE SACRAMENT PREP OFFICE Jeanne Thompson, Coordinator 814-317-2672; jthompson@dioceseaj.org

FORM 1 DIOCESE OF ALTOONA-JOHNSTOWN: 2023-2024

REGIONAL CONFIRMATION RETREAT

DATE: _____
(of Retreat; All are on Saturday)

GRADE/NAME: _____
(of retreat)

LOCATION: (Please Check) Duncansville _____ Johnstown _____
11th Grade only: St. Michael, St. Michael _____

PARTICIPATING PARISH/CITY: _____

PLEASE NOTE AGAIN: 9TH AND 10TH GRADE: EACH CANDIDATE MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AT LEAST ONE PARENT AND/OR SPONSOR. 11TH GRADE: THERE MUST BE AT LEAST ONE GROUP LEADER FOR EVERY PARISH GROUP of 2-7 AND THAN AN ADDITIONAL ADULT FOR EVERY GROUP MORE of 7-10 YOUTH.

Total Participants: # of Youth _____ @ \$ _____ = \$ _____

of Adults _____ @ \$ _____ = \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$ _____

GROUP CONTACT: _____

PHONE (BEST #): _____ (cell/home)

Email: _____

Please mail or email (attachment) by due date scheduled.

Email: jthompson@dioceseaj.org

Mail: Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown
Sacramental Preparation
2713 W. Chestnut Avenue
Altoona, PA 16601-1720

(Continue for Form 2)

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FORM 2 ROSTER FOR ATTENDANCE:**DEADLINE:** _____

(Include with Remittance Copy of Invoice and payment)

PARTICIPATING PARISH/CITY: _____**Name of DRE/CRE** _____**Phone:** _____**RETREAT GRADE:** _____**DATE of Retreat:** _____**LOCATION:** Duncansville (St. Catherine of Siena) _____

Johnstown (St. John Gualbert) _____

11th Grade only: St. Michael, St. Michael _____

(Please make a copy of the forms before sending them.)

NAME of YOUTH		NAME of ADULT		Parent/ Sponsor/ Other Adult
1		1.		
2.		2.		
3.		3.		
4.		4.		
5.		5.		
6.		6.		
7.		7.		
8.		8.		
9.		9.		
10.		10.		
11.		11.		
12.		12.		
13.		13.		
14.		14.		
15.		15.		
16.		16.		
17.		17.		
18.		18.		
Totals:				

Please copy as many roster sheets as you need. We will provide new lists for attendance at the retreat registration table.

DRE/Coordinators: Please read the back of this form and make a check if you need to.

_____ Yes, I have a note for a student special circumstance on back of the form for the Facilitator.

D.R.E./Confirmation Coordinator Note for Retreat Facilitator:

Date of Retreat: _____ **Location:** _____

Parish: _____

Name of D.R.E./Confirmation Coordinator: _____

Student Name (for whom the personal note pertains to):

Name and Phone # of contact person for this student:

NOTES:

Date of Retreat: _____ **Location:** _____

Parish: _____

Name of D.R.E./Confirmation Coordinator: _____

Student Name (for whom the personal notes pertain to):

Name and Phone # of contact person for this student:

NOTES:

