

Welcome to the start of your spiritual journey to a new sense of young adulthood and affirmation in the Catholic faith! Confirmation...the final Sacrament of Initiation will take place for you on **April 25, 2020** and I am honored to direct your path towards a Confirmation of your faith in the grace of the Holy Spirit.

My name is Lauren K. Finore and I am the new Confirmation Director for the candidates at St. Thomas of Villanova Parish. I have directed hundreds of students on their journey both in Pennsylvania and New York at parishes, private and parochial schools. I hold an M.A. in religious education with a concentration in youth and young adult ministry and strive to bring young people to have a personal and positive relationship with Christ as well as an active and rich faith life.

This year will be special, as Confirmation in its essence is unique, individual with communal support, and guided by the Holy Spirit. Because of its nature, you will be given more independence in your preparation. Please see the Confirmation Calendar 2019-2020. You are required to attend classes twice a month (unless you successfully attended Camp Caritas this summer) on Sunday mornings from 10:10-11:25 am, after the 9:00 am family mass, in the Auditorium. There will be practical and engaging work to complete at home in between class sessions as well as "*family faith in action events*" as scheduled. These family events (ALL Confirmation candidates need to attend) will bring our parish family together to celebrate the various liturgical seasons, as well as the aspects of Confirmation preparation i.e. service. The communal aspect of the Confirmation preparation program enhances the experience for the students, making their sacramental preparation a family adventure...and many blessings will flow from the fun we will all surely have together!

I, along with the staff at St. Thomas of Villanova Parish, look forward to working with you and bringing you closer to our Lord, God through the one another and the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit!

God Bless,
Lauren Finore