

## **Cara Letter St. Mary Religious Education**

At Saint Mary's, each Confirmation candidate is expected to "prepare in a meaningful way" for the Sacrament of Confirmation. We welcome you into this process and encourage your support of your candidate. Our goal is to encourage each candidate to personally accept the decision made for him/her at Baptism; the decision to follow our Lord Jesus Christ in the Christian community of the Roman Catholic tradition.

To help develop some faith sharing for you and your candidate in this process, we are asking a special favor of you. We would like you to take some quality time to write a letter to the candidate. We are asking for the gift of your personal perspective about the candidate. Your letter will be presented and read only by the candidate in a private setting during the **Confirmation Retreat**. We hope to "surprise" the candidate with the gift of your letter during this time. **All candidates must have at least one letter prior the retreat**, please send your letter in an envelope marked with the candidates name in the lower left corner to the attention of:

**Confirmation Coordinator/Cara Letter  
St Mary Religious Education  
24 Dodgingtown Rd  
Bethel, CT 06801**

Letters can also be dropped off in the mailbox outside the Religious Education Office. As you can imagine, your candidate will miss a very meaningful part of the retreat if your letter is not part of his/her experience. Additional letters from sponsors, grandparents, siblings, aunts, and uncles can be received up until the day prior to the retreat.

**WE MUST HAVE AT LEAST ONE LETTER FOR EACH CHILD!!!**

In writing to the special candidate who has personally chosen you as a sponsor, you may wish to mention some, or all of the following points:

- fond memories of him/her as a child
- special qualities you see in him/her
- prayers or religious songs that have a special meaning for you
- people who have influenced you in trying to lead a good, Christian life
- ways that being a Christian has helped you in your life
- memories of your own preparation for Confirmation
- what helps you keep believing in God
- a promise to pray for you candidate
- some of your hopes and/or dreams for him/her

We hope you enjoy writing the letter, even though you may find it difficult or challenging, you will realize this can be something very special for the candidate. Please call if I can be of any assistance to you.

Peace always,  
Mary Stocks  
Confirmation Coordinator