Dear Confirmation Students & Families,

Welcome to the start of your confirmation journey...a new sense of young adulthood and affirmation in the Catholic faith! Confirmation...the final Sacrament of Initiation will take place for you this year, 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 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 active relationship with Christ; as well as an active and rich faith life. This year will be special, as Confirmation in its essence is uniquely 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 posted to our website for planning purposes. You are required to attend classes/events throughout the year (see schedule).

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 for all those making the sacrament, will bring our parish family together to celebrate the various liturgical seasons, as well as the aspects of Confirmation preparation i.e. service, reflection, fellowship, community, etc. 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, through one another and the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit!

God Bless,
Lauren Finore