



## FAITH SHARING

### Candidate/Sponsor Sheet 1

**June**

**Record your responses to chosen questions in your journal.**

PRAYER (Choose from one below)

- What is your prayer schedule like right now? When do you pray? How do you pray?
- What does prayer mean to you?
- How will you try to grow in prayer during this time of preparation for Confirmation? Be specific and write down a “program of prayer” for yourself. Remember, it is better to take on a reasonable “program of prayer” and really work at it, than to try to do too much and give up.
- With your sponsor, read the first reading and the Gospel for the current Sunday’s liturgy. Pick out one line from each and explain how it relates to your life.

KNOWLEDGE (Choose from one below)

- Every week we make a profession of faith in the words of the creed. This creed contains the beliefs of our faith. Read over the creed. Christians of every century have held strongly to these beliefs. Some have even given up their lives to defend them. Why are these beliefs important to you?
- Look up the definition of a sacrament. What is it? Name the seven sacraments.

SERVICE (Choose from one below)

- Discuss the ministry that you have chosen to work with this coming year.
- Discuss spiritual and corporal works of mercy. Do you see your ministry relating to any of these? Explain.

God bless you in your faith sharing!



## FAITH SHARING

### Candidate/Sponsor Sheet 2

**July**

**Record your responses to chosen questions in your journal.**

PRAYER (Choose from one below)

- We sometimes speak of four ACTS of prayer.

A - Adoration or love	We express our love for God
C - Contrition or sorrow	We express sorrow for our sins and ask forgiveness
T - Thanksgiving	We thank God for his many blessings
S - Supplication or request	We ask for his help, guidance, etc.

A healthy prayer life includes all of these approaches. Examine your life of prayer. What approach do you use most often? Least often? For a week, keep track of the type of prayers you use.

KNOWLEDGE (Choose from one below)

- What does it mean to give witness of your Christian faith to those of your own age? How have your parents helped you? How has your sponsor helped you? How have other candidates helped you?
- Baptism is the sacrament by which you were incorporated into Christ and became a member of the Church. Ask your sponsor why he or she agreed to be your sponsor. Together, talk about the responsibility of a sponsor that you both consider important.

SERVICE (Choose from one below)

- Find one incident in the Scriptures that shows Jesus helping others. What do you learn about him in the incident? How can you imitate him in a similar way?
- If you are currently in a ministry at church, evaluate your service so far by writing your experiences in your journal.

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## FAITH SHARING

### Candidate/Sponsor Sheet 3

**August**

**Record your responses to chosen questions in your journal.**

PRAYER (Choose from one below)

- The prayer given to us by Jesus is the Our Father, also called the Lord's Prayer. It is a prayer of love and unity, of sorrow for sin and gratitude for God's mercy. It has been the prayer of Christians throughout the centuries. Write the Lord's Prayer in your journal. Pause after each phrase and really think of the meaning. Write your reflections of the meaning in your journal.
- Jesus told us to "pray always". This week, each night before you go to bed, try to spend at least ten minutes reading the Scriptures. Write a reflection in your journal after each night's reading. Date each entry.

KNOWLEDGE (Choose from one below)

- Jesus taught us what we must do to be his followers. His teachings are found in the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5). Write the Beatitudes in your journal. What do they mean to you?
- How well have you been involved in the preparation for Confirmation?
- Who are your pastor and parish priests? What are their roles? Does your parish have a deacon? What is his role in the Church?

SERVICE (Choose from one below)

- How do the Beatitudes relate to the attitudes needed for Christian service? Have you been giving service in a cheerful way?
- How have you reached out to the discouraged, lonely, or elderly? List all the things you have done as service so far. Put a star next to the three that mean the most to you.

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## FAITH SHARING

### Candidate/Sponsor Sheet 4

#### September

**Record your responses to chosen questions in your journal.**

PRAYER (Choose from one below - note there is only one to choose)

- If you are serious about your spiritual life, set aside time each day to examine your conscience. This means to look prayerfully at how you have or have not imitated Christ. After you have looked at your life, pray to the Holy Spirit, asking him to help you be *Christlike* in your thoughts, words, and actions. Do this each night this week. Write in your journal a resolution to follow Jesus better the next day. Examine your conscience each night.

KNOWLEDGE (Choose from one below)

- It is good to look over the past weeks and evaluate how your confirmation preparation is helping you grow in your relationships with Christ, your family, your friends, and the Church. When have you been strong and faithful to Christ? When has it been difficult for you to live your faith?
- Write in your journal the Act of Contrition you like the best. Resolve to memorize it, if you have not already done so.
- Write the Ten Commandments in your journal. Under each one, write how it helps you show love for God or others.

SERVICE (Choose from one below)

- Charity begins at home. What special ways can you be of service to your family? Write three acts of service you can do each day this week for your family?
- Write a letter to an elderly member of your family to cheer up him or her.
- How can you be a Christian healer or peacemaker at home this week?

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## FAITH SHARING

### Candidate/Sponsor Sheet 5

#### October

**Record your responses to chosen questions in your journal.**

PRAYER (Choose from one below)

- Look up 1 Corinthians 13:1-8, 13 and read it aloud. Evaluate yourself on it. How well do you love? Reread verses 4-8 from Corinthians, but this time say your own name wherever it lists the word love. Do you find living these actions to be a challenge?
- Each night for the next week, look up one of the following scripture passages and write a summary of it in your journal. Start tonight!

Matthew 5:11-12

Luke 4:16-22

John 14:15-17

Matthew 16:24-27

Luke 8:4-15

John 15:18-21, 26-27

Matthew 25:14-30

Luke 10:21-24

John 16:5-7, 12-13

Mark 1:9-11

John 7:37-39

John 14:23-26

KNOWLEDGE (Choose from one below)

- Who is your bishop? What do you know about your bishop? How does he help the people of your diocese live the Christian life?

SERVICE (Choose from one below)

- Did you ever think of how much service others are constantly offering you? How have others shown Christ to you? How have others reached out to you? Remember to look first to those in your family! This week list one thing each day for which you are grateful.
- What are doing to show you are really interested in being a member of this faith community? Record your most recent efforts of service to your parish. (This can include the ministry that you signed up to serve)

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## FAITH SHARING

### Candidate/Sponsor Sheet 6 (ADVENT)

November/December

**Record your responses to chosen questions in your journal.**

Advent is the time for waiting and praying. It is the time to reflect on the meaning of Christ's coming in our lives. Record your responses to all questions in your journal.

PRAYER (Choose from one below)

- Christ came to the earth because He loves you. What part of the nativity narrative (Luke 1, 2, and Matthew 1, 2) means the most to you? Why?
- Advent and Christmas hymns are beautiful prayers. In your journal copy down the words (one verse) of the Christmas hymn you find most meaningful. Use it as an advent prayer.

KNOWLEDGE (Choose from one below)

- Find out what the joyful mysteries of the rosary are. Write them in your journal. How can saying the joyful mysteries help you prepare for Christ's coming?
- During Advent we speak of the three comings of Christ: in history, in mystery and in majesty. What does each of these terms mean?
- Remember, December 8th is the feast of the Immaculate Conception, a holy day of obligation. What is the meaning of Mary's immaculate conception.

SERVICE (Choose from one below)

- Read the first chapter of Luke. What do you find here about waiting? About being open to God? About trusting? About kindness of others?
- Luke speaks of the Gospel value of simplicity. How can you make this holiday season simpler, less filled with the business of buying and selling?
- How do you plan to make Christmas a time for showing love to Christ? To others?

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## FAITH SHARING

### Candidate/Sponsor Sheet Lent

#### March

#### Record your responses to chosen questions in your journal.

#### PRAYER (Choose from one below)

- Lent is a time of challenge! We are challenged to make renewed efforts to be more *Christlike*, to put more enthusiasm into living the Gospel, to be genuinely loving toward one another. This Lent, think of the characteristics of the Christian community.
  - It *worships* regularly.
  - It *serves* others in imitation of Christ.
  - It sees itself as a *community* the Church.
  - It gives *witness* to its faith in word and deed.

based on Acts 2:42-47
- Using the italicized words above, write a paragraph about how you have grown in each of these areas. What area do you need to work on as you prepare Confirmation?

#### KNOWLEDGE (Choose from one below)

- Explain how each of the following relates to Confirmation and what happens to you during the ceremony: holy oil (chrism), Sign of the Cross, bishop, words (Name be sealed ...), laying on of hands (imposition of hands).
- Read Acts 2:1-12. What would you have done if you were there? What kind of Christian do you want to be?
- Make a list of things you know about Confirmation already. Make another list of questions you may have.

#### SERVICE (Choose from one below - note that there is only one to choose)

- As you prepare for Lent, think about an extra act of service you can do: be cheerful at school, go out of your way to be kind to those you find difficult, pay more attention to your studies, put more enthusiasm into your service project or confirmation preparation, spend more time with your family, be more respectful to your parents, give some of your extra time to do things with your brothers and sisters. *Let the world see your love for God and willingness to serve*