

**SPONSOR/CANDIDATE**

**FAITH SHARING WORKSHEETS**



Work through the following assignments with your sponsor. On notebook paper record your answers to the questions and any thing else that you and your sponsor discussed about the Catholic faith. Please include your name at the top of the first sheet and staple your response sheets together. Response sheets are due by March 1, 2009.

If your sponsor is not in the area you may contact them by phone or email to go over the assignments and record your answers.

### Candidate/Sponsor Session 1 Advent

We will soon begin the Advent season. Advent is time for waiting and praying. It is the time to reflect on the meaning of Christ's coming into our lives.

#### PRAYER

- ❖ 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?
- ❖ Advent and Christmas hymns are beautiful prayers. In your journal write the first verse of one of the Christmas hymns that you found meaningful. Why is the hymn meaningful to you.

#### KNOWLEDGE

- ❖ December 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. What is the meaning of Mary's immaculate conception?
- ❖ What are the joyful mysteries of the rosary? How can saying the joyful mysteries help you to prepare for Christmas?

#### SERVICE

- ❖ How do you plan to make to show the love of Christ and to others this year?
- ❖ Luke speaks of the Gospel value of simplicity. How can you make your life simpler, less filled with material possessions?

## Candidate/Sponsor Session 2

You will need paper to record your answers.

### PRAYER

- ❖ 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 as you prepare to receive the sacrament of Confirmation?

### KNOWLEDGE

- ❖ Every week at Mass we make a profession of faith when we say the creed. the creed contains the beliefs of our faith. Why are these beliefs important to us?
- ❖ What are the seven sacraments?

### SERVICE

- ❖ What are the spiritual and corporal works of mercy?
- ❖ As a Catholic Christian which spiritual or corporal works of mercy have you practiced at home, in your neighborhood, or in school?
- ❖ Do you see your planned service projects as spiritual or corporal works of mercy? Explain.

### Candidate/Sponsor Session 3

#### PRAYER

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 help, guidance, etc.

A healthy prayer life includes all of these approaches. Examine your prayer life. What approach do you use most often? Least often?

#### KNOWLEDGE

- ❖ What does it mean to give witness of your Christian faith to those of your own age?
- ❖ Ask your sponsor why they agreed to be your sponsor. Talk about the responsibilities of a sponsor that you both consider important.

#### SERVICE

- ❖ Find one incident in Scripture that shows Jesus helping others. What do you learn about him in this incident? How can you imitate Jesus to help others?

## Candidate/Sponsor Session 4

### PRAYER

- ❖ The prayer given to us by Jesus is the Our Father, the Lord's Prayer. It is a prayer of love and unity of sorrow for sin and gratitude for God's mercy.
- ❖ Read the Lord's Prayer slowly and deliberately. Write in your journal what the words mean to you.

### KNOWLEDGE

- ❖ 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. Choose to Beatitudes and explain how you can live them.
- ❖ What Diocese do we reside in? Who is the Bishop of our Diocese? Who is the Pastor of Divine Mercy Church? What is a Eucharistic Minister?

### SERVICE

- ❖ List what you have done so far for your community service project.
- ❖ What have these services meant to you? What have you learned from doing these services?

## Candidate/Sponsor Session 5 Lent

### PRAYER

Lent is a time of challenge! We are challenged to make renewed efforts to be more Christian, to be more Christ-like, 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

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 to be Confirmed?

### KNOWLEDGE

Explain how each of the following relates to Confirmation and what happens to you during the ceremony:

- Holy Oil (Chrism)
- Sign of the Cross
- Laying on of hands
- Be sealed with the gift of the holy spirit

Make a list of the things you already know about Confirmation. Make another list of questions you may have. Talk to your sponsor about these questions.

### SERVICE

During Lent put more enthusiasm into your community service project, give something extra of your time, treasure, and talent to the church community.