

Name _____

Proficiency Survey

NOTE TO PARENTS: Please understand that no one will be excluded from this program on the basis of this survey. The purpose of this survey is to give us an idea of the literacy of your teen with regard to basic Catholicism and to help in the planning and implementing the final phase of our Confirmation program. The survey is to be returned to the Religious Education office by **January 31st**.

TO THE CANDIDATE: The purpose of this final phase for the celebration of the sacrament of Confirmation is to assure the readiness of the candidate. How do you know whether or not you are ready for sacramental preparation? Please take some time to reflect upon these questions.

- ❖ Are you willing to participate in shared faith experiences?
- ❖ Does your behavior reflect maturity?
- ❖ Are you able to articulate a genuine request to learn about the sacrament?
- ❖ Are you interested in being an active member of the faith community?
- ❖ Does your life reflect a desire to live a life committed to the life and mission of the Church community?
- ❖ Are you interested in further exploring the Catholic faith?
- ❖ Do you regularly participate in communal faith experiences as well as Sunday Eucharist?

Talk with your parents and other adults and then decide whether you feel ready to respond to the call to be a fully initiated member of the Catholic faith community.

INSTRUCTIONS: Please complete this survey to the best of your ability. We invite you to discuss this survey and your answers with your parents and/or sponsor. Several of the questions ask you about your opinion, so please be as truthful as possible. Please remember that several of the questions have no one correct answer. Write the answer that you feel is best. You will need a Bible to answer some of the questions. Please answer all of the questions. You will not be graded on this survey, and no one will be excluded from the program because of it.

Evangelization

- Who is Jesus? Why is he important? How does having a relationship with Jesus change the way in which you live?

Faith & Morals

- Read the 10 Commandments or Beatitudes. How do you try to live these values?

- What are the Theological Virtues? How do they influence our lives?

- What are the Cardinal Virtues? How do they influence our lives?

The Sacraments

- Name and explain as many of the Sacraments as you can.

Christian Sexuality

- What does the Church teach regarding chastity? How does chastity influence the way we live our lives and the choices we make?

Liturgy & Prayer

- We gather to pray as Catholic community every Sunday. Explain why this is important.

- How would you describe Eucharist to someone who is of another faith? In other words, what do we believe as Catholics regarding Eucharist?

• Name some of the special days in our Church that we call “Holy Days.” Explain what they celebrate.

• What happens at Mass? Briefly explain the events that take place.

• You receive Communion, the Priest or Eucharistic Minister says “Body of Christ,” what is your response?

• Who is Mary? Why is she important? How is Mary related to your prayer and faith life?

Spiritual Formation

• We refer to prayer as one way we develop a relationship with God. Do you pray? When? Why?

• Explain the religious meaning of Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost.

- Explain Lent. Why do we pray, fast and give alms during Lent?

- Explain the season of Advent.

Discipleship

- What are the gifts of the Holy Spirit?

- How do the gifts of the Spirit influence the choices we make in our everyday lives?

Christian Service

- Describe one of your service projects. What did you learn from doing it?

- What service do you give to your family, Church, neighborhood, etc?

Vocations

- What do we mean by the word, vocation?

- Explain the Sacrament of Holy Orders.

- Explain the Sacrament of Marriage.

Social Justice

- Explain briefly Church teaching in regard to the way we should treat the poor, homeless, and other people in need.

- How can we put these ideas into practice on a daily basis?

Respect Life

- What does the Church teach regarding the dignity of human life? Briefly explain.

- Explain what the Church means with the phrase, “the dignity of the human person.”

- Explain why the Church is against capital punishment.

Stewardship

- What gifts and talents can you offer to your church community?

• What specific talents have you received from God?

• What are some gifts God has entrusted to our care as human beings?

• Why do you want to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation?
