

Candidate Full name: _____

Opening Prayer

Loving Father, please bless us with *RIGHT JUDGMENT* and *COURAGE*. That we always make informed, sound and good decisions. And live up to our convictions no matter what obstacles come into our lives. God is good! We are thankful for this time to grow closer to Him by learning about our faith. Amen

Open your Bible

Parables are a way that Jesus taught lessons. If you read the same parable at different times in your life, your perspective on the message will change.

- What is your favorite or most memorable parable you've known? _____

Read together **Luke 15: 11 – 32** and also **Luke 18: 9 - 14**

- Discuss what the message you think Jesus is trying to get across to us through these parables.
- Which parable is relatable to you and why? _____

Having faith takes courage.

Read together **Mark 6: 45 – 52**

- What can you understand about courage after reading this passage? _____

I'd like to introduce you to Nicodemus. Nicodemus was a Jewish teacher in a high position of leadership. He gathered a lot of courage one evening to approach Jesus. After speaking with Jesus, Nicodemus most likely knew that by accepting Jesus publicly he would no longer be in good standing with the other Jewish leaders with whom he associated.

Read together **John 3: 1 - 21**

- How easy is it for you to express your faith and belief in Jesus publicly? _____
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Living Our Faith

At the end of the celebration of Mass we are dismissed with the words “Go in peace to love and serve the Lord and each other”. The message is to Love God 1st and love your neighbor as yourself. Discuss some ways you can apply this in your daily life?

Did you realize that prayer is an important part of living out this direction to love and serve the Lord and each other? _____

Who is someone you can think of who could use your prayers right now?

Closing Prayer

Lord, Thank you for the gift of the time spent growing closer to you. Strengthen in me the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Help me to understand the plan you have for my life and live in a way that helps me to have the courage to make decisions that are pleasing to you. Amen

Meditate *Be still, listen, and reflect on this thought*

“For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God” **Romans 8: 14** God’s Spirit works in many different ways in our individual lives. At Baptism we receive the Holy Spirit and we become a home for God’s Spirit. Being Confirmed completes the grace of Baptism, strengthening the gifts of the Holy Spirit given to us. These gifts are necessary to live and spread the gospel and love of God. Write down your thoughts about this verse in a journal.