

## **Parent & Candidate Encounters:**

### **Explanation & Options**

**Goals:** To emphasize the importance of familial faith sharing and the role of parents in the faith formation process as the first teachers and ones who hand down the traditions of our faith to their child(ren).

#### **Instructions:**

- Read through the Parent & Candidate Encounter Options
- Choose *one* Encounter to complete as a necessary component of our Confirmation Preparation Program
- Complete that Encounter & associated proof-of-completion email by the date in the schedule
- Complete additional encounters as you please to continue to facilitate faith-based discussion and sharing between parent & candidate, no proof-of-completion emails needed for additional encounters

#### **Proof Of Completion Email Instructions:**

- Parent & Candidate together write an email to the Confirmation Director (Mrs. Catherine Broussard) that answers the following questions:
  - Which encounter did you choose?
  - Why did you choose it?
  - What is one thing that stood out to you from completing this encounter?
  - When did you complete this encounter?
- This email should be sent to [CatherineS@st-george.org](mailto:CatherineS@st-george.org) with the subject line of “[Last Name] | Confirmation | Parent/Candidate Encounter”

*Note that each encounter option will have instructions on how to access the content or components of said encounter, please read through those instructions and if you have further questions about any encounter reach out to Mrs. Catherine at least one week prior to the due-date.*

### Encounter Option 1 | Parent & Candidate | *Adoration*

- **Components:**
  - Access to an Adoration Chapel [see Adoration Supplement for times & info]
  - Journal/notebook
  - Bible and/or Rosary
- **Estimated Time:** 90 minutes
- **Instructions:**
  - Go to an Adoration Chapel
  - Spend approximately 60 minutes inside in quiet adoration - if you need ideas for focusing on something in Adoration see below:
    - Pray a Rosary or Divine Mercy Chaplet
    - Read the Gospel of John Chapter 6
    - Journal your thoughts & prayers
  - Follow the 60 minutes of adoration with some discussion together, using the prompts below
- **Reflection/Discussion Questions:**
  - What do you like about Adoration? What's difficult about Adoration for you?
  - What comes to mind when you look upon the Eucharist?
  - How does Adoration help reveal God to you?
  - Do you feel like God was looking at you as much as you were looking at him?
  - How did you choose to pray in Adoration? What was easiest? What stood out to you?

### Encounter Option 2 | Parent & Candidate | *A Chosen Experience*

- **Components:**
  - Access to watch *The Chosen* [Available on Prime or through the Chosen App]
    - Season 1 Episode 5 [55 minutes] OR Season 4 Episode 4 [65 minutes]
  - Bible Supplement A [Episode 1:5] or B [Episode 4:4] [at the back of this packet]
- **Estimated Time:** 90 minutes
- **Instructions:**
  - Choose **one** of the episodes above
  - Together read aloud the scripture passage(s) for the episode you chose
  - Watch the episode in its entirety
  - At the conclusion of the episode, again read the passage(s) aloud
  - Follow the reading with the discussion questions below - perhaps take time to answer them yourselves before discussing your answers together.
- **Reflection/Discussion Questions**
  - **Episode 1:5**
    - What was the same about the episode & the scripture passage? What was different?
    - What does the Wedding Feast at Cana show us about Jesus & Mary's relationship?
    - Why would Jesus make the wine not just any wine, but *fine wine*?
    - What stood out to you the most in this episode? Why?

- **Episode 4:4**

- What was the same about the episode & the scripture passages? What was different?
- What can you learn from Gaius's faith?
- How can you imitate the faith of Gaius?
- What stood out to you most in this episode? Why?

**Encounter Option 3 | Parent & Candidate | *The Heart of God in the Word of God***

- **Components:**

- Bible or Bible Supplement C
- Journal/Pen/Pencil

- **Estimated Time:** 45 minutes

- **Instructions:** *Lectio Divina Together*

- See Supplement C for detailed instructions on the steps of Lectio &/or watch Fr. Josh Johnson's "What is Lectio Divina?" Video available on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gKYEoc3ik9k&pp=ygUaam9zaCBqb2huc29uIGx1Y3RpbYBkaXZpbmE%3D>

- **Reflection/Discussion Questions:**

- What word or line stood out to you most in this passage?
- Why would Jesus let the disciples first be afraid in the storm?
- Do you fear the storms in your life? What storms has Christ calmed for you? What ones do you need him to calm?
- What can the boat represent? What can the storm represent?
- Who did you picture yourself as in the meditation? Why?
- What are you going to take away from this scripture today?
- How can you let this passage transform your relationship to God?

**Encounter Option 4 | Parent & Candidate | *Building a Prayer Life***

- **Components:**

- Access to Dynamic Catholic's *Decision Point* Session 4:: You can access the videos and content for this encounter by following the links below, or by simply googling "decision point confirmation program" and navigating the Decision Point website.
- <https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/confirmation/decision-point-session-4-0.html>

- **Estimated Time:** 60 minutes

- **Instructions:**

- Watch the videos either together OR separately [ALL of Session 4's videos, not just the first one]
- Answer the discussion questions for each segment below
- Discuss your answers together and come up with a goal for strengthening your respective prayer lives and habits
- Read Psalm 63 together (see Bible Supplement D)

- **Reflection/Discussion Questions:**

- 4.0: What is one idea from the short film that you found most helpful?
- 4.1: Whom do you talk to every day? Why?
- 4.1: Do you pray? How often? How do you feel after you pray?
- 4.2: Have you ever asked God the big question: "What do you think I should do?" If you have, what happened? If you have never, why not?
- 4.2: If you spent 10 minutes a day in prayer every day for the next month, how do you think you might be different a month from now?
- 4.3: Has anyone ever taught you how to pray?
- 4.3: Which of the seven steps in the prayer-process intrigued you the most?
- 4.4: What are you most grateful for today?
- 4.4: What surprised you the most as you practiced the prayer process?
- 4.4: Now that you have been taught how to pray, what is most likely to get in the way of developing prayer as a daily habit in your life?
- 4.5: Over and over in Scriptures we read about Jesus going off to a quiet place to pray. Do you have a quiet place you can pray each day? Where?
- 4.5: Do you have a favorite quiet place you like to go when you need to make big decisions?
- 4.5: Did you do anything today that was more important than spending a few minutes with God in prayer?

## Bible Supplements:

- **Bible Supplement A: *The Wedding at Cana | John 2: 1-12***

- On the third day there was a marriage at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; Jesus also was invited to the marriage, with his disciples. When the wine failed, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” And Jesus said to her, “O woman, what have you to do with me? My hour has not yet come.” His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.” Now six stone jars were standing there, for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, “Now draw some out, and take it to the steward of the feast.” So they took it. When the steward of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward of the feast called the bridegroom and said to him, “Every man serves the good wine first; and when men have drunk freely, then the poor wine; but you have kept the good wine until now.” This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

After this he went down to Caper’na-um, with his mother and his brethren[b] and his disciples; and there they stayed for a few days.

- **Bible Supplement B: *Jesus Heals the Centurion’s Servant & the Official’s Son [Matthew 5: 8-13 & John 4:46-54]***

- As he entered Caper’na-um, a centurion came forward to him, beseeching him and saying, “Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress.” And he said to him, “I will come and heal him.” 8 But the centurion answered him, “Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes, and to my slave, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” When Jesus heard him, he marveled, and said to those who followed him, “Truly, I say to you, not even[a] in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.” And to the centurion Jesus said, “Go; be it done for you as you have believed.” And the servant was healed at that very moment.
- So he came again to Cana in Galilee, where he had made the water wine. And at Caper’na-um there was an official whose son was ill. When he heard that Jesus had come from Judea to Galilee, he went and begged him to come down and heal his son, for he was at the point of death. Jesus therefore said to him, “Unless you see signs and wonders you will not believe.” The official said to him, “Sir, come down before my child dies.” Jesus said to him, “Go; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went his way. As he was going down, his servants met him and told him that his son was living. So he asked them the hour when he began to mend, and they said to him, “Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.” The father knew that was the hour when Jesus had said to him, “Your son will live”; and he himself believed, and all his household. This was now the second sign that Jesus did when he had come from Judea to Galilee.

- **Supplement C: For Lectio Divina | Jesus Calms a Storm on the Sea [Luke 8:22-25]**

- One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side of the lake.” So they set out, and as they sailed he fell asleep. And a storm of wind came down on the lake, and they were filling with water, and were in danger. 24 And they went and woke him, saying, “Master, Master, we are perishing!” And he awoke and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; and they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, “Where is your faith?” And they were afraid, and they marveled, saying to one another, “Who then is this, that he commands even wind and water, and they obey him?”
- **Lectio Divina Steps:**
  - **LECTIO: TO Read**
    - Read the passage aloud 3 times:
      - The first time, do not analyze, note, or make any marks
      - The second time, notice if something jumps out to you. Circle it. Highlight it.
      - The third time, focus on that which stood out to you while letting the rest of the passage provide context
  - **MEDITATIO: TO Meditate**
    - Take turns reading the passage aloud each one more time
      - Use your imagination to put yourself into the scene. Ask yourself:
        - Who are you in the scene? An observer? On the boat? Waking Jesus up? Jesus?
        - What do your senses understand? How does the water feel? The rain? Are the waves loud? Is the storm noisy? What voices do you hear? Do you taste the salty water of the sea? Are your clothes soaked through? What does it smell like? Is there sudden silence after the storm is calmed?
    - Set a timer for 2 minutes after reading the passage aloud and let yourself continue to ponder the above questions, especially around anything that stood out to you in the passage.
  - **ORATIO: TO Pray**
    - Set a timer for 2 minutes & privately start a conversation with God
    - Bring to him whatever it was that stood out to you - word, phrase, sentence, or **nothing**. You didn't do this wrong if nothing stood out to you. Ask him what he wants you to do with it. Surrender it to him Tell God about your day, about your worries, your joys, your trials
    - *Listen* to God. A conversation goes two ways.
    - Together pray a 'Glory Be' when the timer goes off
  - **CONTEMPLATIO: TO Contemplate**
    - This is where you *rest* in God's presence. He is all around you. Set a timer for 3 minutes.
    - Sit in quiet, trying to have your thoughts only be on God
    - *When* you get distracted, acknowledge the distraction and bring it to God. Repeat as needed
    - When the timer goes off, read the passage aloud a final time.
  - Move to the discussion questions. Take 10-15 minutes to answer them each for yourselves before sharing them with one another and discussing differences, highlights, struggles, etc.

**Bible Supplement D: *For the Prayer Process* | *PSALM 63***

O God, thou art my God, I seek thee,  
my soul thirsts for thee;  
my flesh faints for thee,  
as in a dry and weary land where no water is.  
So I have looked upon thee in the sanctuary,  
beholding thy power and glory.  
Because thy steadfast love is better than life,  
my lips will praise thee.  
So I will bless thee as long as I live;  
I will lift up my hands and call on thy name.

My soul is feasted as with marrow and fat,  
and my mouth praises thee with joyful lips,  
when I think of thee upon my bed,  
and meditate on thee in the watches of the night;  
for thou hast been my help,  
and in the shadow of thy wings I sing for joy.  
My soul clings to thee;  
thy right hand upholds me.

But those who seek to destroy my life  
shall go down into the depths of the earth;  
they shall be given over to the power of the sword,  
they shall be prey for jackals.  
But the king shall rejoice in God;  
all who swear by him shall glory;  
for the mouths of liars will be stopped.

## **Adoration Supplement:**

### **St. George:**

- Hours: Monday 7 AM - 6PM, Thursday 7 AM- 7 PM, and Saturday 6 AM - 8:30 AM
- Access Code: None needed
- Chapel Location on Campus: At the corner of Kinglet drive and St. George Drive, entrance through our Marian Prayer Garden.

### **Most Blessed Sacrament:**

- Hours: 24 Hours/7 Days with access code
- Access Code: 1108\*
- Chapel Location on Campus: Enter off of Jefferson Hwy, park on left side of church, Chapel door is at the end of church building.

### **Sacred Heart:**

- Chapel Location on Campus: On the back side of the church - enter through the door at the top of the ramp in the parking lot behind the church.
- Hours: Sunday – Saturday from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Please call the Parish Office at 225.387.6671 to obtain the door code for entry. Please note: Security details are not provided.
- Information: The (heart)doors on the Tabernacle can be opened during your visit and closed when the chapel is unoccupied. The restroom is inside the chapel behind the crucifix adjacent to the statue of the Blessed Mother.

### **Our Lady of Mercy:**

- 445 Marquette Ave Baton Rouge, LA 70806 225-926-1883
- Hours: 24 hours / 7 days a week
- Access code: None needed
- Chapel location on campus: Near prayer garden between church and parish office