



## Living the Faith – Step 6

### Commissioning and Celebration

#### Aim

To celebrate another milestone on the journey and consider the next steps individuals will take.

#### Resources needed

*Leaders*

- *Come and See notes*
- *Prayer focus items*
- *Bibles or Scripture texts*
- *Review sheets*
- *Liturgy sheet or ppt*

*For Young People*

- *Journals*

#### Prayer Focus

**White Cloth** – with Gold added too

**Bible** – *the word of God*

**Candle** – *three wick, the presence of God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit*

**Prayer Card / Bookmark** – *for each group member*

#### Liturgical Link

Reflection and review are important in all aspects of life, especially the spiritual. Daily we can use the Examen at the end of our day. At the start of every mass we are invited to call to mind our failings and seek forgiveness for these.

#### Overview

- Reflecting on the Journey
- Identifying the next steps
- Commissioning
- Celebration

#### Preparation by Catechists

- *Familiarity with content and resources*
- *Reflect on the ways you and the parish might realistically support the young people over the next year*
- *Pray for the young people and leaders*

#### Scripture Passages

- Matthew 28:16-20 Commissioned
- Acts 2:1-11 The Holy Spirit

#### Tenets of Faith (Faith Formation)

- We share in the ministry of Christ and his Church
- We are never alone

## Gathering

- **Welcome and Overview:** Welcome back to this final step of this journey, a time to:
  - Reflect back on the recent weeks
  - Consider the next steps on the journey
  - Take part in a commissioning service
  - Mark this milestone with a celebration; enjoying food and fellowship
- **Prayerful Acknowledgement:** *offered together by all, once the candle is lit*

Lord, God,

In love you called us to walk the journey of faith.

Along the path we have grown in relationship with you, and one another.

At this final gathering help us to reflect on the journey and our future.

Be with us as we commit to live as your disciples, celebrating our union with you and the Church.

We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen

## Review of Living the Faith and Discernment re the Next Steps:

**Introduction:** We have been on an amazing journey together. As catechists, we are incredibly proud of the commitment you have shown.

- Yet, this is not the end; there is still much work to be done in the search for holiness.
- By receiving the Sacraments your lives became part of God's story forever, and also the ongoing mission of the Church.
- So, today we need to reflect on the past few weeks and think about the support that might be needed in the months ahead. Our reflection is therefore in two parts, both of which we hope will be helpful to you, and to us as we seek to support you, and others on the journey (7-10 mins)

- **Living the Faith:** *This stage aimed to help you better understand God's love, the meaning of Jesus death and resurrection and our role as disciples. Please respond to the Questions on the sheet, and feel free to make additional notes in your journal.*
  - **Step 1:** We revisited our experience of being received into the Church and discovered the meetings Jesus had with the disciples after he came back from the dead. *Consider:*
    - A number of people met Jesus after his resurrection: The Risen Christ speaking to the women, Thomas needing proof to believe, The miraculous catch of fish, the meeting with Jesus on the road to Emmaus, Which of the stories seems to speak to you, or fit best with your journey.
    - are you now better able to believe in the Resurrection of Jesus, and tell others of God's love?
  - **Step 2:** We checked out the ways in which we might trust, and so obey others in life. We also looked at the Ascension and the power of forgiveness. *Consider:*
    - What did you learn about your own ability to trust and show obedience?
    - How have you worked at becoming a more forgiving person?
    - Where is forgiveness most needed in society today - how might you help?

- **Step 3:** We thought about times we have waited and wondered what the coming of the Holy Spirit would bring. *Consider:*
  - How am I managing to grow in patience with others?
  - The Holy Spirit changed the lives of the disciples, what changes have I noticed in my life?
  
- **Step 4:** We discovered the three aspects of Jesus mission, and our responsibility to continue living these; especially through the role of peacemaker. *Consider:*
  - From my understanding of these roles, do I tend to be more of a Priest, a Prophet or a King?
  - In my everyday life, how am I working at being a peacemaker?
  
- **Step 5:** Here we explored how God intended creation to live in harmony. *Consider:*
  - How have you included regular prayer time in the day to help you grow in holiness with God?
  - How are you taking good care of physical and mental health?
  - How are you being more helpful to family members and friends in need of support?
  - What are you doing to respect and help care for the planet?
  
- **The next Steps:** *The Commissioning service today affirms you as a Missionary disciple of Jesus. However, you are not being abandoned. In addition to God being there we too would like to support you on as the journey continues. Let us know how we might help you: In relation to the 5 areas of the rClyp process how could we assist you further develop your:*
  - **Relationship with God?** - How will you make time for God every day?
  - **Relationship with Scripture?** - When and with whom will you read and reflect on Scripture?
  - **Involvement with the liturgical life of the Church?** - What involvement do you wish to have?
  - **Involvement in the Church Community?** - How will you get to know people and the parish?
  - **Involvement in the Missionary activity of the Church?** - What might this mean for you?
  
- **The next steps:** *consider if any of these might be helpful:*
  - *Meeting one a month after Sunday Mass to reflect on the Gospel together*
  - *Come together in three months, in six months and in 12 months to rekindle friendships, check how individuals are doing and respond to any issues or questions that have arisen.*
  - *Together attend Reconciliation Services during Advent / Lent*
  - *Arrange for link up with people involved in particular ministries to learn more about the philosophy and practical involvement*
  
- Take feed back on the above suggestions and make a decision, or recommendation to pursue.

## Commissioning

**Leader:** We gather together united in the love of God to whom we have pledged our service.

The Lord be with you

**All:** And with your Spirit

**Leader:** We begin hearing the final words of Jesus in Matthews Gospel 18:16-20  
*The reading concludes with: **the Gospel of the Lord;***

**All:** Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Just as the disciples were commissioned to go out, so are we,  
and with the promise that the Holy Spirit,  
received in the Sacrament of Confirmation is there to support us.

Let us recall the coming of the Holy Spirit on the disciples at Pentecost.

**Reader:** A reading from the Acts of the Apostles: 2:1-11 (abridged)

In turn we are invited to come forward, light a candle and offer our prayer:

***Lord help me to use the graces and gifts received to boldly witness to my faith.***

*Each person is then given a copy of the prayer card, containing four short sayings of Mary MacKillop, now St Mary of the Cross, and a short prayer. May the faith, life and love which she demonstrated be an inspiration to us each day.*

*Together we pray:*

**All:** God our Father,  
You sent Your Holy Spirit upon the Apostles,  
And through them and their successors  
You give the Spirit to Your people.  
May His work, begun at Pentecost  
Continue to grow in the hearts of all who believe.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen

**Leader:** May the blessing of almighty God, come down on you and remain with you forever  
the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit

**All:** Amen

## Time to Celebrate

Enjoying good company, conversations, food and fellowship...

- Encourage personal and prayer support of one another and attendance at Mass