

**This session's objectives:**

- To kick-start each Candidate's search for a Confirmation Name and the writing of their Reflection
- To give candidates experience in recognizing saints by attributes/deeds, as in Christian art
- To explore the Beatitudes as a model for discipleship and holiness as lived out by the saints
- To challenge the candidates to say "yes" to the call to discipleship and make changes in their lives in order to be "all in" or to "love as Jesus loved, deny ourselves & follow him"

**This session's program:****Start Time(s)**

- |   |           |      |
|---|-----------|------|
| 1. <b>Name-tag pick-up</b>  | 0-5 min   | 6:45 |
| 2. <b>Icebreaker: Scenes from a Cup (in Tables/in Groups)</b>   | 10 min    | 6:50 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- volunteer actor from each table/group chooses an action from their cup</li> <li>- catechist can help in case of questions and as second judge for correctness of guesses</li> <li>- actor must mime action without speech/sounds, get other members to guess the action</li> <li>- continue so each has a turn to act, etc. - then <u>discuss homework</u>, especially <i>textbook p. 17</i></li> </ul>  |           |      |
| 1. <b>Opening Prayer</b> ( <i>Beatitudes, Mt 5 &amp; <u>Joe Melendrez, "Mercy"</u></i> ) (Rachel/Keenan)  | 5 min     | 7:00 |
| 2. <b>Beatitudes / Saints and how to "read" them</b> (Rachel/Keenan)  | 15 min    | 7:05 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- main teachings of Jesus from Sermon on the Mt, slightly different in Luke 8 (poorer)</li> <li>- begin with Gk <i>makarios</i>, "happy" (cf. "dichosos" in Spanish vs. "blessed" in English)</li> <li>- counter to message of world: consumer culture, selfishness, egocentricity, competition</li> <li>- saints as disciples of Jesus who really lived the Beatitudes, "<u>in</u> the world but not <u>of</u> it"</li> <li>- definition of discipleship, being and learning <u>in community</u> (Communion of Saints)</li> <li>- overview of communion of saints, miracles for canonization - "reading" icons/images</li> <li>- <u>attributes</u>: what you can tell about a saint by what they are holding/wearing/doing</li> </ul> |           |      |
| 3. <b>Breakout Session at Tables (at Tables/in Groups)</b>  | 40-45 min | 7:15 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>each table/group receives a set of 15-20 saint biography cards, <u>in the large envelope</u>. There are 15-20 so that you have a choice of which to do, but don't feel obligated to read through all of them. <u>Let candidates become interested in names/pictures to choose</u>.</i></li> <li>- <i>candidates take turns reading saints' bios out loud</i></li> <li>- <i>connect saint's actions to Beatitudes using "Don't Be Fooled" handout, including how the saint went against what society expected <u>Trk B: 20 minutes to look &amp; discuss</u></i></li> </ul>  |           |      |
| <hr/>   |           |      |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>each candidate picks a saint bio to answer questions about <u>individually</u> (the same as the one they read <u>or</u> a different one they like better - includes recognizing attributes</i> 20 min to do worksheet</li> </ul>  |           |      |
| 4. <b>Guided Meditation on Holiness &amp; Discipleship</b> (Rachel/Keenan)  | 10 min    | 8:05 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>each choose a saint prayer card from the small envelope to pray with and take home</i></li> <li><i>As disciples, we have been called to "love as Jesus loved, deny ourselves &amp; follow him."</i></li> <li>Reading <b>The Cost of Discipleship</b> (Luke 14:25-33) - <i>Individually reflect on changes we will make to become better disciples, using cross sheet &amp; saint cards - turn in <b>cross sheets</b> at prayer space</i></li> </ul>   |           |      |
| 5. <b>Choosing your Confirmation Name, Homework &amp; Reminders</b> (Rachel/Keenan)   | 10 min    | 8:15 |
| 6. <b>Closing Prayer (<i>hip-hop litany of the saints</i>)</b> (Rachel/Keenan)  | 5 min     | 8:25 |

**Homework & Reminders for Candidates:**

- begin working on Confirmation Name Essay (due A/November 27 or B/December 1) by starting your research. Use the resources on the back of the gold Name Essay sheet.
- **Homework** is due at next class (Track A: Monday 11/6 and Track B Wed. 11/8 and Thurs. 11/9)
  - **Read/do pages 37-40 in your textbook**
  - **Bring in 2 saint names and something about each that you like / find interesting**
- Class with all students for Sponsor & Parent Night - Mon., Nov. 13, 6:45-8:30 p.m.! **Bring them with you!**

## REMINDERS – Track A

Our next class is when your HOMEWORK will be due, on Monday, November 6.

### HOMEWORK – Track A

**Part 1** Read/do pages 37-40 in the textbook

**Part 2** (*the first step of a long-term project*)

Begin working on Confirmation Name Essay by starting your research. Use the resources on the back of the gold Name Essay sheet and the guidelines below.

For the November 6 class, you will need to have 2 saint names and something about each that you like / find interesting. This should be the result of your early research and should be written on a Notes page of your Confirmation journal (at the end of each section) so it is less easily lost.

#### Research Guidelines:

- Examples of good research you should do:
  - Ask your family and/or Sponsor(s) about saints who they admire or the saint for whom you have been named.
  - Look up the **meaning of your name**, including your middle name if you have one.
  - Go to a recommended saint website like **CatholicSaints.info** or Catholic Online (**catholic.org**) to search for saint names (including your first, middle, and/or last name), days that are special to you, or patrons of things important to you.
- Examples of poor research you should not do:
  - Ask **Google** to search for “saint (your name)” and hope you get something good.
  - Only rely on **Wikipedia**. It’s good for filling in facts after you find a saint you like, but not great for finding one in the first place. It can be hard to tell who the person really was and why he/she was a saint amid all Wikipedia’s details.
  - Assume that the saint whose biography you read and answered questions about in class, or whose card you prayed with at the end, has been **assigned** to you as your Confirmation Name saint. *We did these activities to show you a lot of saints, not to force one on you!*
  - Do **nothing**.

Begin now to **choose your Confirmation Name** and write the **Name Essay** which will be due right after Thanksgiving.

- **Track A / Religious Ed:** Monday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at Confirmation class

## REMINDERS – Track B

Our next class on Wednesday, November 8 is when your HOMEWORK will be due.

## HOMEWORK – Track B

**Part 1** Read/do **pages 37-40 in the textbook**

**Part 2** (*the first step of a long-term project*)

Begin working on Confirmation Name Essay by starting your research. **Use the resources on the back of the gold Name Essay sheet** and the guidelines below.

For the November 8 class, you will need to have **2 saint names** and **something about each that you like / find interesting**. This should be the result of your early research and should be written on a Notes page of your Confirmation journal (at the end of each section) so it is less easily lost.

### **Research Guidelines:**

- Examples of **good** research you **should** do:
  - Ask your family and/or Sponsor(s) about saints who they admire or the saint for whom you have been named.
  - Look up the **meaning of your name**, including your middle name if you have one.
  - Go to a recommended saint website like **CatholicSaints.info** or Catholic Online (**catholic.org**) to search for saint names (including your first, middle, and/or last name), days that are special to you, or patrons of things important to you.
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  - Ask **Google** to search for “saint (your name)” and hope you get something good.
  - Only rely on **Wikipedia**. It’s good for filling in facts after you find a saint you like, but not great for finding one in the first place. It can be hard to tell who the person really was and why he/she was a saint amid all Wikipedia’s details.
  - Assume that the saint **whose biography you read** and answered questions about in class, or **whose card you prayed with at the end**, has been **assigned** to you as your Confirmation Name saint. *We did these activities to show you a lot of saints, not to force one on you!*
  - Do **nothing**.

Begin now to **choose your Confirmation Name** and write the **Name Essay** which will be due the week after Thanksgiving.

- **Track B / Q of A School:** Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup> in Religion class