

Dear Confirmation Sponsor,

As you continue to mentor your candidate for the Sacrament of Confirmation please consider doing some special things together this Advent. I am providing you with a few suggestions for each week in Advent as a way to assist you in your role as a spiritual mentor for your Confirmation candidate.

I encourage you to spend some time together and review and discuss the Sunday Gospel. If you cannot attend Mass together, I am providing you with a link to the readings so that you have access to them for your discussion. Be sure to pray together throughout Advent and find some ways to put your faith into action!

Link to Weekly Readings: <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/120323.cfm>

Week 1: December 3, 2023

Scripture passage- MK 13:33-37

Questions to consider:

- What will you do differently during this Advent season to be ready for the coming of Jesus?
- Jesus says that he will return at a time we do not expect. What do you think it will be like when Jesus returns?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, help me to stay awake and be prepared for your return. Come into my heart this Advent season.

Live the Gospel: One way to be ready for Jesus is to do something for others with great love. Sacrifice some of your own time this week and visit, encourage or help someone else.

Week 2: December 10, 2023

Scripture passage- MK 1:1-8

Questions to consider:

- How are you preparing yourself spiritually for Jesus?
- How can you be like John the Baptist and help to prepare others for the coming of Jesus?

Prayer: Lord Jesus, I know that you will be my final judge. May you find my paths straight and my rough ways smooth.

Live the Gospel: Do an examination of conscience and see what behaviors you need to change to become more Christ-like. Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Week 3: December 17, 2023

Scripture passage- JN 1:6-8, 19-28

Questions to consider:

Soon you will be anointed and the gifts of the Holy Spirit will become even more bountiful within you. What gifts can you use now to help the people that God has put in your life? What Works of Mercy should you practice this week for those that you know are in need?

Prayer: John the Baptist, pray for me, that I may speak truth and witness to Jesus as you did.

Live the Gospel: Perform a Work of Mercy this week or share the power of the Good news in your life with someone.

Week 4: December 24, 2023

Scripture Passage: LK 1: 26-38

Questions to consider:

Mary was called “blessed” and she is considered to be the first disciple because she followed what God was asking of her. Are you open to the Word of God in your life? Would you do what God is asking of you even if it meant changing your entire life? What do you admire about Mary? What kind of mother do you think she was when Jesus was growing up?

Prayer: Mary, pray for me that I may know God’s will and have the courage to be obedient to it.

Live the Gospel: Listen to what God is asking you to do this week. As you pray, be sure to listen for a response. Say “yes” and take action if necessary.

The suggestions listed above are just that...suggestions. If you have a favorite Advent practice or devotional feel free to do that together. If you are unable to meet every week, choose one or two weeks and grow your faith together. The idea is that you take time this Advent, to stop and focus on the significance of the season. I encourage you to not let this opportunity pass you by as it pertains to your role as a sponsor for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

I hope and pray that you have a blessed Advent. If I can assist you in any way, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Blessings!

Rachael Hunyor, MA

Director of Faith Formation

St. Patrick of Heatherdowns Parish