



Support System – RETREAT MAKEUP

Candidate and Sponsor MAKEUP Assignment • Beginning the Year 1 journey together

Candidate: _____ Sponsor: _____

If you could not attend the retreat, complete these pages together in person or by FaceTime/ZOOM. Set aside unhurried time to listen and discuss; you may complete the work over more than one conversation. If completing this by FaceTime/ZOOM, please have a copy of the packet available to both the Candidate & Sponsor to complete your respective responses. Sponsors, scan or mail your responses to your Candidate to be included with their responses.

How to complete the assignment

- 1 Begin with the opening prayer and Getting to Know Each Other questions.
- 2 Complete the Journey and How We Will Walk Together reflections.
- 3 Read Acts 1:8 together, discuss the questions, and choose a next faithful step.
- 4 Pray the Sponsor prayer and the sending prayer together. Submit the completed pages for both Candidate & Sponsor responses, a copy of the letter, and the collage.
- 5 **Sponsor:** write and deliver your letter. **Candidate:** read it, make your collage, and explain your choices.

Opening prayer

Come, Holy Spirit. Help us listen with open hearts, speak honestly, and recognize how you are already at work in our lives. Bless the journey we begin together. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Getting to know each other

Take turns. Choose the questions that help you begin a real conversation. You can pass on any question and come back to it later.

Candidate asks Sponsor

What do you like to do on a free day?

What is something you are excited about these days?

What is a place that feels like home to you?

Who encouraged you when you were my age?

What is one way you connect with God?

Sponsor asks Candidate

What do you like to do on a free day?

What is something you are excited about these days?

What is a place that feels like home to you?

Who has helped you feel supported?

What is one question you have about faith or Confirmation?

Where are we starting?

Beginning a journey does not require being certain about every step. Each of you: circle any words that describe where you are today:

CURIOUS UNSURE LEARNING GROWING CONNECTED READY TO GO DEEPER

Candidate and Sponsor: take a quiet minute to write, then share. Listen without correcting each other's answers.

Candidate • What do you hope to discover over these two years?

Sponsor • What do you hope your Candidate discovers about God and themselves?

Together • What would help us speak honestly with one another?

How we will walk together

A Sponsor walks beside a Candidate: listening, praying, sharing the example of a lived faith, and showing up. Neither person needs to know every answer.

Write separately first. Then read your answers to one another. Ask a follow-up question if you want to understand more.

CANDIDATE

When I have questions, it would help if my Sponsor...

When I am unsure about faith, I would appreciate...

One thing I want you to know about me is...

SPONSOR

You can count on me to...

When I do not know an answer, I will...

One way I can support you this year is...

You will be my witnesses

Read Acts 1:8. Jesus promises the Holy Spirit and sends his followers to be his witnesses.
If possible, practice lectio divina (a contemplative prayer practice) with this Scripture passage.

What word or idea in the passage stands out to you?

What might it mean to be a witness to Jesus in ordinary life?

Sponsor • Share a time when someone's faith encouraged you, or when you tried to live your faith in a small way.

Our next faithful step

Choose one doable way to connect in the coming month. Keep it simple enough that you can follow through.

- ☐ Pray for each other this week
- ☐ Attend Mass together
- ☐ Talk over a meal or phone call
- ☐ Read a short Scripture passage together
- ☐ Another step _____

Our plan • What will we do, and when?

A letter from Sponsor to Candidate

Sponsor: write a personal letter affirming your willingness to accompany your Candidate. Name a quality or gift you see in them. Share one piece of guidance that has helped you make good choices or stay close to God, and explain how you turn to God when life is challenging. Write in your own voice; you do not need perfect answers. Give or send the letter to your Candidate, and provide a copy to submit with the assignment.

A collage in response

Candidate: after reading the letter, create a collage that shows how you heard and understood your Sponsor's message. Use images, words, colors, and symbols to express the guidance that mattered to you and a hope you have for your Confirmation journey. You can draw, use magazine or book clippings, or print images. Make it personal rather than trying to make it perfect.

Use poster board no larger than 14 × 22 inches. Write your full name and "Small Group Name" or "SEAS" on the back. Attach a copy of the Sponsor letter so your collage can be understood alongside the message that inspired it.

Candidate • Which part of the letter did you choose to show, and why?

Sponsor • What did you learn by seeing how your Candidate interpreted your letter?

Sponsor prayer

Sponsor: pray this aloud for your Candidate, inserting their name.

Lord, thank you for _____ and for the journey beginning together. Open their heart to your Spirit. Help me recognize the good you are already doing in their life. Make me an instrument of your love: patient when I do not understand, ready to listen, and willing to share my faith by example. Guide both of us as we walk toward Confirmation. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

What to submit

- ☐ These completed reflection pages
- ☐ A copy of the Sponsor letter
- ☐ The Candidate collage with full name and your “Small Group Name” or “SEAS” on the back

HOW TO SUBMIT:

- To Mrs. Pott at your ONE EIGHT class night
- Through the Parish Office or Office of Religious Education, marked, **ATTN: Mrs. Pott**
- SEAS students may also submit to **Mrs. McAvoy-Jensen**

Due date: No later than December 3, 2026