# MY COVENANT OF FAITH

## AS A CATHOLIC CHRISTIAN BELIEVER, I AFFIRM THE GOSPEL MESSAGE OF SALVATION:

- I understand that the world as we now know it is not how God intended it to be.
  - o God created the world in truth, goodness, beauty, and love for our happiness.
  - o However, we went our separate ways from God, resulting in evil, sin, and death.
- I accept Christ as our Savior who shows us the way back to true faith in God.
  - o I am a forgiven sinner who has been restored to God's grace through Christ.
  - o The death and resurrection of Christ is what makes salvation possible for me.
- I believe that the Church is the Faith Community through which Christ saves us.
  - I receive the saving grace of the Spirit through the celebration of the sacraments.
  - o I am committed to a Catholic Christian lifestyle at the core of my personal identity.

## As a Member of my Parish Community, I endorse these Faith Commitments:

- I will live a Christian life according to the teachings of the Catholic Church, as found in the Holy Bible and as explained in the Catholic Catechism.
  - o The Ten Commandments of God are my norms for Christian morality.
  - o The Seven Virtues are my path to holiness and salvation in Christ.
- I will live a sacramental life by participating in Holy Mass each Sunday, and by receiving Holy Communion worthily through regular Confession.
  - o The Six Precepts of the Church are the basis for my Christian lifestyle.
  - The New Commandment of Christ is the basis for my Christian identity.
- I will support the social and charitable programs of my parish community by my offertory donations and by regular participation in our parish events.
  - o The social activities of my parish lead me into deeper spiritual friendships.
  - The charitable activities of my parish lead me into greater works of mercy.

<u>CATECHISM OF THE HEART</u>: When we know Christ personally as our Savior, we want to know more about him and his teachings. These cumulative lessons will provide us with a working vocabulary that not only helps us to understand Christ better, but also to share Christ with others.

- 1. Basic Prayers: Basic Christian prayers for everyday use
- 2. Mass Prayers: Mass responses committed to memory
- 3. Conversion: Confession prayers for our regular use
- 4. Sacraments: The Seven Sacraments of our salvation
- **5. Commands:** The Ten Commandments of the Covenant
- **6. Precepts:** The Six Precepts of the Catholic Church
- 7. Holiness: The Seven Virtues and the Apostles' Creed
- **8. Spirituality:** The Seven Gifts and the Four Spiritual Laws Additional lessons 9-12 complete the Catechism of the Heart



ANSWERS FROM THE HEART: Three questions from the Catechism of the Heart show us how to practice our Catholic Christian Lifestyle authentically. They also teach us how we can identify as Catholic Christians in both our personal and public lives with full transparency and candor.

- What difference does Jesus Christ make in how I understand what my life is all about?
  - o Why am I here? What is the purpose of life? And what happens to me when I die?
  - o How can I understand and promote the gospel of salvation for myself and others?
- What difference does Jesus Christ make in how I live out my daily life as a believer?
  - What does it mean for me to have a conscience that is formed and informed by Christ?
  - o How do I make moral decisions in my daily life as a faithful Catholic Christian believer?
- How will I keep connected to Jesus Christ as a Catholic Christian throughout my life?
  - What is my "Plan of Life," that is, my personal strategy for living a truly Christian life?
  - o What is my role in our parish community that supports my faith commitment to Christ?

THREE SPIRITUAL KEYS: Evangelization, Catechesis, and Actualization are the keys to being "spiritually religious" as well as being "religiously spiritual" as devoted Catholic Christians. These three spiritual keys move us beyond cultural Catholicism to full Missionary Discipleship.

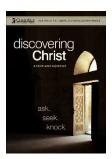
- **Evangelization:** When we are in a meaningful personal relationship with Christ, we want to reach out to others so that we may introduce them to Christ in the community of his Church.
- Catechesis: Knowing not just "about Christ," but actually "knowing Christ" personally, we can then love him more dearly and serve him more fully in the community of his holy Church.
- Actualization: What we experience in Christ, read in the Scriptures, understand in the Catechism, and receive in the Sacraments, results in a truly Catholic Christian Lifestyle.

# THE CHRISTLIFE COURSE

## TRAINING FOR THE NEW EVANGELIZATION

## **DISCOVERING CHRIST: COME FOR THE EXPERIENCE!** — ANNUAL FALL SESSIONS

- 1. What is the meaning of life?
- 2. Why does Jesus matter?
- 3. What does Jesus want us to know?
- 4. Why do we need a Savior?
- 5. Why is the Resurrection important?
- 6. Retreat: The Holy Spirit and you!
- 7. New Life in the Spirit!
- 8. Why do we need the Church?



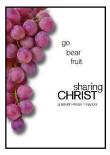
## FOLLOWING CHRIST: STAY FOR THE JOURNEY! - ANNUAL WINTER SESSIONS

- 1. Introduction and Daily Personal Prayer
- 2. Hearing God in Scripture
- 3. The Power of the Sacraments
- 4. Forgiving One Another
- 5. The Spirit-Empowered Life
- 6. Retreat: Spiritual Victory
- 7. The Heart of a Disciple
- 8. Going On with the Lord



## SHARING CHRIST: GO FORTH ON A MISSION! - ANNUAL SPRING SESSIONS

- 1. Called to Share Christ
- 2. Befriending Others
- 3. Sharing Your Story
- 4. The Power to Share Christ
- 5. Sharing the Good News
- 6. Inviting Others to Meet Jesus
- 7. Retreat: Put Out into the Deep



The **ChristLife** course provides effective training for the New Evangelization. Upon its spiritual foundation, intentional discipleship is promoted to develop a genuine Catholic Christian lifestyle. Please check out the ChristLife.org website for more information about this spiritual course.

## **INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP**

## **ONGOING FAITH FORMATION RESOURCES**

## **Prayer Partner Groups**

- ChristLife small groups continue to meet regularly for prayer, study, and charity.
- ChristLife discussion points: discovering, following, and sharing Christ in daily life.

#### **Parish Faith Formation**

- ChristLife graduates make excellent Catechists for our children and youth!
- ChristLife graduates yearn for even more adult faith formation experiences.

## **Parish Involvements**

- ChristLife graduates are actively involved in our parish liturgical and music ministries.
- ChristLife graduates are actively involved in our parish charitable and social activities.

## **More Spiritual Resources**

- MyCatholic.Life: My Catholic Faith, My Catholic Worship, My Catholic Morals
- Parish and Diocesan Adult Formation programs, courses, and spiritual events



LORD JESUS CHRIST, SON OF GOD, HAVE MERCY ON ME, A SINNER.

FILL ME WITH YOUR SPIRIT SO THAT I MAY LIVE A NEW LIFE.

HELP ME TO KNOW YOU, TO LOVE YOU, AND TO SERVE YOU IN THIS WORLD,

SO THAT I MAY BE HAPPY WITH YOU BOTH NOW AND FOR ALL ETERNITY.

THANK YOU, LORD. AMEN.