



Confirmed in Love

Before You Begin

- Print the Chapter 4 BLM: Saints of Mercy found at the end of this document.
- Download and print the Chapter 4 Prayer Service: Showing Love.
- Have a Bible available during the session for reference.
- Make sure your child has his or her *My Confirmation Journal* to record any insights during the session and to do the activities on pages 31–40 after the session.
- If you have the *Faith to Faith* magazine, encourage your child to use it to reflect on the session with his or sponsor.

Engage: Page 37

- ◆ You might choose to begin by reviewing the previous chapter. Invite your child to recall important concepts from Chapter 3.
- ◆ Invite your child to open his or her book to page 37. Read aloud the chapter title and discuss the questions with your child. You can find additional conversation starters for this chapter at www.loyolapress.com/CISconversations.
- ◆ Have your child turn to pages 97–98. Say: **The Holy Spirit helps us follow the Beatitudes and the Ten Commandments. We use these as guideposts to examine how we can live as Jesus wants us to in our everyday lives.** Explain that the Beatitudes and Ten Commandments help us make good choices in our lives.
- ◆ Pray together the words on page 37 from the Collect of the Mass for Pentecost.

Explore: Pages 38–45

- ◆ Have your child read aloud the Scripture passage on page 38. Read aloud *Understanding Scripture*. Say: **The Beatitudes fulfill the promises that God made to Abraham and describe the rewards that will be ours as loyal followers of Christ. If we live the guidelines that Jesus has given us, our lives will be blessed.**
- ◆ Take turns reading aloud *Scripture and You*. Ask: **How are the Beatitudes different from the Ten Commandments?** (*The Beatitudes offer a new way of life for us.*) **Who can make us truly happy?** (*God*) **How can we be truly happy?** (*Trust God.*) **Who sustains us as we walk the path that leads to true happiness?** (*Holy Spirit*)
- ◆ Ask your child to spend a few moments silently reading *Reflecting on God's Word*. Allow time for reflection. Invite your child to record any insights in his or her journal.
- ◆ Take turns reading *Called to Be Free* on page 39. Ask: **What are the three requirements for making a good moral choice?** (*The action must be good. Our intention must be good. The circumstances must be considered.*)
- ◆ Invite your child to read silently *Conscience: Where We Hear God Speak* on pages 39 and 40. Direct your child's attention to the Examination of Conscience on page 103 and guide him or her through the steps.

- ◆ Say: **Our actions can speak for us and can tell others that we are followers of Jesus.** Read aloud the first paragraph of the section *Actions Speak Louder Than Words* on page 40. Invite your child to read silently the situations. Invite your child to write in the *My Confirmation Journal* about times when he or she acted in the ways described. Read aloud the next paragraph, and have your child complete the My Turn activity.
- ◆ Read aloud *Christian Love* on pages 41 and 42. Have your child draw four concentric circles on a sheet of paper, labeling the center circle “People I Love,” the second circle “People I Like,” the third circle “People I Have Difficulty Getting Along With,” and the outer circle “People I Don’t Know.” Say: **Think about the people you would place in each circle.** Ask: **How do you show Christian love to each group?** Have your child use a Bible to complete the My Turn activity on page 41.
- ◆ Invite your child to read silently the first two paragraphs of *Christian Service* on page 42. Ask: **What are some examples of each corporal work of mercy?** (*Answers may vary.*)
- ◆ Invite your child to read silently the first paragraph on page 43. Ask: **What are some examples of each spiritual work of mercy?** (*Answers may vary.*) Take turns reading aloud the remaining paragraphs on page 43. Say: **One of the ways we show Jesus’ love for all people is by making sure everyone is treated fairly and justly.**
- ◆ Have your child complete the My Turn activity on page 43. If your child needs help, offer the following examples: Mark 6:34–44, John 2:1–11, Mark 5:21–34
- ◆ Read aloud Mark 10:42–44. Ask: **What do you think this passage is about? What does Jesus mean?** (*Everyone who wishes to be great can and should serve others. Whoever wishes to be great must first serve.*)
- ◆ Have your child read aloud the first paragraph of *Practicing Christian Service* on page 44. If your child has had the opportunity to be involved in service, allow time for him or her to complete the bulleted statements in the *My Confirmation Journal*. If your child is preparing to participate in service, encourage him or her to complete the statements after the service experience.

Rite: Page 42

- ◆ Say: **The power of touch is very strong. Likewise, touch is significant in the sacraments.** Ask: **In which sacraments is the laying on of hands part of the sacramental rite?** (*Baptism, Confirmation, Holy Orders, the Anointing of the Sick*)
- ◆ Invite your child to read aloud *Rite* on page 42 followed by you reading aloud *Meaning*. Say: **In Confirmation, the bishop asks God to impart the gifts of the Holy Spirit by extending his hands over the candidates.**
- ◆ Read aloud *Daily Life* on page 42. Say: **Using our hands to care and help others is a way we honor the Spirit working within us.**
- ◆ Have your child read aloud *Life of Faith* on page 42. Say: **We are all members of the community of believers. We show that by giving the Sign of Peace at Mass. Other ways we serve the Church are through the works of mercy.**

Witness: Page 44

- ◆ Invite your child to read silently the *Witness* section on page 44. Say: **Saint Teresa of Calcutta is commonly known as Mother Teresa. She would want you to remember that you don't have to travel to foreign countries to practice the virtue of charity.** Discuss with your child ways your family can help those in your community who are in need.
- ◆ Distribute photocopies of Chapter 4 BLM: Saints of Mercy. The activity will invite your child to match saints with works of mercy.

Act and Pray: Page 45

- ◆ Read aloud the *Act* section on page 45. Say: **Jesus preached his message to all, proclaiming that they are welcome in the Kingdom of God. Like Saint Teresa of Calcutta, we demonstrate our faith in Jesus when we show kindness and care toward those who are deprived of their rights.**
- ◆ Invite your child to read aloud the *Pray* section and discuss the questions together. Say: **Sometimes it is difficult to know how to act like Jesus. The Beatitudes serve as our guide on how to live the way Jesus wants us to live.**

Reflect: Page 46

- ◆ Tell your child that you are going to celebrate a prayer service that will focus on the Beatitudes. Proceed to your family's prayer space.
- ◆ Point out that making good moral choices is difficult because of temptation. However, the Holy Spirit helps us discern right from wrong. Explain to your child that through prayer, we are able to overcome temptation. Also remind him or her that Jesus is always with us to support us in making the right choices in our lives.
- ◆ Choose who will read the parts for the Leader. You and your child will both read the parts labeled "All." Lead by example, participating actively and with reverence.
- ◆ Pray Showing Love on page 46. Adapt it to your circumstances if needed. Observe the periods of silence and keep a prayerful pace. Allow time in between sections for reflection.
- ◆ Pause for a moment of silence before concluding.

Respond: Page 47–48

- ◆ Read aloud the Faith Summary section on page 47. Ask: **What are we called to do as Catholics?** (*Love as Jesus loved.*) **How are we called to love God and others?** (*Live the Commandments and the Beatitudes, and practice the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.*)
- ◆ Read aloud the Remember section. Make sure your child understands the main points of the chapter.
- ◆ Encourage your child to write in the *My Confirmation Journal* to enter more deeply into this chapter. The corresponding pages to this chapter are 31–40. Remind your child that no one else will read his or her journal.
- ◆ Ask your child to choose one Reach Out item to complete and to reflect privately on the outcomes.



- ◆ Read aloud the Words to Know and review the definitions. Complete definitions can be found in the Glossary on pages 115–118 and in the online Glossary.
- ◆ Encourage your child and his or her sponsor to reflect on this chapter as they strengthen their relationship and grow in their faith. They may want to use the *Faith to Faith* magazine.
- ◆ Conclude the chapter by praying together the closing prayer on page 47. Encourage your child to use this prayer throughout the week.
- ◆ Your child can use the review activities on page 48 to review and reinforce the key concepts of this chapter.
- ◆ Use the following questions to check your child's comprehension of the chapter:
 - ◆ Can your child describe the differences and similarities between the Beatitudes and the Ten Commandments?
 - ◆ Can your child identify the three requirements for making a good decision?
 - ◆ How well can your child define the corporal and spiritual works of mercy and explain their importance?

Name _____

Date _____

Saints of Mercy

Read the description of each saint. Then write the Work of Mercy that best fits the saint. Some items may have more than one correct answer.



1. John Bosco believed that young people develop character and virtue in an atmosphere of love. He helped orphaned or neglected boys by teaching them to know God and to practice a skill.

2. John Chrysostom was renowned for his preaching. In A.D. 397 people were tempted to doubt their faith and believe heresies. John guided them to have faith.

3. Martin de Porres, the son of a former African slave and a Spanish nobleman, cared for those who were sick and poor. He forgave those who mistreated him because of his race.

4. Frances of Rome was the wife of a nobleman and a devoted mother. She went to the hospital every day to nurse those who were sick. During a plague, she turned part of her house into a hospital.

5. Margaret of Scotland cared for those who were poor. She washed and served them herself. Margaret made sure they had food and drink.

6. Vincent de Paul wrote more than three thousand letters. He counseled people to forget their own sorrows and to think of others.

7. Louise de Marillac was a friend of Vincent de Paul. She formed the Daughters of Charity in the 17th century. They went into hospitals and cared for the dying and saw that even the poorest person had a decent burial.

8. Francis of Assisi was disowned by his family when he gave up all his possessions. Francis offered up this wrong and continued to practice charity.

9. Before becoming a bishop, Martin of Tours was a soldier. One winter night he saw a shivering man begging at the city gate. Martin cut his own cloak in two and gave one half to the man.

10. Peter Claver saw the misery of those who were enslaved. He dedicated his life to caring for these imprisoned people. He would run to the port with medicine when the slave ships arrived.
