

1 - In paragraphs 897 to 913 of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, we read about the role of the laity (all of us who are not priests or consecrated religious brothers and sisters). As the laity, our role is a special one: we are on the "front line" of the Church's life and are able to spread Jesus's message to the people in the places who most need to hear it. Through our Baptism and Confirmation, we share in Jesus's threefold ministry as priest, prophet, and king.

Talk with your sponsor about the ways in which each of you participates in Jesus's ministry.

Priestly role... (*Refer to CCC paragraph 901*)

1. How do you participate in the sacraments?
2. How do you offer all of the daily works (job, chores, responsibilities, etc) to the Lord?
3. How do you offer your sufferings up as sacrifices for God's glory?
4. How do you offer your way of life (single, married, young, old, working, relaxing, etc) as things that can bring glory to God?
5. Who and what do you pray for?

Prophetic role... (*Refer to CCC paragraph 904 and 905*)

1. In what ways do you seek out opportunities to be a witness for God in your daily life? What kinds of things do you do? What does your witness look like?

Kingly role... (*Refer to CCC paragraphs 909 and 910*)

1. How do you share your time, talents, and treasure in the wider community to help build up God's kingdom here on Earth?
2. How do you share your time, talents, and treasure with your church to collaborate with the work entrusted by God to His Church?

2 - Recall the essential prayers of our Catholic faith. Record the words of each prayer and then talk with your sponsor / padrino about what each one means in your own words, and some reasons why you pray each one.

Our Father / Padre Nuestro...

Hail Mary / Dios te salva, Maria

Glory be / Gloria al Padre ...

Your Act of Contrition...

A Catholic prayer of your choosing...

3 - Read Matthew 5: 3- 12. Our Church teaches us that the Beatitudes outline the promises that Jesus taught us about how God wants us to be happy because they “shed light on the actions and attitudes that characteristic of the Christian life.”

Talk with your sponsor / padrino about how God’s idea of the happy life is different from the world’s idea of a happy life. (*Refer to CCC paragraphs 1716 - 1724*)

4 - Recall that God created man to have free will so that we can choose to love God, follow Him, and pattern our lives after His own. Also recall that we hear the voice of God in our consciences telling us what we should do and what we should avoid doing. Our virtues, the the concrete habits and actions formed over long periods of time making choices, help to reinforce the kind of life that we live.

Read paragraphs 1805 - 1809 in the Catechism of the Catholic Church about the cardinal virtues.

Talk with your sponsor / padrino what each virtue looks like in their life and some habits you can develop or actions you can take to practice in your life to work on each one.

A - Prudence:

B - Temperance:

C - Justice:

D - Fortitude:

5 - The cardinal virtues can be learned and practiced like any other skill. Any virtuous person is happy to practice them. With God's help, the cardinal virtues build character lead to greater capacity for a happy life. However, our sins frequently cause us to fall out of balance and thus we need God's help to sort things back out. (Remember when your first learned to ride a bike?)

The theological virtues are given to us by God so that we may live in relationship with the Holy Trinity. God infuses these virtues into our souls so that we become capable of acting as his children and therefore become worthy to share in eternal life.

Read paragraphs 1814 - 1829 about the theological virtues and talk with your sponsor / padrino about the ways each of you is drawn closer to God, to your family, friends, and neighbors by each of the theological virtues

Faith -

Hope -

Love -

6 - Look up and record a definition for each of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit:

A - Wisdom:

B - Understanding:

C - Counsel:

D - Fortitude:

E - Knowledge:

F - Piety:

G - Fear of the Lord:

Then, with your sponsor / padrino, choose three of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and share with each other how you feel that gift at work in your life and some reasons why you are thankful to God for those gifts. Record some notes from your conversation.

7 - Use the chart below to journal about some things you did that helped you to exercise each one of the twelve fruits of the Spirit.

	Activity	How did you notice the Holy Spirit at work?
Charity		
Joy		
Peace		
Patience		
Kindness		
Goodness		
Generosity		
Gentleness		
Faithfulness		
Modesty		
Self-Control		
Chastity		

