

St. Susanna Youth Ministry
FYI Assessment Discussion Tool 09

These surveys were designed to help teens and parents talk about faith, faith development and religious practices. The survey is intentionally brief. Some questions focus on articulation of faith – since faith itself can not be measured. Other questions can be used as a measurement of behavior, which is often how belief is demonstrated.

Below is the set of characteristics of mature Catholic faith from which the survey was developed. These indicators were compiled from many sources (*sources are listed below) by a subcommittee of the Working Youth Board.

A. Sustaining a personal relationship with Jesus Christ supported through regular prayer, faith sharing and scripture reading and by being aware of the presence of Christ in one's life.

1. I think it is important to spend time being aware of Christ's presence in my life and my relationship with God.
2. I take time for prayer every day.
3. I read the Bible regularly.
4. I am comfortable talking about my faith.
5. I feel close to God.

B. Sharing the Good News openly through words and actions, through Christian service and working for peace, justice and human dignity.

6. I am aware that other people can tell that I am a Christian by what I say and what I do.
7. I think Catholics have an obligation to help others.
8. I have a regular way to do Christian service.
9. I respect my family and friends and even those I don't particularly like and those I don't know.

C. Preferring to participate fully, consciously, actively and regularly in the celebrations of the sacramental life of the Catholic Church.

10. I willingly go to Mass weekly and participate in the Eucharist.
11. I usually say the prayers out loud and sing during Mass.
12. I think it is important to go to reconciliation regularly.
13. I try to understand what it means to live out my baptism.

D. Articulating the fundamental teachings of the Catholic faith and demonstrating a commitment to learning and growing in this faith.

14. I regularly participate in ongoing personal faith development either through my church or on my own.
15. I can explain to others about my religion and our practices.

E. Discerning and using one's gifts of time, talent and treasure to actively belong to and participate in the life and mission of the parish, school, and larger community.

16. I am aware that my talents are gifts from God and
17. I feel that I am obligated to share my gifts (time, talent, treasure) for the good of the community.
18. I give my own money to the church without my parents making me.

F. Applying Catholic ethics, virtues, principles, values and social teaching to moral decision-making, life situations, and in interactions with the larger culture.

19. I put a high value on telling right from wrong and trying to do the right thing.
20. My faith and beliefs affect how I live my life and the decisions I make.
21. I think that I need to stand up to my friends if they are doing something that I think is wrong.
22. I try to understand what Catholics teach about justice and try to live it out.

G. Celebrating cultural/racial and ethnic diversity as a gift from God, and pursuing the development of Christian community across cultural/racial and ethnic backgrounds in their parishes, schools, and broader communities.

23. I have friends of different cultural or racial backgrounds.
24. I feel comfortable being challenged about my belief system.
25. I reach out to those who are different from me.

H. Exploring God's call to vocation through prayer, reflection, and discernment.

26. I often wonder what God is calling me to do with my life.
27. I take time to pray and reflect for God's answer.

I. Maintaining an adult relationship of trust, respect and an open line of communication with one's parents.

28. I usually tell my parents the truth.
29. I care what my parents think.
30. I trust that my parents make decisions in my best interest.

* This list was adapted from a list compiled by the National Initiative on Adolescent Catechesis in their 2009 document "Vision and Outcomes Statement." That document used the following References:
Libreria Editrice Vaticana. *Catechism of the Catholic Church (Second Edition)*. Washington, DC: USCC, 1997.
Libreria Editrice Vaticana. *General Directory for Catechesis*. Washington, DC: USCC, 1997.
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops. *National Directory for Catechesis*. Washington, DC: USCCB, 2005.
National Conference of Catholic Bishops. *Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry*. Washington, DC: USCC, 1997.
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