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**BOOK THEME:**

**WHAT ARE THE ABC'S OF BEING CATHOLIC?**

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This book is meant to be a guide to help you lead your team's weekly meeting and activities. There is one service project and 6 weeks of activities per book. The final week is meant to be a hands on apostolic service project with your team. Use your team leader guidebook as a workbook where you write in it, plan and prepare your team activities. You will find other helpful things for the activities on your Team Leader online resource center.

## THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:

Each weekly meeting is an opportunity to help your team members discover something new about God, themselves and the world around them. We all have questions in our hearts and Conquest gives you a unique way to work together to discover the answers to those questions. In Conquest, we have a special way to help the boys discover the answers to their questions:

**EXPERIENCE → CONNECT → DECIDE**



# HOW to USE this GUIDEBOOK

This guidebook is intended for your personal use, the Conquest “teen” team leader, (ideally 2-3 years older than the boys you are leading). The team leader is the most important role in the group, and the success of the team is directly proportionate to your generosity in giving your time and talent for your team of boys entrusted to you. This cannot be taken lightly. This is your mission. In order to help foster this dedication and leadership, the Conquest adult leader is present to actively encourage and motivate you. Ideally he will be reviewing your planning and preparation each week, offering his support, suggestions, and critique, all to form you into the true leader God calls you to be, with an apostolic heart on fire for Christ and His Church! Don’t forget to ask him for your password to the Team Leader online resource center on the Conquest website. This guidebook is broken down into the following areas:

**1. PROJECT OVERVIEW SECTION:** This is a complete overview of the entire proposed apostolic service project the team should complete in the weeks allocated. Of course you are free to choose any optional project from the online resources or even create your own!

## INTRODUCTION PAGE:

**Project Name and Logo:** This states the suggested name and logo for the apostolic project.

**Serves:** This indicates who or what is aided. (Poor, Family, Church, Friends, Sick & Elderly, or Community)

**Time Frame:** This indicates the time of year best to apply this apostolic project.

**Present the Need To My Team:** This area contains some questions for you to pose to the team to incite discussions on the particular topic that will lead them to the apostolate. It also may contain some references that you can use (Catechism, YouCat, Gospel verses, stories, etc.) to help you motivate the team.

**Called to Serve:** This is a summary of the apostolic project, and what the team is called to do to directly meet the need.

**WEEKLY PROJECT PLANNING:** This section lists the activities and planning suggestions to be taken week by week along with the appropriate question of the week.

## TACTICS BY AREAS

**Location:** The suggested place(s) where the project should be executed, along with some practical advice for the location planning.

**Provisions:** A list of items and materials needed to carry out the project.

**Responsibilities:** Since each boy needs a responsibility, this suggests some specific ones that will be needed for the project.

## SPECIAL SYMBOLS



Indicates a moment to ask the boys a question and get them talking



Indicates you will need a computer or tablet to watch a video clip online



Indicates a reference or quote from the YouCat (Youth Catechism)



Indicates indoor or outdoor activity



15



30



45



60

Indicates the amount of approximate time needed for an activity (15 min's to 1 hour)

**DEBRIEFING:** This area helps you to plan out the final details of the project including any last minute instructions for the team.

**Special Ops:** Provides key elements and best practices for the team's success.

**Contingency Plans:** This provides variations of the project. Depending on circumstances, projects can be varied to meet needs of the team or local area.

**Roll Call- Organizing the team:** This is where you can put the pertinent contact information for all those helping with this project including team members, adult volunteers and other contacts.

**Appendices:** Some projects may have an appendix which gives you an example or references that may be helpful for how certain aspects of the project can be done.

**Project Notes:** This area is left blank for you to write down any pertinent information for you to refer back to for this project.

## 2. WEEKLY ACTIVITIES:

**PLAN & PREP:** Each week you should review the weekly activity plan with the adult club mentor who can share some tips to help you better prepare for that next weeks activities. Each weekly activity has a "Prep and Plan" section to help you understand the theme.

**Question of the Week:** This is the actual theme to discuss and you need to gear all the activities to help answer this question.

**Need we are Responding To:** This presents the deeper need or reason why we ask this question.

**Convictions & Decisions:** These are ideas and decisions you are trying to help your team understand. Hopefully by the end of the meeting they are ready to live differently.

**What is the answer to the question?** Brief and summarized answer to present to the team.

**Main Ideas:** Usually a few ideas that help answer the question. Ideally, it is best to use this as a personal resource only for you to gain an understanding and come up with ideas to transmit this theme to the team. It is not meant to be read word for word, but rather summarized in your own words and stories.

**What does the catechism say about this question?** YouCat numbers are listed and quoted to help better answer the question of the week.

**How would you summarize the answer and main ideas in your own words?** A place for you to take notes to present the question and answer points to your team.



**YOU WILL SEE THESE ICONS IN  
THE GUIDEBOOK TO HELP YOU.**



Indicates videos  
on the Conquest  
YouTube Channel  
Team Leader  
Playlist



Indicates  
materials you  
will need for  
the activity



Very important!  
Indicates there are  
additional materials on  
the Team Leader  
online resource center



# HOW to USE this GUIDEBOOK

**This weeks meeting at A glance:** A breakdown of the 6 steps of the weekly meeting and approximate time per step.

**Material you will need for this week's meeting:** A list of supplies and materials for you to plan ahead of time to bring. Adult leaders should help you obtain them.

**What is on the team leader online resource center for this week?:** A list of files, handouts and videos you will need for the activities.

## EXECUTE: TEAM ACTIVITY TIMELINE

After you prepare, there are 6 steps to execute each week during your Conquest weekly activity.

**STEP 1 - SPORTS & GAMES:** Some suggestions are offered for an active activity that also ties in with the theme.

**STEP 2 - GETTING STARTED:** Always take attendance and choose someone to lead the opening prayer.

**STEP 3 - EXPERIENCE: -> DYNAMIC ACTIVITY:** This is the formative activity that will help you answer the question and get across the key ideas of the weekly theme. You want the boys to have an experience that helps them to better understand the question and the answer. Usually a game and video(s) for discussion.

### STEP 4- CONNECT

**TO CHRIST -> GOSPEL READING & REFLECTION:** One member should be chosen to read the Gospel passage. At the end, instruct the members that there will be 1-2 minutes of silence. You then ask if anyone would like to share any lights or inspirations. Insights and questions are also provided to assist you in leading the boys.

**TO OTHERS-> SAINTS & INSPIRATIONAL STORIES:** This is the time when you can tell them the story of a saint or modern day hero who also had this question of the week and found an answer.

**STEP 5- DECIDE -> TEAM COMMITMENTS:** The final connection should be to the boys own lives and they should want to live differently and make a decision – individually and as a team to do something that week. Suggestions are offered here for a commitment that the team can do. Review last weeks commitments, and how many team members fulfilled it.

**STEP 6 - PROJECT TIME & WRAP UP:** Review the previous weeks planning, action items and record this weeks new actions to be completed. Wrap up and closing prayer.

## 3. PROJECT EVALUATION

This area is great to evaluate how well the team did overall for this project. There are questions for you to answer and review with the Adult leader and your team.

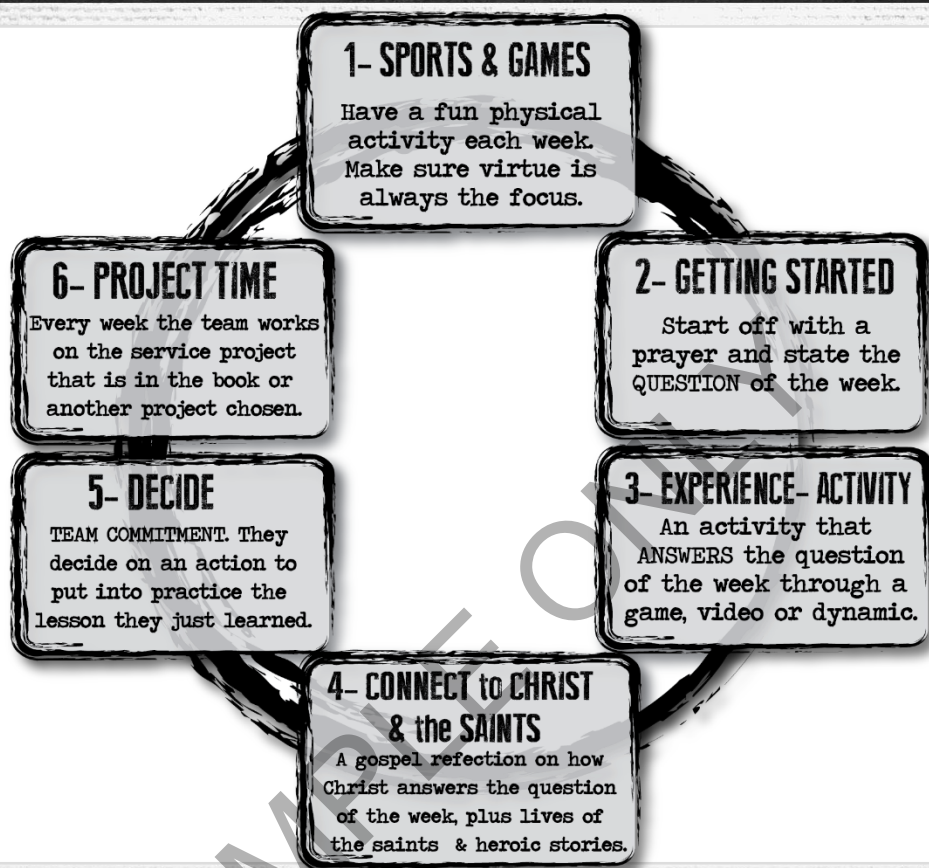
### IMPORTANT NOTE:

You will need to access the following websites for resources for this team leader guidebook.

[www.ConquestYouthMinistry.com](http://www.ConquestYouthMinistry.com) : Click on “Resources” along the top menu, then click on the “Login” button under the Team Leader Resource Center & Training section. Make sure to obtain your password from your Conquest Adult Leader. Also, he should ask you to watch the Team Leader Online Training Modules, take the short quiz at the end, and print your certificate and provide it to him.

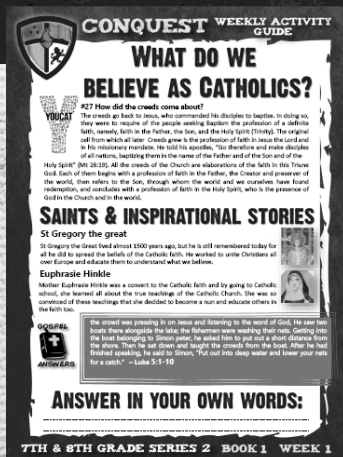
# THE 6 PARTS OF THE CONQUEST WEEKLY MEETING

**FOLLOW THE TABS ON THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGES TO KNOW WHAT PART OF THE MEETING YOU ARE ON.**



1 2 3 **4** 5 6

## THE WEEKLY GUIDE SHEET HANDOUTS



The Team Leader online resource center has the weekly meeting guide sheets that you can print and hand out each week to your team members. You or the Adult Leader can also email them to the member's parents so they can see what their son learned and discussed that week.

### EACH MEETING GUIDE SHEET HAS:

- The question of the week and a few YouCat numbers that help answer the question
- A passage from the Gospel that helps answer the question
- A recap or quote from the saint and stories of the week that help answer the question
- A place to jot down the answer of the week in your own words.





## SERVICE PROJECT:

# DEFEND TO THE END!

## PRESENTING THE NEED TO MY TEAM

- Have you ever heard anyone criticize the Church?
- What are your feelings when you hear someone attack your Church?
- Are you afraid to stand up and defend the Church to the end?
- Do you know how to defend particular questions well?
- The Church was founded 2000 years ago by Christ Himself and she now
- stands as a beacon of hope amidst a stormy sea bombarded on every side by enemies of every type.
- What can we tell people about the Church?
- What can we do to share the truth about the Church with those that may be misinformed?
- Jesus depends on you alone, but together as a team, let's help our families grow in our faith and become more excited about it!



## OUR CALL TO SERVE

Together as a team, we will conduct a faith survey in public places and find out how much the world needs Christ and his Church.

**“The Church was founded  
2000 years ago by Christ  
Himself.”**

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

WEEK	STEPS	QUESTION OF THE WEEK
1	<b>Plan:</b> Together with the adult leaders, plan on the best public places to go to conduct the faith survey. Permission may be needed well in advance for places like public malls, etc. Ideally, week #4 would be the first survey in public, and week #8 would be a follow up visit to talk to people and hand out prepared information.	What do we believe as Catholics?
2	<b>Prepare Survey:</b> This week the boys should spend time preparing and choosing the questions that they are going to ask people on the faith survey. It is imperative that the adult leaders help train the boys with the answers to specific questions they may need to defend. Take time to prepare and lookup simple but concise answers to any questions that will be asked. You can use the SAMPLE QUESTIONNAIRE on the Team Leader online resource center. Try to prepare well and study in the next week before going out to the public.	Why does the Church exist? What is its purpose?

# WEEK BY WEEK

**SERVES:  
THE CHURCH**

**TIME:  
SEPT-OCT**

WEEK	STEPS	QUESTION OF THE WEEK
3	<p><b>Print:</b> Put the survey into a computer template and print out at least 25 copies each for every group of boys (2 or 3 boys should be grouped together for asking people the survey)</p> <p><b>Go Out:</b> This week should be the week to conduct the faith survey in a public place. Have the boys split into groups of 2 or 3, and keep them close within sight distance of the adult leaders at all times. Remind the boys to pray for them.</p>	What does the Pope do?
4	<p><b>Analyze Data:</b> Tally the results of each group of 2 or 3 boys to see which questions people needed most help on (work on percentages as the questions asked to non-Catholics will usually get a greater number of “no” responses). Whichever has the highest percentage of “no” responses should be the one you attack.</p> <p><b>Choose One:</b> Determine one question that people were generally confused about to address.</p> <p><b>Discussion Points:</b> Decide on several general points to address in a pamphlet you could give out.</p>	How should a Catholic believe in Mary?
5	<p><b>Create Pamphlet:</b> Design the whole pamphlet. Some boys should search online, or in the Bible and the Catechism for the truth you want to express while others work on stories and graphic design.</p> <p><b>Print:</b> Make sure to have someone finish up the final touches during the week and print off lots of copies.</p>	Why do people go to adoration?
6	<p><b>DEFEND TO THE END!:</b> There is a short Gospel reflection to help the team before the project starts. (see week 6 towards the end of the book)</p> <p>This week the boys go back to the public place and hand out the pamphlets and engage people in helping to explain the particular truth about the Church that they prepared. Make sure adult leaders are readily available in case anyone becomes argumentative. Have a predetermined hand signal or something to alert / call for an adults help in engaging the person in apologetics or thanking them for their time and moving on to the next person.</p> <p>Make sure to take pictures and send them along with a short write up to the Conquest National Office <a href="mailto:info@Conquestclubs.com">info@Conquestclubs.com</a> to get a story on the national website!</p>	

# DEFEND TO THE END!

## TACTICS BY AREAS

### LOCATION

- The public location should be somewhere where there will be a lot of people, some of whom will be willing to answer.
- The place also needs to facilitate adult supervision so the boys never leave the range of vision of the adults. Generally, a public park, a square, or a shopping center / plaza work best.
- Permission may be needed ahead of time, although getting kicked out by security can seem pretty cool to the boys. Make sure to plan ahead.

### PROVISIONS

- Each group of 2 or 3 boys needs a questionnaire sheet and another sheet to record answers (one boy asks questions while another writes – they can take turns).
- Clipboards or binders work well for the boys to write on. In the sample survey, all the questions are intended to be Yes/No questions which makes final tallying much easier and doesn't put the boys on the offensive to have to defend answers, although some will challenge them.
- Club shirts: when doing the survey or handing out pamphlets the boys should wear their Conquest club T-shirt.
- Computer and printer to produce and print pamphlets: you need to make them look professional. It would be great if 1 or 2 boys can bring a laptop computer to the club meeting (ask the dads). If you have the money, color printing looks more professional and you can ask for donations when distributing them.
- Preparation: Make sure all the boys know at least a basic answer for each question asked. The point is to help them to be able to DEFEND our Church and its truths. Getting them outside of their comfort zone (even the dads) is not easy, but the best training possible.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

- During the faith survey, each boy needs to have a responsibility at all times. The teams are generally divided into questioner, note taker, and one boy who prays for the person and comes in when the questioner needs help.
- Two or three researchers find all the pertinent information for the pamphlets and then to train the other team members. This could be homework – they can use the Bible, the Catechism, online (double-check any references found here), or other authentic Catholic resources.
- One graphic design guy makes the front of the flyer and makes one or two images for inside.
- One boy who is good with Publisher or Word can smooth out the writing and put everything together for final printing.
- An adult leader should handle logistics and arranges rides for weeks 4 and 8.
- All the boys should have some input into creating the pamphlet.





**SERVES:  
THE CHURCH**

**TIME:  
SEPT-OCT**

# DEBRIEFING

## CONTACTS

- People for Survey: the boys need to introduce themselves clearly and in a friendly manner. Allow them to elaborate on the questions a little so they don't think it is an interrogation but keep it from going on forever. Remain kind and courteous whatever their attitude is, you may rouse their conscience even if they don't show it.
- People receiving the pamphlets: the boys need to avoid sounding preachy. They already have the perfect excuse because they simply want to help the people that were already interviewed here. The secret is to serve rather than have a "holier than thou" attitude. Authenticity is a key item to teach the boys. Purity of intention is a must. Pray before this project!

## SPECIAL OPS

- The boys need to work in teams on the surveys. They need to see how each is important and take it very seriously.
- Speed is of the essence here. Even if the pamphlet is not perfect, the boys need to go and distribute it. Do not forget this is the essential part of the project so ensure it does not get skipped.
- The boys need to make the pamphlet clear and understandable. The KIS (Keep It Simple) principle applies here. High theological terms should be avoided if at all possible.
- You want the boys to get asked questions they don't know and be confronted by indifference or hostility towards religion so they are ready to confront it. This really gets them outside their comfort zone and teaches them a valuable lesson. Boys need to see how far the world has strayed from Christ to develop a desire to bring it back to Jesus.

## CONTINGENCY PLAN

- Instead of making a pamphlet the boys could make a presentation on the point people were most confused about, and invite people to it. They could make posters with pie charts to describe the percentages of yes/no answers.
- If most of the team goes to one or two schools, they can also do the survey and handing out pamphlets over their lunch hour with kids at school. This would require permission of course from the principle and school staff.

## PROJECT NOTES:

## WEEK# 1

# WHAT DO WE BELIEVE AS CATHOLICS?

This section is meant to be a guide to help you prepare the activity for your team

## PREP and PLANNING FOR THE WEEKLY ACTIVITY

### NEED WE ARE RESPONDING TO:

I need to understand the world around me. I need to understand the importance of our gift of the Catholic faith.

### CONVICTIONS & DECISIONS TO REACH IN THE ACTIVITY:

Christ loves me and I can get to know him in the Catholic Church. I want to respond to God by loving him.

### WHAT IS THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION?

Our Catholic faith can be summarized in the Creed we say at Mass. The most important aspect of our faith is Jesus Christ and our personal relationship with God.

### MAIN IDEAS:

These ideas will help you answer this weeks question. Highlight the main ideas that jump out at you so that you can have them clear in your mind.

1. Catholicism is centered on Jesus Christ. "Jesus Christ is the Lord of the world and Lord of history because everything was made for his sake." (YOUCAT #110) The unique element of Christianity is not its moral teaching; Aristotle, Buddha, and Confucius have moral teachings. It is not the belief in one God; the Muslims and Jewish people believe in only one God. However, no other religion claims that this one God came down and walked on earth fully man yet fully God: indivisible, inseparable, unchanging, and unconfused. This is our unique belief! Every aspect of the Church begins and ends in Christ.
2. Each Catholic's life is a relationship with Jesus. "Being a Christian is a living relationship to Jesus. A Christian unites himself deeply and personally with the Lord and with him sets out on the way that leads to true life." (YOUCAT #348) Every sacrament is an encounter with Christ, every prayer is speaking to his heart, in every person we can love Christ, and every virtuous action makes us more like Christ. This relationship is based on love. Jesus is love incarnate who wishes to enter our hearts and dwell there.
3. We live as Catholics by loving God and neighbor. Jesus summarized all his teachings in two commandments: You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind," and "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." When pagans saw the 1st Christians, they would remark "See how they love one another!" Catholicism is centered on love for God and neighbor.

**PREP & PLAN**  
**BEFORE ACTIVITY**



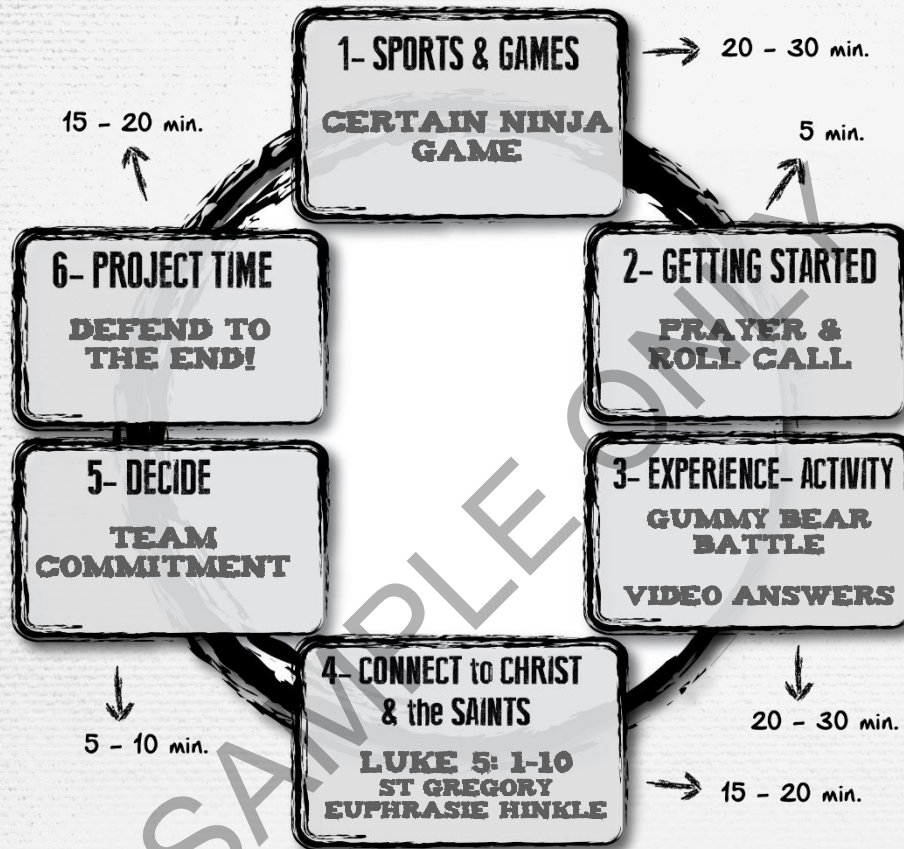




## WEEK# 1

# WHAT DO WE BELIEVE AS CATHOLICS?

## WEEK 1 MEETING AT A GLANCE



### WHAT IS ON THE TEAM LEADER ONLINE RESOURCE CENTER FOR THIS WEEK?

- ✓ FILE: 7-8-1 ser2 wk1 Meeting\_Guide.pdf
- ✓ FILE: 7-8-1 ser2 wk1 Certain Ninja Game.pdf
- ✓ VIDEO: 7-8-1 ser2 wk1 – Gummy Bear Battle.pdf
- ✓ VIDEO: 7-8-1 ser2 wk1 – C4: Ignite Your Catholic Faith - What Should We Believe?

### MATERIALS YOU WILL NEED:

- ✓ A computer or tablet to show videos
- ✓ Certain Ninja Game
- ✓ Print out the Certain Ninja Cards for each member on the team
- ✓ Gummy Bear Battles
- ✓ Print out Gummy Bear Cards, cut up and place in a bucket or bowl
- ✓ Print out the titles and 2 large gummy bear pictures.
- ✓ 2 poster boards (or dry erase board) and tape
- ✓ 2 large bags of gummy bears and 2 large clear cups or jars.



## PREP & PLAN

## BEFORE THE ACTIVITY





## SPORTS & GAMES



### CERTAIN NINJA GAME

#### CHECK IT OUT:

How crazy are your ninja moves?

#### MAKE IT HAPPEN:

1. Set Up: Print out the Certain Ninja Game cards from the Team Leader Online Resource Center. Each card has a random word that the players need to use to create and inspire their ninja move.
2. Game Play: Players form a circle. Each player comes up with their "Certain Ninja Move" inspired by the card they received. This move involves a word and an action. The word they say has to be something we believe as Catholics. For example, a player receives a card that says FAN and makes a large forward sweep with their arms while saying "Eucharist!". This would qualify. After each person has shared their Certain Ninja Move (more than once preferably – make sure everyone is watching because they will need to remember it), the leader explains that there is a hierarchy to the circle. The leader then yells out "What time is it?" and everyone else responds by saying "Certain Ninja Time!". Then the leader presents their Certain Ninja action/word followed by another player's Certain Ninja action/word. The player that corresponds to that action then has to give first their Certain Ninja action/word and then another player's. This continues until a player does not respond quick enough or a player messes up in giving the Certain Ninja action/word. If a player messes up, that player is out. If the leader gets out, the team leader can pick a new leader to start the rounds.

TALK ABOUT IT!

#### WRAP IT UP:

Explain to your team that there are many things that we believe as Catholics and sometimes it is hard to keep track of everything, but if we pay attention, and listen to others about our faith, we will learn to keep it straight.

#### ROLL CALL

List each member in attendance, and record a check mark if they brought their Conquest Member Book and are wearing their T-shirt

#### NAMES






## GETTING STARTED

#### OPENING PRAYER

Ask a team member to lead the opening prayer (Invocation of the Holy Spirit) in the Conquest Member book. Ask the boys if they have any special intentions.

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3

4

5

6

## SPORTS & GETTING STARTED



# WHAT DO WE BELIEVE AS CATHOLICS?

## 3 EXPERIENCE: DYNAMIC ACTIVITY

### GUMMY BEAR BATTLE



#### CHECK IT OUT:

How much do you really know about your Catholic faith?

#### MAKE IT HAPPEN:

1. Set up: You will need two large bags of gummy bears. You will need two large poster boards or a white board and tape. Make two columns and print out the titles from the Team Leader Online Resource Center that say "CATHOLICS BELIEVE" and "CATHOLICS DON'T BELIEVE" and put them on top of either column. Print out the large Gummy Bear Battle posters for each team and put them on either side of the board with the titles and put a large clear jar in front of each giant gummy bear. You will need to print out the Gummy Bear Battle cards, cut them up and put them in a bowl or bucket for the boys to pick out.
2. Game Play: Split the group into two teams. Have the teams line up one on each side of the poster board in front of their giant gummy bear. The team leader should hold the bags of gummy bears. Each person on the team takes turns picking a Gummy Bear Faith card out of the bucket and reading it out loud. They have to decide in 30 seconds (without their team's help) if the statement goes under what "Catholics Do Believe" column or the "Don't Believe" column. If they get it right, they get 5 gummy bears in their team's jar. If they get it wrong, they have to give 5 gummy bears to the other team and put them in that jar. The card is then taped up under the correct column and the other team has a player take a turn. The game continues this way until all the faith cards are gone. Count the gummy bears and the team with the most in their jar wins! The Team Leader Online Resource Center has all the answers for the team leader to have and refer to.
3. There are other variations of how you could play the game:
  - Showdown Rounds: A player from each team pulls a card at the same time. The one to put the card under the correct column first, gets 10 gummy bears from the other team and if the other team gets it correct, they only get 5 gummy bears.
  - Running Gummy: If you want to make the game more active, you can have the bucket or jar at the other end of the room and they have to run to get the faith cards and bring them back.
  - Sticky Option: Instead of clear jars in front of the giant gummy bear, you can keep track of incorrect answers by having the boys bite off the head of the gummy bear and stick it to their own face. All bears on the face count against the team. Have baby wipes nearby for after the game.



#### WRAP IT UP:

Have a discussion with the team after playing the game. What did they learn? They should have learned more about what we as Catholic believe.



### 3

## EXPERIENCE: VIDEO ANSWERS

### VIDEO ANSWERS:

Let's watch this short video about the Catholic Faith.



Video #1 – 7-8-1 ser2 wk1 – C4: Ignite Your Catholic Faith - What Should We Believe?



After the video, have a discussion with the team. Ask them if there was anything that they did not know that Catholic believed. If so, what? Take notes in the space provided below.

VIDEO



ANSWERS

### NOTES:

### 4<sup>G</sup>

## CONNECT: TO CHRIST in the GOSPEL REFLECTION

### GOSPEL READING:

LUKE 5: 1-10

### FIRST APOSTLES

While the crowd was pressing in on Jesus and listening to the word of God, he was standing by the Lake of Gennesaret. He saw two boats there alongside the lake; the fishermen had disembarked and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, he asked him to put out a short distance from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. After he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch." Simon said in reply, "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets." When they had done this, they caught a great number of fish and their nets were tearing. They signaled to their partners in the other boat to come to help them. They came and filled both boats so that they were in danger of sinking. When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at

1 2 3 4 5 6

EXPERIENCE & CONNECT



# WHAT DO WE BELIEVE AS CATHOLICS?



## CONNECT: TO CHRIST in the GOSPEL REFLECTION

the knees of Jesus and said, “Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man.” For astonishment at the catch of fish they had made seized him and all those with him, and likewise James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners of Simon. Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching men.”

### GOSPEL INSIGHTS:

Peter was called Simon initially. He was a good person and faithful to his Jewish religion. He went to synagogue, he obeyed the commandments, he believed in God. But he still lacked something. Jesus comes at an unexpected moment, at the end of a day’s work. Peter was tired but something about Jesus told him to listen to him and go out again. Later on Jesus asks him to let out his nets – and when the fish come, however, he’s stupefied because he had been trying all day to catch and in one minute Jesus was able to do this. To Peter this shows him this man is more powerful and knowledgeable than he is. To a fisherman, a miraculous catch of fish like that was a sign of God’s power. These first apostles were the beginning of the Church and from that point on Jesus taught them what it was like to follow him.

### REFLECTION QUESTIONS TO TALK ABOUT



- What about Jesus impressed Simon so much?
- Why does Simon say, “Depart from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man?”
- What does “catching men” mean? Why does Jesus use it? (It means being an apostle, a missionary. Jesus uses it because it is an image Simon can understand. Jesus comes to each of us where we are to develop a relationship.)

### HOW DID CHRIST HELP US ANSWER THIS WEEK’S QUESTION IN THIS PASSAGE?

Christ answers the question of the week by showing us how he started the Catholic church. The first words he used to explain it to Peter, James, and John were about catching men – or helping other people. The essence of our faith is summarized in loving God and loving other people.

### GOSPEL REFLECTION NOTES:

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Remember – the goal of this moment is to help the boys realize that they are not the only ones who have dealt with this question. Share the story of the saint or other inspirational story.

## ST GREGORY THE GREAT



St Gregory was born in Rome in the year 540. He was the son of a wealthy senator in Rome, who later became a deacon. After Gregory had finished his schooling, the Roman Emperor Justin appointed him to be the Chief Magistrate (judge) in Rome when he was only 34 years old.

He built six monasteries in one year to advance the faith and then became a monk himself. He was elected Pope at the age of 50 and he is known as Pope Gregory the Great because of how he unified and connected with all of the Churches in Christendom. He is one of the doctors of the Church because of all the works he did to spread the teachings of the Church.

## ST ROSE OF LIMA



Anna Hinkle was born in 1847 in Carrollton, Kentucky. Her father was a prominent judge connected with the publishing firm of Wilson, Hinkle and Co.

Her mother died when Anna was very young, and she was raised by her father and an aunt. Although the Hinkles were Methodist, George sent his daughters to St. Augustine School, run by the Sisters of Providence.

Anna was unhappy with this arrangement and made her displeasure known in school, one day even going so far as to toss all of the classroom books on Christian Doctrine out the window.

However, as her schooling continued, Anna was drawn to Catholicism and soon converted. She then decided to become a nun and entered the Sisters of Providence taking the name Sister Euphrasie.

She spent a year at St. John Academy in Indianapolis. After taking her first vows, she became Assistant Mistress of Novices, a position that she held until 1874. She then was appointed Superior of St. Rose Academy in Vincennes, Indiana. In 1883,

Sister Euphrasie was herself elected Superior General of the Sisters of Providence and was called Mother Euphrasie from then on. A priority of her administration was education, not only in schools run by the Sisters but also of the Sisters themselves. During her term she opened numerous schools, including the first Chicago mission of the congregation and the first East Coast mission. She worked hard and died at the age of 41 in 1889.



# WHAT DO WE BELIEVE AS CATHOLICS?



## DECIDE: TEAM COMMITMENT

### TEAM REVIEW OF LAST WEEK'S COMMITMENT

WHAT WAS THE Q & A FROM LAST WEEK? >>> \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT WAS OUR COMMITMENT FROM LAST WEEK? >>> \_\_\_\_\_

HOW DID WE ALL FULFILL THE COMMITMENT FROM LAST WEEK?

Every team member should indicate how well they did in fulfilling their commitments over the past week with a thumbs up, to the side, or down. The Team Leader should track each result by placing an "x" under the appropriate thumb symbol, then circle the hand with the most marks to indicate how well they performed their commitments as a team.



### THIS WEEK'S TEAM COMMITMENT

Lead your team to come to a decision to live their lives differently after this activity. . .

WHAT WAS THE QUESTION WE STARTED OUT WITH?

What do we believe as Catholics?

WHAT DID WE FIND OUT? WHAT WAS OUR ANSWER?

Catholicism is centered on Christ and lived as a relationship with Christ. Everything we believe is summarized in the Creed we say in Mass and in the Catechism. The core of our faith is about loving God.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR PERSONAL COMMITMENTS:**

- I can look for ways to get to know my faith better each day, such as reading from the YOUCAT and Bible.
- I can learn more about my faith by studying apologetics.

**WHAT IS SOMETHING WE CAN WORK ON TOGETHER AS A TEAM AND PUT THIS INTO PRACTICE?**

- We can all commit to obtaining a YOUCAT to begin reading each day to learn more about our Catholic faith.
- We can all commit to sharing something that we learned about our faith this week with a friend or family member.



## >>> OUR TEAM COMMITMENT FOR THIS WEEK:

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## PROJECT PLANNING & WORK

### THIS WEEK'S PROJECT ACTION ITEMS

WHO	ACTION ITEM	NOTES
	<b>Plan:</b> Together with the adult leaders, plan on the best public places to go to conduct the faith survey. Permission may be needed well in advance for places like public malls, etc. Ideally, week #4 would be the first survey in public, and week #8 would be a follow up visit to talk to people and hand out prepared information.	

## REMEMBER the VIRTUE >>> OF THE MONTH <<<

**SEPTEMBER: OBEDIENCE**  
**OCTOBER: MERCY**

Review the Conquest Member Calendar and remind all members of the particular Virtue of the Month. Discuss with the team how they can conquer this virtue this month and work on ways of living the virtue each and every day. Make sure they take notes in their Conquest Member Book and all commit to working on this virtue.

## WRAP UP & CLOSING PRAYER

V: We give you thanks Almighty God for all your gifts, living and reigning now and forever.  
R: Amen.  
V: Christ our King!  
R: Thy Kingdom come!  
V: Mary Most Pure, Queen of the Family!  
R: Pray for us!

1 2 3 4 5



PROJECT WORK & WRAP UP