

## Supporting and Affirming the Candidate

### A Faith-Sharing Program for Parents, Sponsors, and Candidates

The relationship between a sponsor and candidate is intended to be life-long. The sponsor is a spiritual companion and a support to the candidate. For many sponsors, this is a role they have no or little experience with and may find themselves at a loss about what is expected of them. The sponsors are also a support for the parents who have been leading their children to love and serve God in daily life.

To help the sponsors in their very important role, the St. Hugh Confirmation preparation includes a faith-sharing program for parents, sponsors, and candidates. Each sponsor will receive a magazine containing six conversations that will prepare them to engage their candidate in faith-sharing discussions.

Candidates will be expected to record their thoughts and discussions in a journal they will receive at their first class. The magazine will be distributed and explained during the sponsor/candidate meeting on Saturday, October 30, 2021.

When the candidates come to their interview with Fr. Tappe in the spring, they will be expected to bring their journal *to use as a prompt for discussing their faith and sacramental preparation with Father. Showing it to Father is optional.* The journal will also be a resource as the candidates write their letter to the Bishop requesting Confirmation.

It is our hope that this faith-sharing program will be experienced as a blessing by all and a true reflection of the time, care, and faith of the candidates as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

