

SAMPLE for COLLECTING SUPPORT LETTERS

DATE

NAME (of family member or friend)

Address

City, State Zip

Dear NAME,

I am sponsoring (CANDIDATE) for the upcoming Catholic Journey Experience scheduled for (MONTH DAYS). This experience is a three-day retreat weekend that focuses on Catholic spirituality and faith providing an opportunity for growth in one's personal relationship with God.

Since you are someone important to (CANDIDATE), I am asking you to support her through your own prayer for her and for a Support Letter. Support letters are written to each participant by friends and family, prayerfully expressing love, encouragement and support. These letters are part of the Journey Experience for the (CANDIDATE) to realize that she is not alone on her faith Journey but is intimately connected to others through a shared life of faith and prayer.

The Support Letters allow the candidate to be aware she is being thought of and prayed for especially during this time. This is a wonderful way for you to express how glad you are to have a relationship/friendship with (CANDIDATE) and how much you love, cherish and respect her. The Support letter will be read only by (CANDIDATE).

Please help make (CANDIDATE)'s Journey Experience special by doing the following:

1. Write a letter or card to (CANDIDATE) and sign it.
2. Put the letter or card in an envelope and seal it.
3. Write (CANDIDATE)'s first and last name on the envelope.
4. Put the sealed envelope in a larger envelope and mail to me by (MONTH DAY).

Thank you for taking the time to support (CANDIDATE). If you have any questions, please call me at the phone number listed below.

Sincerely,

YOUR NAME

Address

City, State ZIP

Phone number: (XXX) XXX-XXXX

Tips about what to say to your candidate about the Catholic Journey Experience and collecting support and prayer from his or her family and friends:

As your sponsor for the Catholic Journey, it is my responsibility to make sure that you are prepared for this weekend experience. I want to help you in any way that I can so that you may attend the Journey without any worries (example: driving to facility and picking up at the closing; helping with children or other practical offers of help).

We will discuss the weekend and generally what to expect. There will be talks given by Catholic clergy, religious, and lay people with time to reflect and discuss these talks in a small group setting. You will learn about Catholic spirituality and will pray in community using practices of the Catholic Church.

Another way I support you is through prayer, my own and others. If you could give me contact information, I would love to get in touch with your family and friends and ask for their prayer support as well. You are welcome to ask me about any concerns or questions you might have. I am here to help you before, during, and after this Journey weekend.