

Name _____ Date _____

Handout 1-A

Journal Reflection:
Signs from Nature

Answer the following questions as best you can.

1. What might each of the following scenes from creation tell you about God?

- campfire on a cold night

- a cat licking her newborn kittens

- snow-covered mountains

- multicolored sunset

- ocean waves against the shore

- fields of wheat waving in the breeze

- forest waterfall and stream

2. What other scenes from creation help you sense God's presence?

3. To the best of your ability, describe a specific experience when you felt God's presence, blessing, or mystery. Where were you? What visible sign(s) helped you experience the divine reality? (Use the back of this sheet if you need more room.)

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Handout 1-B

Journal Reflection:

Sacraments I Have Celebrated

In the table below, check each sacrament you have already celebrated. Note approximately how old you were when you celebrated each one. What do you remember about the celebration? Or, what have you heard about it? What was its meaning to you at the time?

✓	Sacrament	How Old?	Memory or Meaning
	Baptism		
	Confirmation		
	First Eucharist		
	Reconciliation		
	Anointing of the Sick		

How do you plan to make the celebration of the sacraments part of your adult life?

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Handout 1-C

Bible Activity: Jesus Used Signs

Read each of the Gospel passages found on this page. Write down what you think Jesus is telling us about God's love through this sign. If you need more room, continue your answers on the back of the page. Be prepared to share with the class.

Water

John 2:1–12; John 6:16–21; John 13:1–15

What is Jesus saying about God's love through water?

Bread

Matthew 14:13–21; Matthew 13:33; Matthew 26:26–30

What is Jesus saying about God's love through bread?

Oil

Matthew 25:1–13; Luke 10:29–37; Luke 7:36–50

What is Jesus saying about God's love through oil?

Touch

Mark 6:53–56; Mark 10:13–16; Matthew 8:1–4

What is Jesus saying about God's love through touch?

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Handout 1-D

Biblical Symbols for the Church

Working alone or in a group, look up each of the following New Testament passages. Fill in the chart by summarizing each passage. Then explain, in your own words, how you have experienced the Church as each symbol.

Symbol and Bible Passage	Summary	My Experience
Sheepfold (a fenced enclosure with Christ as the gate) Jn 10:1-18		
Flock of sheep Jn 21:15-19		
Cultivated field or vineyard Jn 15:1-10		
Household of God Eph 2:19-23		
Bride of Christ Rev 21:9-27		
New Jerusalem Rev 21:9-27		

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Handout 1-E

Chapter 1 SAT Practice: Critical Reading

Read Section 1, “The Church, the Universal Sacrament of Salvation” (pages 8–13). Then indicate the correct answer to each question.

_____ 1. How may the sacrament of Salvation be described?

- A. The eighth sacrament of the Church
- B. The Church’s sacraments have meaning only in, and through, Jesus
- C. Communion of the Saints
- D. Communion with other Catholics

_____ 2. The text analogy in this section presents the Church as the _____.

- A. Sun
- B. Moon
- C. Night sky
- D. Light of Christ

_____ 3. Why did the Second Vatican Council call the Church “the universal sacrament of salvation”?

- A. The Church exists throughout the universe.
- B. The Church is the Bride of Christ.
- C. The Church is the New Jerusalem.
- D. Christ works through the Church.

_____ 4. Who makes up the communion of saints?

- A. All faithful Church members who are living
- B. The deceased faithful—those being purified after death
- C. The saints in heaven
- D. All of the above

_____ 5. Which of the following statements is NOT true?

- A. The prayers of the living do not affect those who have died.
- B. The saints in heaven can intercede for the living.
- C. Both the living and the saints in heaven can pray for the dead who are still being purified.
- D. Every act of charity performed by Catholics benefits the entire Body of Christ.

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Handout 1-F

Journal Reflection:

Priests, Prophets, and Kings

Think of practical ways you can respond to your call to the priestly, prophetic, and royal mission. Fill in the chart below.

Living the Priestly, Prophetic, and Royal Mission of Christ	What I Can Do Practically (Be specific.)
<i>Priestly</i>	
Supporting others through prayer	
Making spiritual sacrifices	
Receiving the sacraments	
Helping others grow in holiness	
<i>Prophetic</i>	
Spreading God's Word to others	
Witnessing to the truth about Jesus Christ through words, actions, or example	
Reminding others to persevere in faith when they are discouraged, disillusioned, and confused	
Bringing Christ's presence and love to others in the secular world	

<i>Royal</i>	
Serving others, especially those who are poor and suffering	
Treating people with love, patience, understanding, and genuine caring	
Participating in a Church ministry	