

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## How **Firm** Is Your **Foundation**?

*For each of the faith statements, circle on the continuum your level of belief.*

I believe that God became a human being in the person of Jesus Christ.

I definitely believe this -----I'm not sure about this ----- I'm shaky on this

I believe that Jesus Christ himself founded the Catholic Church.

I definitely believe this -----I'm not sure about this ----- I'm shaky on this

I believe that the Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.

I definitely believe this -----I'm not sure about this ----- I'm shaky on this

I believe that the Pope and bishops are the Apostles' successors.

I definitely believe this -----I'm not sure about this ----- I'm shaky on this

I believe all the Church teaches through the Pope and bishops.

I definitely believe this -----I'm not sure about this ----- I'm shaky on this

I believe in the seven sacraments.

I definitely believe this -----I'm not sure about this ----- I'm shaky on this

I believe in the teaching authority (Magisterium) of the Church in matters of faith and morals.

I definitely believe this -----I'm not sure about this ----- I'm shaky on this

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## THE CHURCH—ASSEMBLY REQUIRED

Have you ever received a gift that came labeled “Assembly Required”? Before you could really appreciate and enjoy the gift, you had to put it together.

The Church is a gift, a gift that requires assembly. The word *church* means *assembly*—a convocation of people who believe in Jesus, his Father, and the Spirit. To appreciate and enjoy who we are, we join together. We assemble. When it comes to being Church, assembly is always required.

From the beginning of his ministry, Jesus assembled people. After Jesus died, was raised from the dead, and returned to God, Jesus’ friends assembled. In their assemblies they prayed, remembered Jesus, and broke bread as he taught them.

At every Eucharist the Church assembles. We come together from every walk of life, every culture, and every race. Rich and poor, young and old, healthy and sick, we all come together as one family to give glory to God, to make present God’s saving deeds fulfilled in Jesus, and to promise to treat all others like family.

At Eucharist we assemble to express, renew, and deepen our faith in Jesus and in one another. In our assembly, we see ourselves as people who continue Jesus’ mission of bringing God’s love to others, the Church gets re-created, and we become what we celebrate. We become the Body of Christ, called to draw others to our assembly.

### Find out more about your Church assembly.

Where did you assemble for worship on Sunday? (place and time)

\_\_\_\_\_

Who led the assembly in prayer?

\_\_\_\_\_

Who led the assembly in song?

\_\_\_\_\_

Who sat behind you?

\_\_\_\_\_

Who read from the Old Testament?

\_\_\_\_\_

Who proclaimed the Gospel?

\_\_\_\_\_

Who brought the bread and wine to the altar table?

\_\_\_\_\_

Besides your family, whom did you greet during the Sign of Peace at Mass?

\_\_\_\_\_

## **PRAY** the Creed—**LIVE** the Creed

**W**e believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.

**W**e believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
one in being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

**F**or us men and our salvation, he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit, he was born of the Virgin Mary,  
and became man. For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate; he suffered, died, and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in fulfillment of the Scriptures:  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand  
of the Father. He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

**W**e believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son, he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.

**W**e believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.

When you pray the words  
**“We believe in one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church,”**  
ask yourself:

- How can I champion unity without becoming parochial?
- How can I begin to make it easier for people to believe because of the goodness of my life, because of my becoming more like Christ?
- How can I break down all the barriers that divide us so that everyone feels welcome?
- How can I be apostolic—someone sent—to those hungry for good news?