

ON THE BUS

Discussion Questions

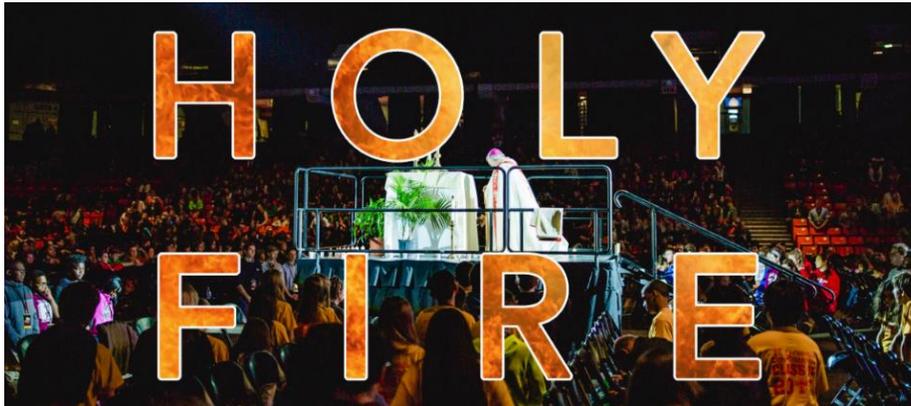
For Use While Traveling to and from the Holy Fire Event

Information for Adult Leaders

The **process** of Holy Fire attendees reflecting on specific questions and sharing responses out loud with partners or in small groups is an important element of formation that complements and strengthens the faith experience of the Holy Fire event. The pre-event questions help set the stage for the experience and the post-event questions assist them in connecting what they just experienced with their daily lives and their spiritual lives. (The formal name for this reflection process is **theological reflection** or **shared Christian praxis**, and it is key element of Christian formation.)

The questions can be answered in pairs, trios, or small groups, in the case of a small car full of participants in which everyone can hear each other. It is important to be sure to ask the pre-event questions on the way to the event since some of the post-event questions follow-up and build upon the pre-event questions. The young people do not need to write anything down to respond to the questions.

Young people should be reminded that they should never feel pressured or feel uncomfortable answering questions. A reminder appears on the questions handouts.



Preparing Question Sheets for the Day of the Event

1. In advance of the event, make a copy of the following question sheet for each participant and cut the sheet in half to divide the pre- and post-event questions. Be sure to include adults in your count.
2. Distribute the question sheets to all participants at a convenient time on your way to and from the event. We recommend that you not hand out the post-event questions until you are on your way home.



Questions on the Way TO Holy Fire

Here are some questions to reflect on and share in small groups or pairs on your way to the Holy Fire event. Follow the directions of your adult leader and remember that you should never feel pressured or uncomfortable answering any of these questions.

1. Which word(s) best describes how you are feeling about attending Holy Fire today and why?
 Anxious Excited Unsure Eager Prepared OK
 2. What are you giving up today to be here? How do you feel about that?
 3. What is one hope that you have for today specifically related to your faith?
 4. Pope Francis once said to confirmation candidates, *"How beautiful it would be if each of you, every evening, could say, 'Today at school, at work, guided by God, I showed a sign of love towards my friends, parents, an older person!' How beautiful!"* What do you think about this challenge? How might you show a sign of love today?
 5. Select two statements below that you will commit to focus on today at the Holy Fire event:
 - I will commit to paying attention to today's speakers.
 - I will commit to growing deeper in my relationship with God today.
 - I will commit to doing something positive based on today's experience.
 - I will commit to reaching out to someone who is alone or by him/herself.
 - I will commit to being open to the Holy Spirit at work within and around me.
 - I will commit to celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
 - I will commit to jumping, screaming and singing out during the musical performances.
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Questions on the Way Home FROM Holy Fire

Here are some questions to reflect on and share in small groups on your way home. Follow the directions of your adult leaders and remember that you should never feel pressured or uncomfortable answering any of these questions.

1. What was a highlight? And why? (OK to mention a few other highlights)
2. This morning on the way here, there was a reflection question about a hope you had today related to your faith. Did it happen? If so, share a little about that. If not, why do you think your hope was not realized?
3. If you were to tweet about today, what would it say, and what hashtags would you use and why?
4. Remember the Pope Francis quote to confirmation candidates from this morning about showing a sign of love to others? How well do you think you met this challenge? Share some thoughts on this.
5. This morning, you were asked to make two commitments going into the event. How did you do? Share some thoughts on this.
6. What is one thing that you will do differently after experiencing this event?
7. What message from today will you share with your family when you get home?