

TEALIGHTS

PREPARATION

Set up prayer focus in room with central candle lit

Tea lights - one per student

PROCESS

Give each student a tea light but DO NOT light it yet.

Instruct the students to:

1. Recognise that the tea light represents something they would like to pray about.
2. Write in journal why they want to pray about this issue.
3. Try to look at the issue from another perspective, eg that of another person involved or that of someone who is trusted and can give wise advice.
4. Bring to mind the gifts of Confirmation and how Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to give gifts that valued wisdom and good advice or counsel. What would Jesus say about this matter?
5. Write in journal a prayer asking for God's help with this concern. The prayer could focus on the light of Christ in their lives and their prayer intention.

After the students have had time to journal, they come up one by one to light their tea light from the central candle and place it around the prayer focus before participating in communal prayer.

SUGGESTED PRAYER SERVICE

The focus of this activity is on the light of Christ and new ways of seeing a situation.

1. Select a reading from the Gospels about Jesus helping people as, eg restoring the sight of the blind man.
2. Have ready prayers of petition like those used in the Prayers of the Faithful at Mass – try to use the same general model focussing on current issues facing the world, the Church, Australia, the local community, the school community, the class and something that can be applied to the students' personal needs.
3. Have a communal prayer to be used by the whole group asking God's help for central concerns in their lives. The *Our Father* could be used here.

