

Authentic Leadership Track

Understanding Authentic Catholic Leadership

For Adult Mentors and Leaders

Because Christ is the leader of our hearts, minds and souls, the first rule of good leadership can be summed up in his own words, “the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and give his life for many.” In other words, a true leader recognizes that they are called to be servants first and foremost. This is contrary to much of what the world teaches and shows us. Therefore, a Little Flower leader will have to learn service in order to learn leadership.

This unpopular lesson is rooted in the gospels of Matthew (20:28), Mark (10:45) and John (13:1ff). John’s gospel gives us the beautiful imagery of Jesus washing his disciples feet. If that action on its own weren’t enough, we need to recall that Jesus does this work of service right before accepting the cup of His passion and death! To the very end, Jesus was teaching and showing us how we are to love and care for each other. And, that is true leadership - leadership built on love for all around us because they, like us, are children of God; made in His image and likeness. In Matthew 7:12, Jesus encourages us to “do to others what you would have them do unto you.” This reminder of the Golden Rule could be the spine of our servant leadership showing how we should allow Christ to be our model in leadership in order to lead others.

Leadership moves from inside ourselves outward. We must take the time to form ourselves before we try to form and lead others. Some of this leadership training has happened without even realizing it. Because Little Flowers Girls’ Club® teaches virtues, the whole program puts in place a strong foundation of stepping stones that can be used to build leadership effectively. By practicing and teaching virtues, beginning with love and moving through responsibility, honesty, diligence and more, we are laying the groundwork for leadership.

One of the intents of Little Flowers Girls’ Club® program is to form girls to become strong, authentic Catholic women and leaders for the next generation. Now, through this Authentic Leadership program, girls and their mentors have a step by step guide taking the virtue training of Little Flowers Girls’ Club® in a structured, age-appropriate, recognition-based form designed to develop our young ladies to be those leaders the world so desperately needs. These servant leadership qualities begin with the girls’ behaviors, then reach out to their families, the local parish, their town, diocese, county, state, country and the world knowing that with each outward reach, they are actually reaching for a touch of heaven itself.

Beyond the virtues taught through Little Flowers Girls’ Club®, we will begin to look for servant leaders in the Bible where each has a lesson to teach us:

-A Christ-like leader will do what is necessary and important, no matter who is watching.

Noah exemplifies this message since he alone was seen as worthy by God. He built the ark despite the laughter and derision of those around him (Genesis 6). Daniel reminds us of this lesson as well (Daniel 6). He prayed when it was illegal knowing that doing what God wanted was more important than any law.

-A Christ-like leaders will go where others won't.

Abraham trusted God despite Sarah's apparent infertility. He ventured out into the unknown (Gen. 12) laying the foundation for descendants as numerous as the stars. Each of the apostles also went out fulfilling Jesus' last request that they make disciples of the whole world (Matt 28:19).

-A Christ-like leader can get discouraged but they don't give up.

Joseph (Gen. 37) was cast into a well by his brothers, sold into slavery, thrown into jail and yet, he triumphed encouraged by the knowledge that while his circumstances were awful, God had not abandoned him.

-A Christ-like leader follows through despite every obstacle.

Moses overcame his Egyptian history to embrace his Hebrew heritage. He went to the Pharaoh again and again to gain his people's freedom (Exod. 3). He went to the mountain alone and came down to deliver the Ten Commandments. His story is full of wonderful examples that when God is with you, every mission, every action can be successful.

-A Christ-like leader will lead by example, not by just giving orders.

Joshua brought together all the people of Israel to tell them very clearly, "as for me and my house we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24). He would not follow the false gods but the God who brought them out of Egypt. Jesus is, of course, the perfect reflection of this characteristic showing all of us what is required, "pick up your cross and follow me." (Matt 8:34)

-A Christ-like leaders will speak the truth, even when they are afraid.

Esther was picked to be queen out of beauty pageant, of all things, and rose to be a fearless queen protecting her people. In her own book (Esther) we hear of her courage to speak to King Xerxes, saving her people from death under Haman's edict.

-Christ-like leaders can be unexpected.

Deborah, the wife of Lapidoth, was also a prophetess and judge! The only woman judge mentioned in Scripture (Judges 5:2-31), she gave wisdom and strength to Israel in a lawless time of oppression before the first king. We could also include so many of the twelve apostles which included fishermen, a tax collector and religious zealot. No one might have expected any of these people to be the leaders they became but God enjoys doing the unexpected.

-Christ-like leaders will think of others before themselves.

After our Blessed Mother, Mary, said “yes,” at the Annunciation, she didn’t sit back and take it easy, but traveled to visit and care for her cousin Elizabeth (Luke 39: 1ff). Not thinking of her own situation, she thought only of her older cousin who needed help with her own unexpected pregnancy and headed off to help.

-Christ-like leaders know that God is really in charge.

Upon seeing Mary, Elizabeth recognizes that she is carrying the Savior, “why am I so favored that the mother of my Lord should come to me?” But Mary didn’t puff herself up with pride but put the honor where it belonged - with God - and gave us the beautiful Magnificat (Luke 1:46) reminding us of God’s great love and perfect plan.

-Christ-like leaders don’t let their failures get them down.

Peter became our first Pope despite denying Jesus three times. He doesn’t even try to pretend that he let Jesus down when He needed him most, but overcame it. His preaching in Acts 2 reminds the crowd gathered of Jesus’ power. Peter didn’t waste time with self-pity.

-Christ-like leaders can overcome their past to become better and stronger with God’s help.

We first met Saul/Paul as he holds to cloaks as Stephen, the first martyr is stoned, later he is knocked off his donkey to become preacher to the Gentiles (Acts and his Epistles). Everyone has sins to overcome including pride and vanity which want to us to place ourselves over others. Paul reminds us that we can conquer any sin to serve God.

-Christ-like leaders know how to encourage those around them.

Barnabas known as the ‘son of encouragement’ (Acts 4:36) was the disciple chosen to accompany Paul. Each story we have of him in Acts lets us know that he knew how important encouragement is, “When he arrived and saw the grace of God, he rejoiced and encouraged them all to remain faithful to the Lord in firmness of heart, for he was a good man, filled with the holy Spirit and faith.” (Acts 11:23ff) Everyone can get discouraged now and then, especially when work goes unrecognized, when what we are trying seems less than successful or is simply hard. Being a leader who remembers to encourage those they work with makes a real difference.

-A Christ-like leader honors privacy and avoids embarrassment.

Too often in our world we witness people being shamed and embarrassed for their sins and, even more offensive, their mistakes. We easily forget Jesus’ reminder ‘not to judge, lest we be judged’. While admonishing the sinner remains a spiritual work of mercy, a Christ-like leader learns when and how to correct those around them. Jesus spoke the woman at the well (John 4:4) when she was alone and he waited until those waiting with stones to leave before speaking gently to the woman accused of adultery (John 8:1ff). Well-formed leaders do the same. Every venture, every endeavor will run into problems both large and small so it is important to remember to imitate Jesus in his gentleness when correction or changes need to be made. There should be no shaming in public, yelling or humiliation

through name calling or embarrassment. Show the young leaders in training how to do this in your own dealings with them so they can imitate what they receive.

-A Christ-like leader strives for simple, clear directions and expectations.

God, Himself, is our role model here. He made it pretty simple for us with giving us just Ten Commandments; not twelve or twenty, just ten. In either telling of Moses' story; whether it be in Exodus 20:1-17 or Deuteronomy 5:4-21, God makes it quite clear of what he expects of us. Jesus teaches us this when He was asked what was the greatest commandment, "He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments." (Matt. 22:37-40). A good leader strives to be clear about what is expected by Making sure details, timelines, action items, delegating work, having a common vision, are all qualities of a good servant leader.

-A Christ-like leader allows for questions and clarifications when needed.

In a follow-up to being clear in your directions and expectations, some people are bound to misunderstand or mishear what is asked of them. Allowing for follow-up questions reflects Christ's own willingness, time and again, to explain things to his followers (Matt 13:10-17 and other places) and Paul's reiteration of important teachings in all of his epistles. Our own Church does this with the cycles of the gospels which has us reading and re-reading the gospels over a three year cycle. The Church knows that this repetition helps us recall the important details more easily. Repeating instructions and details as we lead and teach should not be seen as an annoyance or problem but rather a chance to help prevent mistakes from happening.

-Christ-leaders remember that compliments and praise are a source of joy to those who receive them.

Remembering to following up each effort and work accomplished with "thank you" and other words of admiration and praise really feeds souls. Jesus knew this well. In Mark 12:32-34, when meeting a scribe who understood clearly what the greatest commandment was, Jesus was clear with his praise, "And when Jesus saw that [he] answered with understanding, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God."

Paul remembers those who work with him with kind words, remembers their worth and in Phil. 1:3, is clear about his admiration, "I give thanks to my God at every remembrance of you." He continues on in this chapter calling them "partners in grace" who he "holds in his heart." Don't forget to remember to add words of compliment and encouragement before, during and after the work is done and when the teams are together. These words can keep spirits from waning and catching our young people when they are doing good work and letting them know we see it and recognize it is often just the encouragement needed to continue doing good.

-A Christ-like leader has a plan.

Jesus knew the Father's plan from the very beginning, "And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" (Luke 2:49) At the age of 12, Jesus knew what his mission was. We are not so blessed but we can work at getting better at making clear plans before setting forth.

Throughout the Bible we have the witness of leaders who sought out the wisdom of God and others in making their plans. Moses had Joshua who then created a plan before the battle of Jericho. In Luke 14:28-32, Jesus tells his followers of the builder who did not have the resources to finish the job and the king without enough soldiers for the battle. It is important to practice good planning and teach it by our example remembering, however, that when we work for God, He will not abandon us. Proverbs 16 might be seen as reminder of this: "Entrust your works to the Lord, and your plans will succeed. (vs. 3) as well as "The human heart plans the way, but the Lord directs the steps." (vs. 9)

Beyond the Bible, we want to prompt our young ladies to practice their leadership within their roles as our children, siblings and students, first and foremost. They can be reminded that what they do on earth, in these seemingly unimportant roles, can be a small reflection of who they may become as future saints.

You may decide to review the Wreaths to find those patrons who are specifically founders of orders as true leaders in the Church. Each of our Wreaths includes at least one founder, including St. Katharine Drexel, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, or St. Marie-Marguerite d'Youville, among others. Each of the founders' stories includes details that illustrate the leadership they displayed which allowed them to form their orders despite poverty, lack of support, illness or darkness of the soul. They relied fully and totally on God knowing that His plan was the perfect one despite what it may have looked like to the world.

There are ample books on leadership that have been written that you may decide to include with your leadership program. We trust your judgment as parents, in that regard. However, if you decide to use a secular book, please ask the parents of your groups before using them. Books that I have read and found helpful would include: Dale Carnegie, How to Win Friends and Influence People, Sean Covey, The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens, and The One Minute Manager by Ken Blanchard and Spencer Johnson.

You may also want to seek out leaders in your church and community to come and talk with your group. Introducing the girls to real leaders helps them actually see and hear what it takes. Becoming a leader is about forming yourself while also looking to others who can inspire, challenge and encourage you.

There are many good Catholic organizations you can seek out for opportunities for your leaders in training to learn and help those in need. Begin with your own parish and diocese for opportunities for young people to be servants as Jesus was and work with adults who can act as both mentors and teachers. You may also seek out such national organizations as Catholic Relief Services, the Knights of Columbus, or the Council of Major Superiors of Women Religious for suggestions as well.

Throughout this program, remember to give consistent support to the girls who are taking on the leadership responsibilities as well as positive feedback on how they are doing. They will gain confidence in their own ability when they see the trust the mentors have in their potential to learn and grow into leaders the world needs and the leaders God is inspiring.

Remind yourself and your girls that becoming a leader is a lifelong process and our real success in this arena is unlikely to be evident by fame or fortune. Christ came that our joy might be full (John 15:11) and when we lead as He did we do so much to bring this joy to others. We do this by lightening their load and even making their lives a bit easier. We need to remember that the work in the vineyard is not to be measured by dollars or social media popularity but rather by the number of souls who will be in heaven because of our humble work.

How the Program Works

The Little Flowers Girls' Club® program can help your daughters learn and practice virtues through our rich Catholic heritage, but how can we help them to change the world through this knowledge? We need to form Catholic girls into Catholic women who are not afraid to show the Catholic virtues they value to the rest of the world. We need Catholic women who are leaders in the heart of their homes, in their parishes and in their communities. Whether called to the married life, single life, or a religious vocation, your Little Flower girls need to grow into women of integrity who know what it means to be saints in progress.

This Little Flowers Girls' Club® and Little Women Hospitality Authentic Leadership Track will guide the girls into becoming Catholic women who will understand what it means to be an authentic Catholic daughter, mother, sister, spouse, or consecrated in today's world.

Each level is an age appropriate practice of virtue and life skills along with a specific project for the girls to earn. The highest honor, the Golden Pearl & Rose, is geared toward teens who are ready to call the faith their own and show the world what an authentic Catholic woman is.

Rankings can be worked on as a group or individually, depending on each girl's circumstances. The girls should be working with an adult mentor—ideally their mother or grandmother—but could be the group leader or other trusted Catholic woman. The girls working on the rankings need to make sure they have a trusted adult to mentor them through the leadership track. These adults can help the girls navigate and adjust the program to their needs. As with all the other aspects of the program, decisions are best done at the local level fitting with the needs of the local parish or community. Projects do not need to be approved by a regional or national council or body. Girls can work together for their rankings, or individually, depending on the needs of the local community.

Projects

Projects should be chosen to correspond with the age of the girl or girls working on them. This is where the girls may need some guidance from their parents or club leaders. At the same time, the girls

themselves should be encouraged to come up with a project that interests them. The girls, either individually or as a group, may want to brainstorm different ideas that come to them about the needs of their community and what they can do to help. With parents and/or leaders guiding the girls, the list of projects could be broken down into smaller components to see which ones are feasible and age-appropriate.

The suggested timelines are just for planning purposes. Since there is an award offered every two years, the girl(s) could take two years to earn the award. There are also requirements besides the projects to fulfill in earning the awards, so the girl(s) could work on the other requirements (e.g., patron saint badges) and save the project for the second year.

Because of the Catholic nature of the programs, the girls should be encouraged to act on their ideas for projects with a Catholic world-view in mind. Supporting Catholic institutions, such as parishes, schools, nursing homes, retreat centers, convents, monasteries, relief services, shrines, graveyards, etc., will help the girls see all the good the Church does and help in her evangelical endeavors while serving others. Aiding these already existing Catholic institutions in their work of evangelization shows the girls how effective the Body of Christ as the Bride of Christ can be in changing the world by being the hands of Christ.

Virtue Virtuoso--Silver Amethyst Rose Award

The goal of this award is to help the girls learn and practice virtue so that virtue becomes a part of their day to day lives.

For ages 6+

Name of girl: _____ Age at completion: _____

Adult mentor: _____

Date award work began: _____

Project Timeline (for a typical Sept-May year)

__September-October-- Project ideas are discussed with girl/girls and a project is narrowed down to two or three possibilities.

__Checklist for evaluating each suggested project.

Project 1—

Is this project feasible for this age group? _____

Cost: _____ Where will funds come from? _____

Will a fundraiser be needed or donations acquired? _____

If so, list fundraising or donation gathering ideas: _____

Estimated Time to complete: _____ When will it be worked on? _____

If group project, who will be working on what aspect of the project? _____

Benefit to parish or community: _____

Project 2—

Is this project feasible for this age group? _____

Cost: _____ Where will funds come from? _____

Will a fundraiser be needed or donations acquired? _____

If so, list fundraising or donation gathering ideas: _____

Estimated Time to complete: _____ When will it be worked on? _____

If group project, who will be working on what aspect of the project? _____

Benefit to parish or community: _____

Project 3—

Is this project feasible for this age group? _____

Cost: _____ Where will funds come from? _____

Will a fundraiser be needed or donations acquired? _____

If so, list fundraising or donation gathering ideas: _____

Estimated Time to complete: _____ When will it be worked on? _____

If group project, who will be working on what aspect of the project? _____

Benefit to parish or community: _____

__ October-November--Contact the organization that you will be doing the project for and submit a proposal to them for approval. Make a list of needs for the project. Begin fundraising or donation collection, if needed.

__ January-February--Plan out project. Continue with fundraising.

__ April-May—Finish up project.

Requirements

__ Complete one Wreath of nine virtues. Date completed: _____ Adult Initials: _____

__ Complete one Patron Saint badge. Date completed: _____ Adult Initials: _____

__ Participate in a Little Flower hosted Tea Party. Date completed: _____ Adult Init: _____

__ PROJECT: Complete one Medal Project from any Wreath OR complete a project of your own that requires at least 10 hours of work. Date completed: _____ Adult initials: _____

Date Award Completed: _____ Adult Initials: _____

Service is Golden—The Gold Amethyst Rose Award

The goal of this award is to have the girls see the needs of others all around them and reach out in service representing Christ to others.

For ages 8+

Name of girl: _____ Age at completion: _____

Adult mentor: _____

Date award work began: _____

Project Timeline (for a typical Sept-May year)

__ September-October-- Project ideas are discussed with girl/girls and a project is narrowed down to two or three possibilities.

__ Checklist for evaluating each suggested project.

Project 1—

Is this project feasible for this age group? _____

Cost:_____ Where will funds come from? _____

Will a fundraiser be needed or donations acquired? _____

If so, list fundraising or donation gathering ideas: _____

Estimated Time to complete:_____ When will it be worked on? _____

If group project, who will be working on what aspect of the project? _____

What Church institution will the girl(s) be working with? _____

How will this project further the evangelical mission of that institution? _____

Benefit to parish or community: _____

Project 2—

Is this project feasible for this age group? _____

Cost:_____ Where will funds come from? _____

Will a fundraiser be needed or donations acquired? _____

If so, list fundraising or donation gathering ideas: _____

Estimated Time to complete:_____ When will it be worked on? _____

If group project, who will be working on what aspect of the project? _____

What Church institution will the girl(s) be working with? _____

How will this project further the evangelical mission of that institution? _____

Benefit to parish or community: _____

Project 3—

Is this project feasible for this age group? _____

Cost: _____ Where will funds come from? _____

Will a fundraiser be needed or donations acquired? _____

If so, list fundraising or donation gathering ideas: _____

Estimated Time to complete: _____ When will it be worked on? _____

If group project, who will be working on what aspect of the project? _____

What Church institution will the girl(s) be working with? _____

How will this project further the evangelical mission of that institution? _____

Benefit to parish or community: _____

__ October-November--Contact the organization that you will be doing the project for and submit a proposal to them for approval. Make a list of needs for the project. Begin fundraising or donation collection, if needed.

__ January-February--Plan out project. Continue with fundraising.

__ April-May—Finish up project.

Requirements

__ Complete two Wreaths of nine virtues. Date completed: _____ Adult Initials: _____

__ Complete two Patron Saint badges. Date completed: _____ Adult initials: _____

__ Complete one Medal Project from each Wreath completed. Date completed: _____

Adult Initials: _____

PROJECT: Complete a project approved by your parent or other mentor that requires at least 20 hours of work. The project should be through a Catholic institution that helps to further its evangelic mission. The project can be done in a group or as an individual.

On a Mission—The Aquamarine Rose Award

The purpose of this award is to help the girls see the “Great Commission” of the Church and how we are all called to be missionaries through our baptism.

For ages 10+

Name of girl: _____ Age at completion: _____

Adult mentor: _____

Date award work began: _____

Project Timeline (for a typical Sept-May year)

__September-October-- Project ideas are discussed with girl/girls and a project is narrowed down to two or three possibilities.

__Checklist for evaluating each suggested project.

Project 1—

Is this project feasible for this age group? _____

Cost: _____ Where will funds come from? _____

Will a fundraiser be needed or donations acquired? _____

If so, list fundraising or donation gathering ideas: _____

Estimated Time to complete: _____ When will it be worked on? _____

If group project, who will be working on what aspect of the project? _____

Benefit to parish or community: _____

How does this project benefit the missionary heart of the Church? _____

Project 2—

Is this project feasible for this age group? _____

Cost: _____ Where will funds come from? _____

Will a fundraiser be needed or donations acquired? _____

If so, list fundraising or donation gathering ideas: _____

Estimated Time to complete: _____ When will it be worked on? _____

If group project, who will be working on what aspect of the project? _____

Benefit to parish or community: _____

How does this project further the missionary heart of the Church? _____

Project 3—

Is this project feasible for this age group? _____

Cost: _____ Where will funds come from? _____

Will a fundraiser be needed or donations acquired? _____

If so, list fundraising or donation gathering ideas: _____

Estimated Time to complete: _____ When will it be worked on? _____

If group project, who will be working on what aspect of the project? _____

Benefit to parish or community: _____

How does this project help further the missionary heart of the Church? _____

__ October-November--Contact the organization that you will be doing the project for and submit a proposal to them for approval. Make a list of needs for the project. Begin fundraising or donation collection, if needed.

__ January-February--Plan out project. Continue with fundraising.

__ April-May—Finish up project.

Requirements

__ Complete three Wreaths of nine virtues. Date completed: _____ Adult Initials: _____

__ Complete three Patron Saint badges. Date completed: _____ Adult initials: _____

__ Complete one Medal Project from each Wreath completed. Date completed: _____

Adult Initials: _____

PROJECT: Complete a project approved by your parent or other mentor that requires at least 20 hours of work and benefits an established mission of the Catholic Church. The project should require research into the different mission organizations, religious houses and programs that are specifically geared to the mission field. The project should also include a report on St. Therese, the Little Flower and our patron saint and why she is considered a patron saint of the missions. The project can be done in a group or as an individual.

God is Calling—The Ruby Rose Award

The purpose of this award is to challenge the girls to start seeing what God is calling them to do with their lives. Assuming that the girls have direct contact with the married vocation through their families, this award focuses on the religious vocation and learning about how to be open to that calling.

For ages 12+

Name of girl: _____ Age at completion: _____

Adult mentor: _____

Date award work began: _____

Project Timeline (for a typical Sept-May year)

__September-October-- Project ideas are discussed with girl/girls and a project is narrowed down to two or three possibilities.

__Checklist for evaluating each suggested project.

Project 1—

Is this project feasible for this age group? _____

Cost: _____ Where will funds come from? _____

Will a fundraiser be needed or donations acquired? _____

If so, list fundraising or donation gathering ideas: _____

Estimated Time to complete: _____ When will it be worked on? _____

If group project, who will be working on what aspect of the project? _____

Benefit to parish or community: _____

How does this project further vocations or vocation awareness? _____

Project 2—

Is this project feasible for this age group? _____

Cost: _____ Where will funds come from? _____

Will a fundraiser be needed or donations acquired? _____

If so, list fundraising or donation gathering ideas: _____

Estimated Time to complete: _____ When will it be worked on? _____

If group project, who will be working on what aspect of the project? _____

Benefit to parish or community: _____

How does this project further vocations or vocation awareness? _____

Project 3—

Is this project feasible for this age group? _____

Cost: _____ Where will funds come from? _____

Will a fundraiser be needed or donations acquired? _____

If so, list fundraising or donation gathering ideas: _____

Estimated Time to complete: _____ When will it be worked on? _____

If group project, who will be working on what aspect of the project? _____

Benefit to parish or community: _____

How does this project help further vocations or vocation awareness? _____

__ October-November--Contact the organization that you will be doing the project for and submit a proposal to them for approval. Make a list of needs for the project. Begin fundraising or donation collection, if needed.

__ January-February--Plan out project. Continue with fundraising.

__ April-May—Finish up project.

Requirements

__ Complete four years of study in Little Flowers Girls' Club® and/or the Little Women Hospitality Program. Date completed: _____ Adult Initials: _____

__ Complete four Patron Saint badges. Date completed: _____ Adult initials: _____

__ Complete 10 hours of service to your family, parish or community. Date completed: _____

Adult Initials: _____

__ Visit a convent or monastery and talk to the religious there about their life. Find out about at least five different religious orders of nuns or sisters and write a short paper on what you find.

PROJECT: Complete a project approved by your parent or other mentor that requires at least 20 hours of work. This project must further vocation awareness or directly benefit a religious order. The project can be done in a group or as an individual.

Pearl of Great Price—The Golden Pearl Rose Award

The purpose of this award is to challenge the girls to think about what they value most in life. The Pearl of Great Price, the Kingdom of God, is something that they need to strive for daily. This award focuses on the reaching out with their faith and making it their own in their daily lives.

For ages 14+

Name of girl: _____ Age at completion: _____

Adult mentor: _____

Date award work began: _____

Project Timeline (for a typical Sept-May year)

__ September-October-- Project ideas are discussed with girl/girls and a project is narrowed down to two or three possibilities.

__Checklist on what it would take to complete each suggested project.

Project 1—

Is this project feasible for this age group? _____

Cost:_____ Where will funds come from? _____

Will a fundraiser be needed or donations acquired? _____

If so, list fundraising or donation gathering ideas: _____

Estimated Time to complete:_____ When will it be worked on? _____

If group project, who will be working on what aspect of the project? _____

Benefit to parish or community: _____

How does this project further the work of an existing Catholic institution, charity, or organization in a permanent and tangible way? _____

Project 2—

Is this project feasible for this age group? _____

Cost:_____ Where will funds come from? _____

Will a fundraiser be needed or donations acquired? _____

If so, list fundraising or donation gathering ideas: _____

Estimated Time to complete:_____ When will it be worked on? _____

If group project, who will be working on what aspect of the project? _____

Benefit to parish or community: _____

How does this project further the missionary heart of the Church? _____

How does this project further the work of an existing Catholic institution, charity, or organization in a permanent and tangible way? _____

Project 3—

Is this project feasible for this age group? _____

Cost: _____ Where will funds come from? _____

Will a fundraiser be needed or donations acquired? _____

If so, list fundraising or donation gathering ideas: _____

Estimated Time to complete: _____ When will it be worked on? _____

If group project, who will be working on what aspect of the project? _____

Benefit to parish or community: _____

How does this project further the work of an existing Catholic institution, charity, or organization in a permanent and tangible way? _____

__ October-November--Contact the organization that you will be doing the project for and submit a proposal to them for approval. Make a list of needs for the project. Begin fundraising or donation collection, if needed.

__ January-February--Plan out project. Continue with fundraising.

__ April-May—Finish up project.

Requirements

__ Complete five years of study in Little Flowers Girls' Club® and/or the Little Women Hospitality Program. Date completed: _____ Adult Initials: _____

__ Complete four Patron Saint badges. Date completed: _____ Adult initials: _____

__ Participate and organize a Little Flowers Girls' Club® mother/daughter camp, tea party or club meeting. Date completed: _____ Adult Initials: _____

__Make a list of Catholic institutions in your diocese. Don't forget to list hospitals, cemeteries, maternity homes, convents, shrines, and nursing homes. Contact one you didn't know about and find out what they do. Write a short paper about what you find.

PROJECT: Complete a project approved by your parent or other mentor that requires at least 30 hours of work. This project should further the work of an existing Catholic institution, charity, or organization in a permanent and tangible way.

Follow-up and Evaluation of Project Prior to Awards

To be filled out by adult mentor or parent. 1=Poor and 5=Best.

How appropriate was this project for the age it was intended?

1 2 3 4 5

How much planning were the girl(s) themselves involved?

1 2 3 4 5

How did the girl(s) and mentor interact and respond to the other institutions in the Church?

1 2 3 4 5

How well did the girl(s) show the servant leadership of Christ?

1 2 3 4 5

What aspects of leadership did you, as mentor or parent, see the girl(s) grow in from this project?

What aspects of leadership did the girl(s) say that grew in them from working on this project?

Did the project meet the mentor and girl(s)' expectations?
