Modern Saint Series

Chiara Luce Badano Religious Activity

Blessed Chiara Luce Badano is the first member of Generation X to be beatified. She died in 1990 at the age of 18. This teenager's love and devotion to God is an inspiring example for all young people. During her struggle with cancer she offered her suffering to God. Her example lead many of her friends to the Catholic faith. Blessed Chiara Luce Badano helps us realize that age doesn't matter when we love God – Our example is what is important.

The Chiara Luce Badano activity is part of the Modern Saint Series. This series honors 20th and 21st century Catholics who have had a profound impact on many people around the globe. The goal of each activity in this series is to help young people learn more about these outstanding Catholics so that young people might relate to what they have done and look to them as role models.

How to Participate in This Activity:

All Read about Chiara Luce Badano. You can find information at https://www.chiaralucebadano.it/?lang=en , http://chiaraluce.org/life, or https://faith.nd.edu/saint/blessed-chiara-badano/. Feel free to use other resources.

First – Fifth Grade Students: Complete four requirements and two activities.

Sixth – Twelfth Grade Students: Complete five requirements and three activities.

Anyone who completes the necessary requirements and activities may receive a patch. Patches may be ordered online at https://nccsshop.org/product/chiara-luce-badano/ .

Requirements:

1) Chiara Luce Badano is the first member of "Generation X" to be beatified. Read about her short but extraordinary life in at least one of the online resources. When was she born (this date is also her feast day)? When did she die? What feast does the Church celebrate on that date?

2) When Chiara was 9 years old, she traveled to Rome with her parents for a meeting of the Focolare Movement, a group of people devoted to living the Gospel. Read about the Movement at http://www.focolare.org. Who was the founder of Focolare? After meeting Chiara Badano, this woman gave her the middle name "Luce." What does "Luce" mean and why did she choose it?

3) What were some of the things Chiara Luce Badano loved to do with her family and friends?

4) What type of cancer was Chiara diagnosed with and what part of her body did it first affect? During her illness, how did Chiara say "YES" to God's plan for her? In what special garment did she ask to be buried?

5) When was Chiara beatified? What miracle was attributed to her to support the cause for her beatification?

Activities:

1) Write a short paragraph or draw a picture of how you can say “YES” to God.

2) Discuss with a parent/guardian or group of Scouts what it means to “live the Gospel”.

3) Chiara Luce Badano sent her pennies to foreign missions to help the children there. Today there are projects in Benin, Africa that were created in her honor. Read about them here: http://www.chiaralucebadano.it/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=135&Itemid=249&lang=en. Find Benin on a map of Africa.

4) With your parent’s/guardian’s permission watch a video about Chiara Luce Badano. One can be found here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HcIGGRtBskE. Others can be found on YouTube – enter “Chiara Luce Badano” into the search box.

5) With the help of your parent/guardian/leader identify a charitable organization that funds foreign missions OR supports pediatric cancer patients and/or research. Learn how you can help that organization and make a contribution. Some examples are Catholic Relief Services, Unbound, St. Jude Children’s Hospital and Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation.

Requirements for Adults:

1) Assist young people in learning more about Chiara through this Modern Saint Religious Activity.

2) Share your thoughts about Chiara with young people.

3) Review the responses to the requirements by young people to confirm the accuracy of the responses and to help ensure young people understand the important lessons we can all learn from Chiara.

4) If young people are to receive a patch, purchase the patch from the NCCS online store: https://nccsshop.org/product/chiara-luce-badano/

Answers to Requirements

1) Chiara was born on October 29, 1971. She died October 7, 1990, the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary.

2) Chiara Lubich is recognized as the founder of Focolare. Luce means “light”. She gave Chiara this new name because, she said, “in your eyes I see the light of the Holy Spirit.”

3) She loved singing, dancing, sports and traveling. Above everything, she loved God and was deeply committed to living out her Catholic faith.

4) She was diagnosed with osteogenic sarcoma, a type of bone cancer, when she was 16. When she lost her hair or had severe pain, she did not complain but said “If you want it, Jesus, so do I.” She asked to be buried in a wedding dress.

5) Chiara Luce Badano was beatified on September 25, 2010. The miracle attributed to her was the healing of a teenager who had meningitis and was expected to die but recovered after his family prayed for the intercession of Chiara Luce Badano.

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