Concerning The Service of Preparation for Junior Membership (Candlelight Service)

This Service of Preparation for Junior Membership (Candlelight Service) takes place before prospective members begin the study and discernment period. During this service the candidates promise to be faithful in their study and preparation for membership in The Order.

The Service of Preparation takes place at an appropriate time during the celebration of the Eucharist.

The Junior Directress is typically the presenter. However if she is in the process of becoming a Daughter of the King the presenter must be a member of The Order.

As part of this Service, Junior Daughters receive a candle as a symbol of their promise. The candles are typically lit from the Altar Candle and handed to each candidate. The candidates may be presented the candle individually or as a group, which will likely depend on the number of candidates.

JUNIOR DAUGHTER DIRECTRESS OR PRESENTER: It is my privilege to present these candidates for Junior membership in The Order of the Daughters of the King®.

Addressing the candidates:

CLERGY: You have expressed an interest in becoming a Junior Member of the Order of the Daughters of the King®. You are asked to serve a three-month preparation period during which you will learn about and follow the two Rules of the Order: the Rule of Prayer and the Rule of Service. You are asked to learn the Junior Daughters Prayer. In addition you are asked to learn about the Order and participate in sessions using the National Junior Daughter Study Guide, which will help you grow in your knowledge and love of God as you pray and serve him daily.

Do you promise to commit yourself to this time of preparation?

CANDIDATES: I do.

CLERGY: May Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, grant you also the strength and power to perform them, so that He may accomplish the work He has begun in you, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Clergy then blesses the candles.

CLERGY: Bless, O Lord, these candles and the ones who receive them, that they may be your faithful and willing servants, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
As the candle is lit and handed to each candidate, the clergy says:

**CLERGY:** Receive this candle; let it remind you of the promise you have made, and that Jesus Christ is the Light of the world. May He enlighten your heart and mind as you prepare to become a Junior Daughter of the King.

After receiving their candles, the candidates then pray:

**CANDIDATES:** Almighty and everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have our being, we here dedicate ourselves to you and your service in faith and joy and love. In this preparation time we pray that you will confirm and strengthen us that we may grow in grace and in the knowledge of our King and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**CLERGY:** Direct us O Lord in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and give us your help, that all our work begun, continued and ended in you, may glorify your holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**CLERGY:** The blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you always. Amen.

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