**Agree or Disagree?**

Handout 7-A

Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? Choose one, and then offer any explanation of or elaboration on your choice in the space provided.

1. **Agree/Disagree**: A person can be both highly intelligent and very religious.

2. **Agree/Disagree**: There is a fundamental conflict between science and religion.

3. **Agree/Disagree**: There are some scientific facts that contradict Catholic teaching.

4. **Agree/Disagree**: It is important for members of the Church to have convincing rational explanations for what they believe.

5. **Agree/Disagree**: It is logical and reasonable to be a member of the Church.

**Discussing Galileo**

Handout 7-B

In 1992, the Pontifical Academy of Sciences concluded a thirteen-year study of the “Galileo case,” and Pope John Paul II made a for- mal statement in response. Complete the following in your small group, and prepare to present your scenario and response to the class.

1. Read the article from the *New York Times* that reported on this moment in history. How does this article depict the relationship

between the Church and Galileo? What does it suggest about the relationship between faith and science?

2. Envision a scenario in which you—either this year or in the next few years as you move beyond high school—might encounter the argument that the Catholic Church is anti-reason, with Galileo used as the example. Strive to be realistic, and consider a vari- ety of possible settings. Does this encounter take place in person? In a class? Online? Are you directly questioned, or are you just present when the argument is made? Write a brief narrative that tells the story of this hypothetical scenario. Do not include (yet!) your response to the argument.

3. Read one of the following as assigned by your teacher: the English translation of Pope John Paul II’s address on which the *New York Times* was reporting, the Catholic Answers summary of what it terms the “Galileo controversy,” or the Vatican Observatory’s description of the “Galileo Affair.” Note here any direct quotes or useful pieces of information that would help you respond to the above scenario.

4. Now write a narrative describing how you might respond to the scenario you created in #2. Again, strive to be as realistic as pos- sible. If you would use a direct quote from your source, then use it, but if this would be uncharacteristic of you or unnatural in

the context you’ve created, then come up with something else that might be more appropriate.

**Media Reflections**

Use the following prompts to guide your media consumption during this class period. Make any notes you like. You need not reply to every single prompt.

• Why I trust or distrust the source of this information

• Something I’d like to look up

• Something I recall learning about

• An image or analogy that I find helpful or intriguing

• Something I’m not sure I agree with

• A phrase or image I could see myself quoting later

• A question I wish I could ask the speaker

• A question I’d like to discuss with a classmate

• Something else that stands out to me, not reflected in the prompts above

***The Song of Bernadette***

In your group, watch one of the following clips from the 1943 film *The Song of Bernadette.* Respond to the questions that follow, taking time to pause or rewind as you see fit. Be prepared to summarize your clip for your classmates and to present your thoughts on the discussion questions.

**Clip 1**: from 40:41 through 1:00:14

**Clip 2**: from 1:05:50 through 1:24:50

**Clip 3**: from 2:15:53 through the end of the flim

1. This film depicts several groups of people—notably civic officials, religious leaders, and Bernadette’s own family—discussing why Bernadette’s visits to the grotto are problematic and why they must be stopped. What reasons are portrayed in your assigned clip? Do they seem reasonable? Silly? Well-intentioned? Cruel?

2. Is evidence the same as proof? How do you see these themes in your assigned clip?

3. Is belief the same as faith? How do you see these themes in your assigned clip?