

COMMUNION JOURNAL PRAYER SERVICE

OPENING SONG:

Leader or Celebrant:

We come together to celebrate Jesus among us. We welcome everyone, especially the boys and girls who are preparing to receive First Holy Communion.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit...

All:

Amen.

Leader or Celebrant:

Jesus said to His apostles, "Let the little children come to me."

Girls and boys, in a very special way, you are invited to come to Jesus. Jesus is inviting you to receive His body and blood in the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

Do you remember the story of the first time Jesus blessed bread and wine and changed it into His body and blood? Do you remember the story about the Last Supper?

Let us listen to the gospel story about the Last Supper, the special meal that Jesus shared with His friends.

All:

Lord, Jesus, open our ears that we may listen to the Word of God.

Lord, Jesus, open our minds that we may understand the Word of God.

Lord, Jesus, open our hearts that we may believe the Word of God.

Leader or Celebrant:

This reading is taken from the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 26, verses 26 to 29.

(Scripture Reading)

All:

Thanks be to God.

Homily:

(optional)

Reader 1:

Jesus shared food with those He loved. On the night of the Last Supper, He wanted to show His love and friendship to some people who were very important to Him.

Reader 2:

We like to celebrate our love and friendship with special people by sharing food, too. Sometimes we have a special meal, like Thanksgiving Dinner, and at other times, we have something like cake and ice cream at a birthday party.

Reader 1:

Jesus knew how important food was to all of us. Jesus wanted us to remember Him and so He picked a meal, a time for sharing food, as a time to remember Him. Jesus chose bread and wine to become His body and blood.

Reader 2:

Every time we go to Mass and receive Holy Communion, we remember our friend, Jesus, just the way He wanted us to remember Him. At the Last Supper, Jesus said, "Do this in memory of me."

All:

Help us to remember You always, Jesus.

Leader or Celebrant:

Today, you will receive a little book called, **My Communion Journal**. You will receive this journal to help

you to remember Jesus. Your Communion Journal will help you learn some new things about your friend, Jesus. It will also remind you of some of the things you already know about Him.

Your Communion Journal also has a place for you to write some thoughts you have about Jesus. You can write prayers in it, too. You will find some puzzles and pictures to color. You will also find some stories about receiving the Sacrament of Holy Eucharist.

I would like each one of you to come to receive your Journal and a special blessing.

(Give directions for distribution of Journals.)

Blessing:

_____(name)_____, you are a special friend of Jesus. May He bless you and always keep you in His care. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Child:

Amen. Thank you.

Leader or Celebrant:

Let us pray together, using the prayer on the back cover of the Journal you just received.

All:

Dear Jesus,
When I receive you / on Communion day,
Please come into my heart / to stay.
Bless me / and my family / and friends, I pray.
Help me to love you / more each day.
Be with me at home, / at school, / and at play.
I want to please You / in all I do / and say.
Amen.

Closing Song:

PRAYER SERVICE
AND DISTRIBUTION OF

My Communion Journal

