

First Eucharist Preparation
Session 3
December 2 or December 6

We began the session by asking the children what they did to help with their thanksgiving dinner and who they called to show care and concern to. Responses were great. Some made dessert, set the table, cleaned up afterwards; some wrote to cousins, aunt, uncle and grandparents. We talked about watching the Mass from St. Mary's if they are not able to attend. Several watch with their families.

Conversation # 1: (we named Church objects found on the shared screen)

Children saw pictures of objects they are learning about. The "picture handout" is being emailed with this handout. Please review with your child: 1. Altar; 2. Ambo; 3. Green chasuble worn by the presider during ordinary time; 4. Stained glass window; 5. Paschal or Easter candle which is blessed each Holy Saturday; 6. Priest wearing an alb which is the first vestment he puts on; 7. Purple chasuble worn by the presider during Advent and Lent; 8. Tabernacle; 9. Holy Water Font; 10. Sanctuary Lamp – usually located next to the tabernacle, remains lit as long as the Blessed Sacrament is in the tabernacle; 11. Chalice (for the wine) and paten (for the bread); 12. Ciborium (which is found in the tabernacle with the extra Communion from Mass); 13. Cruets containing water and wine; 14. Stole – third vestment worn by the priest during Mass.

Conversation # 2: (we talked about the Last Supper Video)

We once again mentioned the Last Supper Video. Children learned that Eucharist was first celebrated at the Last Supper table. Children remembered that Jesus washed feet at that meal to teach us that we are to take care of one another. Children also remembered from the video that Jesus took bread and wine, blessed it and shared it. He said whenever you eat this bread and drink this wine, I want you to remember me. He told them that this was the last supper he would have with them and that he had to go away, but that he would be back. Then he told them he wanted to go to pray in the garden.

Conversation # 3: (we talked about the video they watched with their parents)

Children remembered that the video was about the man born blind. Jesus spit on the ground, made mud, and spread the mud over the man's eyes. Then Jesus told him to wash himself in the pool of Siloam. The man obeyed Jesus and he could see again. The children learned that Jesus had the power to work miracles. Jesus was not an ordinary man. He was also God.

Message for parents:

The next "gathering" will be recorded and sent to the families to watch at your convenience.

1. If you are not comfortable attending Mass in person, Please watch the weekly streamed/recorded Mass from St. Mary's each weekend. The children will get used to Father Paul and to the responses for Mass. Masses are streamed on Saturday evening at 4:30 pm and Sunday morning at 10 am. Pay attention, no eating during Mass!
2. Jesus taught us by telling stories. These stories are parables. Ask children if they remember the parables they learned last year – the parable of the Lost Sheep and the parable of the Father and two sons. Using a Bible, read with your child the parable of the Talents. Converse with your child about gifts they have and how they use them. Matthew 25: 14 – 30.

Have a good Advent! Be sure to watch the pre-recorded Session 4 with your child! Thank you for sticking with us during this very unusual time! God bless you and keep you safe.