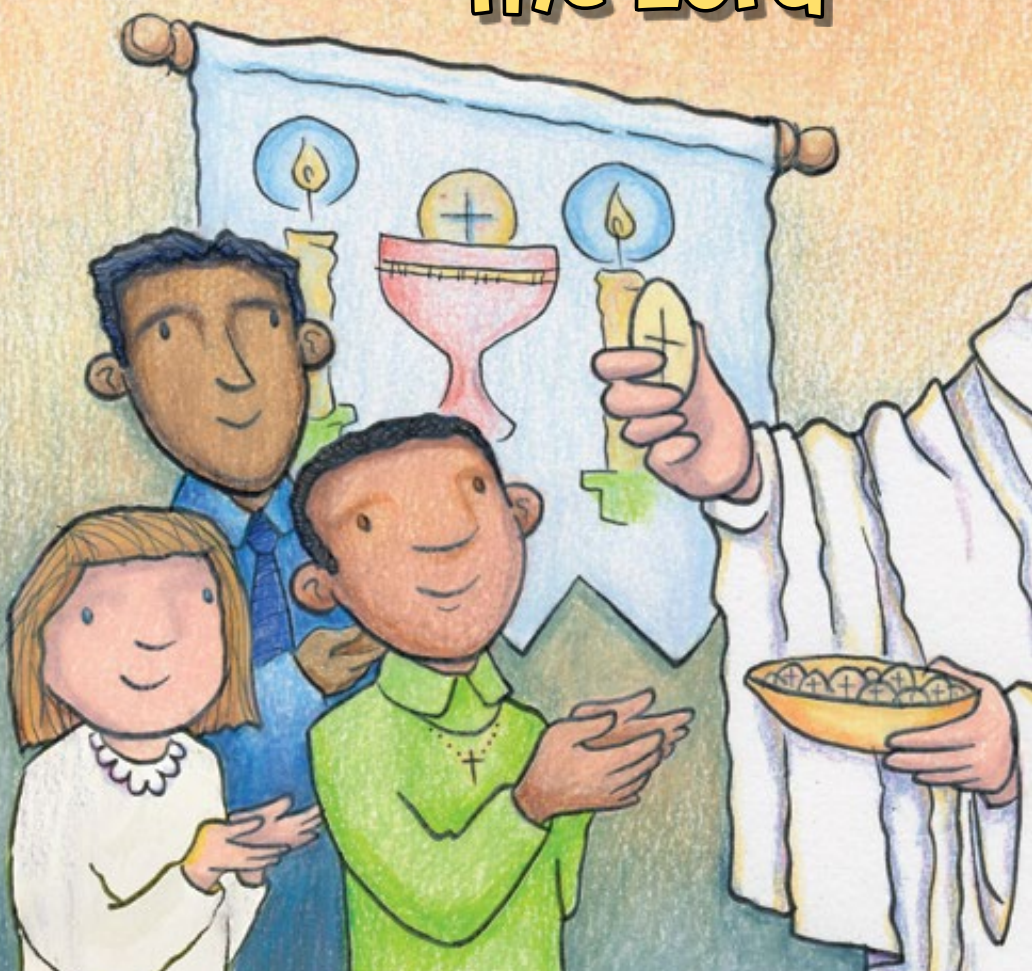


Receive the Lord



All About Your First Communion

You are making Your First communion!

Soon you will receive Jesus for the first time in the Eucharist. What an exciting day! Many children make first Communion banners to remember this special event. These banners remind us of the amazing things that happen every time we receive Jesus in holy Communion.

You might make a first Communion banner at your school, church or home. This booklet will help you learn about some of the symbols you might use on your banner. These symbols help us understand the mystery and blessing of the Eucharist a little better. We see many of these symbols at Mass, which is where our celebration of the Eucharist takes place.

He took the bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which will be given for you; do this in memory of me." And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which will be shed for you."

Luke 22:19-20

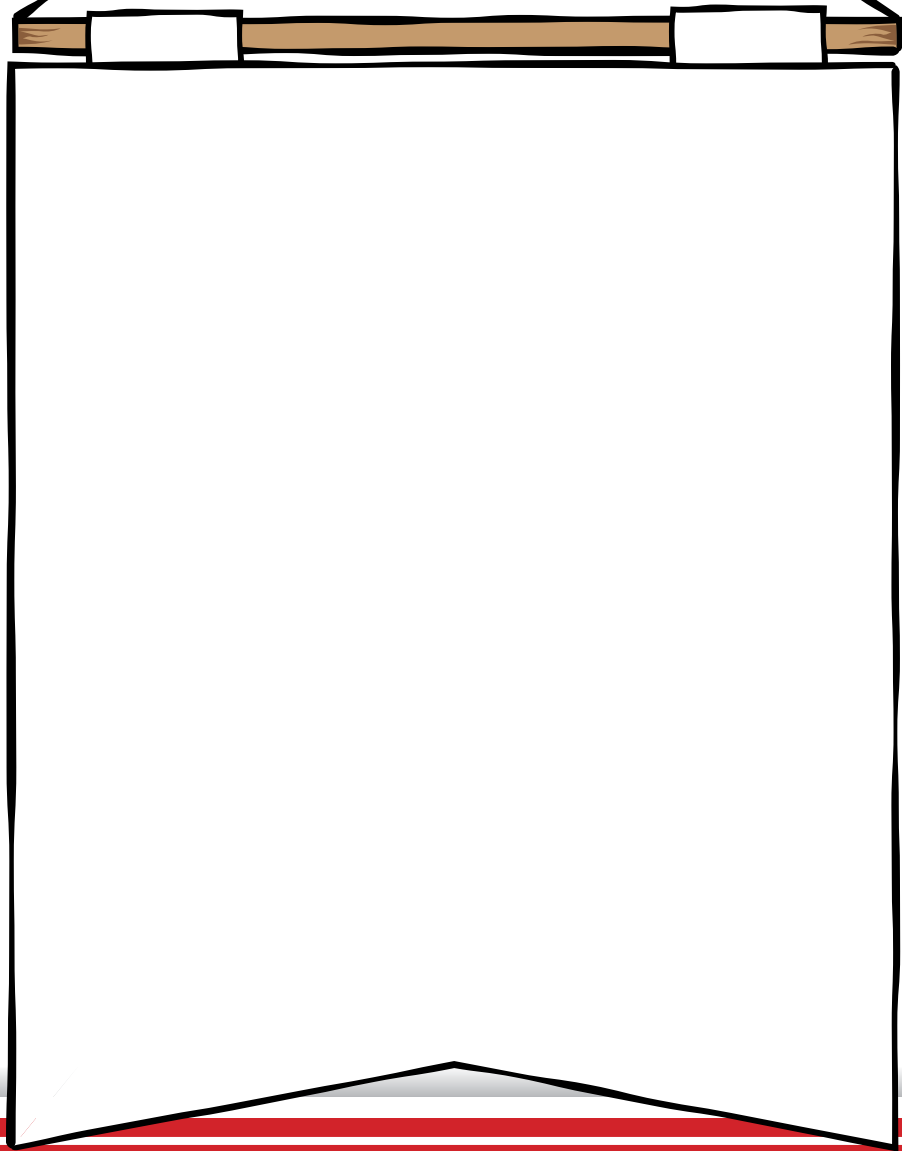
At every Mass, we celebrate and remember this holy meal, when Jesus offered himself as a sacrifice to his Father for us. When you receive Jesus in the Eucharist, you receive Jesus' own body, blood, soul and divinity. Jesus is just as real for us in the Eucharist as when the disciples received him in the bread and wine at the Last Supper.



**did you
KNOW?**

In baptism, God called you by name to be his child. Write your name on your banner as a reminder of how much Jesus loves you!

**Just as you practice for first Communion,
you can make a practice banner here.**



Decorate this banner with the stickers that match the symbols from the pages of this book or with your own drawings. Start with the bread and wine. These remind us that Jesus is the Bread of Life. At the Last Supper, Jesus shared bread and wine with his disciples.



Get Ready to celebrate!



Your first Communion day will be full of joy. One way you might get ready for this big event in your life is by putting on special clothes. Girls usually wear white dresses, and boys often wear white shirts or white ties. White reminds us of another time Jesus came to us in a special way—at our baptism. On that day, you wore a white

garment. White reminds us of everything that is clean, pure and good—like God!

Baptism makes us part of God's family. We wear white to show that we have received the goodness of God's grace within us. We want to live in God's goodness always. All through our lives, the Eucharist—and our good choices—help us grow in God's life and love. Bad choices lead us away from God. That is what sin is. But Jesus saves us from sin by his cross and resurrection.

We make the Sign of the Cross at the beginning of Mass to remember that Jesus died on the cross because he loves us so much. This special prayer also reminds us that we belong to God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.



You can put a crucifix on your banner as a reminder of Jesus' love for you.

did you KNOW?

Jesus is present to you in the Eucharist; he is also present with you in reconciliation. Every time we receive these sacraments, we grow in God's grace, love and goodness.

Jesus Will help you!

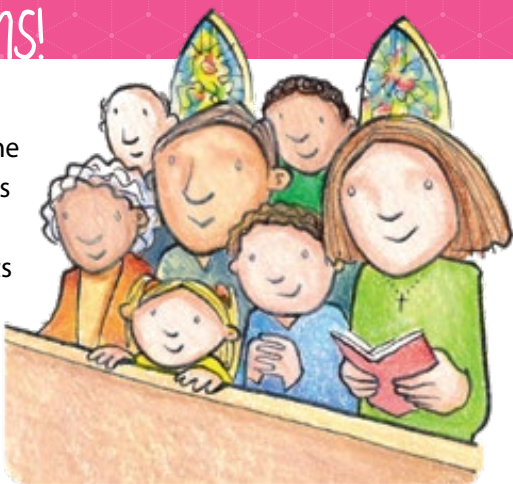
Another way we get ready to receive Jesus in the Eucharist is by receiving the sacrament of reconciliation. Imagine carrying a heavy weight everywhere you go. This is what sin can feel like. In the sacrament of reconciliation, we confess our sins to Jesus and tell him we are sorry. By God's own power, we are forgiven. Jesus takes away the terrible weight of sin and heals us. He gives us his grace to make us stronger so that we can do better in the future. Reconciliation fills us with joy because Jesus frees us from our sins.



In the sacrament of reconciliation, three people are present: you, the priest and Jesus. Through the priest, Jesus hears what you pray and say. Jesus forgives you and gives you grace to try again. Draw yourself in the sacrament of reconciliation here. Show how happy you are to be with Jesus, who loves you!

Our celebration begins!

Jesus is present for us in the most amazing way in the Eucharist. But he is also present with us in other ways at our celebration of the Eucharist, the Mass. He is present in the hearts of all the people who are there as God's family. This is why, when we come to Mass, the priest greets us by saying, "The Lord be with you!" And we respond, "And with your Spirit."



The Mass is divided into two main parts. The Liturgy of the Word comes first. This is when we hear the Word of God in readings from the Bible, or Scripture. Jesus is present to us in the words we hear and read in Scripture. One special reading we hear at Mass is always about Jesus. Do you know what it is? It is the gospel, or Good News. The Good News of the gospel is that Jesus saves us from sin and death so we can live forever with him in his kingdom.



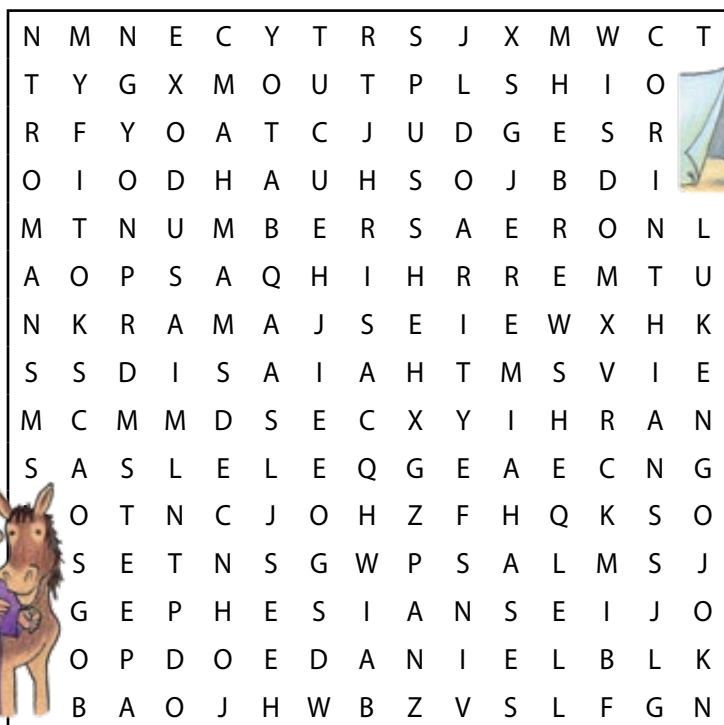
**did you
KNOW?**

The Bible is not just one book. It is many books. There are 73 books in the Bible!

Hidden in the puzzle are 20 of the Bible books we often hear at Mass.

They are from the Old Testament and the New Testament.

They can be found in a straight line, up and down, side to side, diagonally, backward and forward. Can you find them all?



Old Testament Books

Genesis
Exodus
Numbers
Joshua
Judges
Ruth
Psalms
Wisdom
Isaiah
Jeremiah
Daniel

New Testament Books

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John
Acts
Romans
Corinthians
Ephesians
Hebrews

**A Bible
on your banner
shows that in our
celebration of the
Eucharist, Jesus
speaks to us in the
Bible.**



Receive the Lord



Use the stickers on this page to decorate your banner on page 3.
Note: there are some extras.



4.



6.



8.



9.



8.



11.



10.



14.



15.

Are you making a first Communion banner?

You might be wondering what all the symbols and pictures mean—like bread, grapes, a chalice, a cross and more. Here you will learn why these pictures and symbols are important, as you use colorful stickers to design and create a practice banner right here in this book. Plus, you can do some fun activities to help you get ready to receive the greatest gift ever—Jesus in the Eucharist!



Other Living Faith Sticker Books



www.creativecommunications.com

Living Faith Kids
Daily Catholic Devotions

Imprimatur: +Most Reverend Robert J. McManus, S.T.D.,
Bishop of Worcester, May 16, 2019.

Receive the Lord was written by Connie Clark. Illustrations by Jim Burrows. Images by iStock. Design by Jamie Wyatt. © 2019 Creative Communications for the Parish, a division of Bayard, Inc., 1564 Fencorp Drive, Fenton, MO 63026. 800-325-9414. www.creativecommunications.com. All rights reserved. Printed in the USA.

RL6

Parents & teachers...

to order the
Living Faith Kids
quarterly resource, visit

livingfaithkids.com

