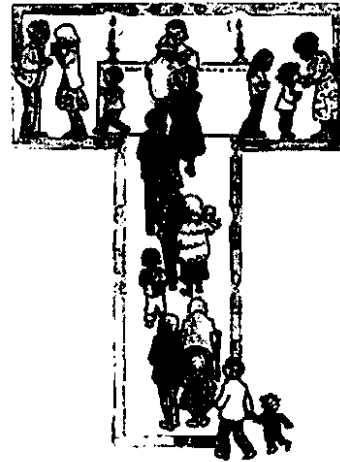




What is the Church?

Parent Leaflet: Unit 6

We are the Body of Christ



Main Themes

The children, with their catechists, are looking at the way we become full members of the Church through Confirmation and Communion

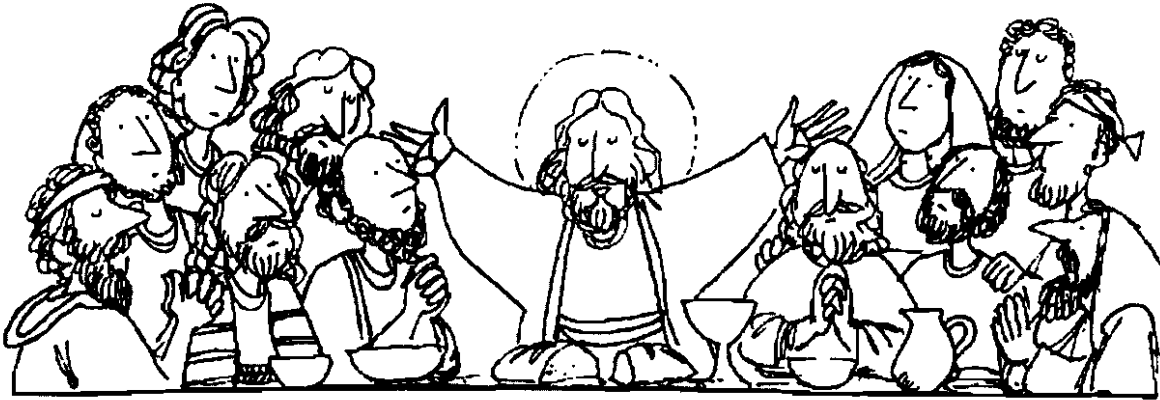
They are being asked to think about:

- ♦ The way these two sacraments are connected and complete the initiation that began with their Baptism
- ♦ The fact that they will celebrate these two sacraments very soon
- ♦ The gift of the Holy Spirit given to us in Confirmation
- ♦ What will happen at the Confirmation ceremony
- ♦ The Mass as the Eucharist - the great prayer of thanksgiving
- ♦ Receiving Jesus in Holy Communion - the Eucharist which is the Body and Blood of Jesus given first to his disciples at the Last Supper

From Your Child's Worksheet

At Home...

Colour in this picture of Jesus sharing the Last Supper with his disciples and think about the words he spoke to them.



Write down some of the things that we can thank God for when we come to Mass - the Eucharist:

Say this prayer to the Holy Spirit as you prepare for Confirmation:

***Come Holy Spirit, fill me with your gifts.
Help me to live as Jesus wants me to live,
loving God and other people.
Amen.***

This worksheet belongs to: _____

What You Can Do To Help Your Child

Remind your child of their Baptism when they were first welcomed into the Church.

Explain that soon the bishop or priest will seal that membership when they are confirmed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Share with your child ways in which we recognise the work of the Holy Spirit in our world today - through acts of good will and love to others.

Share memories [and pictures] of your own Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

Each day for a week before your child's confirmation, say a prayer of blessing over some oil and make the sign of the cross on your child's forehead before going to sleep. [Olive oil, or massage oil will serve the purpose]

Say the "Our Father" regularly with your child: it is the prayer which is prayed in Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

Try to share a meal with your family as often as possible and help your child to appreciate this gift of sharing together.

Bring your child to Sunday Mass and explain this is when as God's People we gather to celebrate and share a special meal together. At Communion time bring your child forward with you for a blessing. If you are not able to receive communion then join your child for a blessing.

Talk with your child about how, in a short time, they will be able to receive Holy Communion every time they go to Mass.

Help your child to complete their worksheet - especially the last page.

Please keep your child's worksheet safe, so that they can bring it back to the next meeting with their catechist.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

“...this table, ... is God’s grace and gift. This is food for the journey that we began at Baptism.”

(Cardinal Bernardin, *Guide to the Assembly*, page 21)