



Jesus said, I am the bread of life, he who comes to me shall not hunger and he who believes in me shall not thirst.

John: 6:35

The Presentation of the Our Father



*Sacrament of First
Holy Communion*



A catechist calls each candidate by name. Candidates and parents come forwards and stand in front of the altar.

Celebrant: Just as Jesus taught his disciples to pray; you, the parents of our children have taught them how to pray so that they could grow in their relationship with Jesus and their love for Him. In this celebration today, we present our children preparing for First Holy Communion with the Our Father, to help them on their journey of prayer.

Priest addresses the parents:

Celebrant: Parents, as the first educators of your children, do you promise to teach your children how to pray so that they may grow in their relationship with Jesus?

Parents: We do.

Priest addresses the children:

Celebrant: Dear children, as you prepare to meet Jesus for the first time in Holy Communion, do you promise to continue to grow in love for Him by praying each day to Him, so that when you come to receive Him in Holy Communion, you will be ready?

Children: I do.

Priest addresses the congregation:

Celebrant: My dear people, are you willing to join these children in prayer, praying for them and for their parents, that they might come to know and love Our Lord Jesus Christ?

Congregation: We are.

Celebrant: I invite our children to now stand around the altar to listen to the gospel reading where our Lord Jesus teaches his followers how to pray.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

At that time Jesus said to his disciples: 'Say this when you pray: Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Priest now distributes a copy of the 'Our Father' to each child.

Celebrant: Let us now pray together in the words Our Saviour gave us

All: Pray the 'Our Father' together.

Prayers of Intercessions

Celebrant: As our candidates have now been gifted with Our Lord's prayer, we pray for them and their families that they will grow strong in faith and prayer.

Prayer 1: Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name. May these candidates to whom we have presented the Lord's Prayer come to live this prayer, and pray it with simple, faithful trust.

LORD HEAR US/LORD GRACIOUSLY HEAR US

Prayer 2: Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. We pray that God's kingdom may grow daily in all our lives as we try to do what he wants

LORD HEAR US/LORD GRACIOUSLY HEAR US

Prayer 3: Give us this day our daily bread. We pray that these children may always turn to God in trusting faith and love for all their needs, and that our brothers and sisters throughout the world may never lack daily bread.

LORD HEAR US/LORD GRACIOUSLY HEAR US

Prayer 4: Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. We pray that we may love one another as Jesus loves us and that we may always have hearts that are ready to forgive.

LORD HEAR US/LORD GRACIOUSLY HEAR US

Prayer 5: And lead us not into temptation. We pray that our hearts will always be set on God and that we will always turn to him for help in times of temptation.

LORD HEAR US/LORD GRACIOUSLY HEAR US

Celebrant: God our Father, look lovingly on these children gathered here today and on their parents. Grant them their daily bread, help them to forgive as you have forgiven them, inspire them to build up your kingdom on earth and strengthen them in their lives of prayer. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord, Amen.