

Sample Family Discussion Questions about the Mass

The following are recommended discussion questions about the Mass that can be used to assist in preparing children to receive First Communion. Your child's catechist may have additional, related questions. Some of the questions below are drawn from [Around the Lord's Table](#), by Patricia O'Brien Fisher (Our Sunday Visitor).

Remember that young children think in concrete terms. They enjoy learning and mastering specific information and vocabulary. Abstract concepts (sin, grace, salvation) are beyond their grasp, as is lengthy "discussion."

What day of the week is very special to God's family?	Sunday
Why is Sunday our special day?	Jesus rose from the dead on a Sunday
What is our Church 'family' sign?	The sign of the cross, because by His death on the cross, Jesus made us His family.
Why do we ask God's forgiveness and forgiveness of one another?	To be at peace with God and one another.
Who speaks to us in the words of the Bible?	God
What word do we sing when it is time to listen to the words of Jesus in the Gospels?	Alleluia
What does the word "Alleluia" mean?	Praise to God
What do we say when the priest says, "A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark?"	Glory to you, O Lord
What do we do as we say this?	Sign our forehead, lips and heart with the cross
Why do we make this sign?	To keep Jesus in our minds, in our words, and in our hearts.
What do we say when the priest says, "The gospel of the Lord"?	Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ
Why did Jesus give us His life?	So that we may live forever with Him.
How is Jesus with us at Mass?	In the form of bread and wine
How does Jesus become present with us at Mass?	By the power of the Holy Spirit.
What does the word Eucharist mean?	Thanksgiving
Why do we receive Communion?	Because Jesus loves us; because we love Jesus; to be close to Jesus
What do we say/do when we receive Communion?	We bow and say "Amen". (Also review with your child the how-to's of receiving Communion.)
What do we do after receiving Communion?	Pray silently; thank Jesus for all the gifts He has given us.