

## Family Prayer before First Eucharist

The following prayers are intended to help your family focus more deeply on the celebration of First Eucharist that will be taking place soon. Through these prayers, you, your child, and your family will be asking for guidance as you continue to grow as disciples and continue your journey of faith together. By creating the time to pray these short, daily prayers as a family, you will be reinforcing for your family how important these final days of preparation are.

*Note:* When the prayer refers to “our child,” feel free to insert your child’s name for a more personalized prayer.

### Sunday before the Celebration of First Eucharist

**Child:** This is the day the Lord has made.

**All:** Let us be glad and rejoice in it.

**Parent:** A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**All:** Glory to you, O Lord.

**Parent:** (*Proclaim Matthew 26:26–28.*) The Gospel of the Lord.

**All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

**Child:** Jesus, you call us to your table. You want to give us yourself in Holy Communion. Help us to be ready to receive you.

**Parent:** God our Father, help us during this next week to prepare our child to welcome your Son, Jesus, into their hearts.

**All:** Jesus, you touched the hearts of many people. They loved to be with you. Soon you will be with us in a wonderful new way. Help us to bring happiness to others by smiling and doing things cheerfully. Amen.



## Monday

**Child:** At the Last Supper, Jesus said, "I pray for them . . . for those you gave me, for they belong to you" (John 17:9).

**Parent:** God our Father, help us most especially during these next days to prepare our child to receive your Son, Jesus.

**All:** Jesus, we remember your hours of prayer at the Last Supper, in the garden, and on the cross. We unite ourselves with you. We pray for ourselves and others that we may be more like you.

**Child:** Come, Lord Jesus, make your home in my heart.

## Tuesday

**Child:** Jesus said, "If you have love for one another, then everyone will know that you are my disciples" (John 13:35).

**Parent:** God our Father, help us most especially during these next days to prepare our child to receive your Son, Jesus.

**All:** Jesus, you were always kind and loving. Please help us to follow your example by being kind to everyone we meet.

**Child:** Come, Lord Jesus, make your home in my heart.

## Wednesday

**Child:** Jesus said, "Your light must shine before people, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).

**Parent:** God our Father, help us most especially during these next days to prepare our child to receive your Son, Jesus.

**All:** Jesus, we read in the Gospels of the many ways you helped others, either by your words or your actions. Help us follow your example by giving a helping hand to someone in need.

**Child:** Come, Lord Jesus, make your home in my heart.



## Thursday

**Child:** God our Father sent Jesus to show us the way of service. He showed his love every minute of the day.

**Parent:** God our Father, help us most especially during these next days to prepare our child to receive your Son, Jesus.

**All:** Jesus, you are gentle and humble of heart. Accept the works and prayers of this day and give us the rest we need to serve you better tomorrow. Help us be attentive to the needs of others and try to help before being asked.

**Child:** Come, Lord Jesus, make your home in my heart.

## Friday

**Child:** "Give thanks to the LORD, because he is good; his love is eternal" (1 Chronicles 16:34).

**Parent:** God our Father, help us most especially during these next days to prepare our child to receive your Son, Jesus.

**All:** Jesus, we thank you for calling us together and forming us into a family. There is no other family exactly like ours. No other family can give you what you expect from us. We praise you, we bless you, and we thank you!

**Child:** Come, Lord Jesus, make your home in my heart.

## Saturday before First Communion

**Child:** "Find out for yourself how good the LORD is" (Psalm 34:8). Jesus, the day we have been waiting for is almost here. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

**Parent:** Lord, please grant your special graces and blessing to our child this night, tomorrow, and always. (*Make the Sign of the Cross on your child's forehead in blessing.*)

**All:** Come, Lord Jesus, make your home in my heart.



Family Prayer before First Eucharist

(The scriptural quotations on this handout are from the *Good News Translation*® [*Today's English Version, Second Edition*]. Copyright © 1992 by the American Bible Society. All rights reserved.)

