

YOUR CHILD LEARNED >>>

This chapter explains how we are united with Jesus and with one another when we reverently receive Holy Communion.

God's Word



Read **Matthew 14:15–21** to learn about the multiplication of the loaves and fishes.

Catholics Believe

- Through the Eucharist, Jesus' followers are united with him and one another.
- The gift of Holy Communion is received with reverence.

To learn more, go to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* #256, 319, 454 at usccb.org.

People of Faith

This week, your child met Venerable Pierre Toussaint, a former slave who was well known for his love of the Eucharist and care for the poor.

CHILDREN AT THIS AGE >>>

How They Understand the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist

Transubstantiation, the transformation of the bread and wine during Mass to the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ, seems like a very difficult concept to impart to children. However, many children's stories and movies have examples of things or people that have taken the form of something else (shape shifters, etc.). Therefore, they are capable of understanding that the Eucharist still looks and tastes like bread and wine but is Jesus himself.

CONSIDER THIS >>>

Have you ever wondered why we call Jesus' Body and Blood, "Communion"?

Communion is another name for Eucharist because the word describes an effect of Eucharist. When we receive the gift of Jesus' Body and Blood, we enter into communion with him. In Christ we are then made one with each other. "We testify in faith that God as Trinity wants to relate to us and to be engaged in our world. . . love within the Trinity makes possible a divine closeness to us. Love preserves the mystery and yet overcomes what might have been a gulf between us and God. Unity and communion with God in the Church also calls us to become a source of unity for all people" (*USCCA, p. 119*).

LET'S TALK >>>

- Have your child show you the way to receive Holy Communion. Ask him what he does (bows, holds out cupped hands, etc.) and what he says (Amen).
- Talk about why your family would stay after Mass to say a prayer in front of the Tabernacle.

LET'S PRAY >>>



Venerable Pierre, pray for us that we may help others see the presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Amen.



Visit aliveinchrist.osv.com for additional resources and activities.