

Toddler Church Communion

Find out beforehand who wants to help & assign jobs such as: bringing up the bread and wine; helping during the service; helping light and extinguish candles; help with the setting up. The priest wears the usual vestments and the children can watch them being put on.

1. Welcome (Izzy). Introduce service, introduce the priest if necessary. 'Welcome Everybody' song with gestures. (First verse welcome everybody, second and subsequent verses welcome children by name. Leader says child's name before each line.)

**Welcome everybody, it's good to see you here (x3)
Gathering in this place.**

**Welcome, welcome (Jack), it's good to see you here
Welcome, welcome (Bess), it's good to see you here
Welcome, welcome (Izzy), it's good to see you here
Gathering in this place**

2. Collect prayer (Priest). Point to each body part as you say the word.

Dear God,
Open my **eyes** to see all the friends around me.
Open my **ears** to hear the words of our service.
Open my **mind** to learn new things.
Open my **hands** to help people.
Open my **mouth** to speak kind words.
Open my **heart** to be loving like you.
In Jesus' name,
Amen.

3. Gospel reading from a children's Bible (Izzy), for example 'Martha and Mary' from Maggie Barfield 'The Jesus Bible Story Book', with actions.

4. Prayers (Izzy). Toddler Church Prayer, the first line has actions.

'P.R.A.Y. Pray!
God in heaven hear our prayer,
Keep us in your loving care,
Bless and guide in all we do
And God bless those who love us, too.
Amen.'

5. Offertory (Priest say the usual prayers). Children to help bring up the bread and wine.

6. Eucharistic Prayer (Priest). Children copy the priest's actions. Repeated response – Izzy to practise before starting Eucharistic prayer. The usual priest's actions and any others that are appropriate – for example at 'the whole world', 'in your love you made us', 'he opened his arms' and 'embraced us'

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right to praise you, Father,
you made the whole world
and in your love you made us for yourself,
and so we say:

Thank you for your love

When we turned away from you, you did not reject us,
but came to meet us in your Son, Jesus Christ.
He opened his arms on the cross,
embraced us as your children,
and welcomed us to sit and eat with you,
and so we say:

Thank you for your love

On the night before he died,
at a meal with his friends,
Jesus took bread, and gave you thanks;
He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:
'Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.'

elevation

And so we say:

Thank you for your love

At the end of the meal, taking the cup of wine,
Jesus gave you thanks, and gave it to them saying:
'Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

elevation

And so we say:

Thank you for your love

As we remember how he died and rose from the dead,
we offer you these gifts and we offer you ourselves,
and so we say:

Thank you for your love

Send your Holy Spirit on us +
and on this bread and this wine,
that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ,
and that we may share your life,
and so we say:

Thank you for your love

With Jesus' mother Mary
and all your friends in heaven and earth
we give you thanks and praise,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
as we sing together the song of the angels:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he, O blessed is he
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Sanctus. Izzy leads St Anne's Mass, children have scarves.

7. *Break bread (Priest).*
8. *Lord's Prayer (introduced by Priest, could be sung).*
9. *Holy Communion taken round & given by the priest kneeling at the same level as the children. Izzy to find out beforehand who wants to receive communion or have a blessing.*

10. Thank you prayer (Izzy)

**Thank you for the world so sweet
Thank you for the food we eat
Thank you for the birds that sing
Thank you God for everything
Amen**

11. Blessing & Dismissal – Toddler Church Blessing (tune of 'Sing a Song of Sixpence')

**May the Lord now bless us and keep us all safe
send us out from here filled with love and grace
Take the things we've learnt and the special things we know
and help us all to make the world a place where love can grow
(priest) And may God bless you, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit
Amen**

Go in peace to Love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen

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