

St. Aloysius Religious Education 2018-2019
2nd Grade

4:00pm Welcome (Tabernacle coloring page and *to ensure accuracy, class attendance must be accurately recorded by a catechist and not another student - class attendance is an official document retained by the parish and the diocese*)

4:05pm We Gather - in Prayer at the prayer table
(use colored table covering for appropriate liturgical season)
Use the Gospel Reading “Hearing the Word” from the previous Sunday in Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families book in the prayer box

4:10pm Review previous lesson using one of the pages from the Activity Book.

4:15pm **Chapter #33 “Jesus is Always Present”**

We are reminded of the new life we have in Jesus. Before going up to ascending to Heaven, Jesus promised His disciples that He would remain with them forever and The Holy Spirit would soon come to help them to spread the Word of God.

- *We Believe – Discuss the different vessels on the Altar and what else you see on the Sanctuary during Mass.*
- *We Respond – watch DVD “St Aloysius Church – First Holy Communion 2005” You may want to fast forward through some of this, as it is an actual St Aloysius Church First Holy Communion from 2005. It is a great way for them to see a real First Communion if they have not before. You should mention the furniture, vessels, reverence, posture and the responses when watching.*
- *We Respond – discuss church etiquette and practice receiving Holy Communion using the “Prepare for Jesus and Receiving Jesus” (attached)*

4:55pm Closing Prayer –

After receiving our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament -
We should praise Him for His divine mercy, love, forgiveness and holiness.
We should praise His divine providence for us and for His creation.
We should thank Him for His love for us and
for the many blessings, He has given to us despite our unworthiness.

Ask the children to say a petition aloud for someone or something they would like to pray for.

“How can I return to God’s love?”

As Catholics, we believe that the Church is the House of God, to which He invites all His children -- where they may give thanks, prayers and worship to their God and Creator. Like any house to which one is invited, there is always some sort of basic etiquette, and God's house is no different. Below are some basics to help you feel more at home, and to participate more fully in The Mass.

Mass Etiquette: 20 Things To Do And Not Do In Mass

1. **Fast before Mass.** It is Church law that one fasts for at least 1 hour before receiving Holy Communion. The only exceptions are medicine, water or unless someone is ill and needs to eat sooner.
2. **No Food and Drink in Church.** The only exceptions would be milk for infants, water for the priest or choir and those who are ill.
3. **Men take your hats off.** It is impolite to wear a hat into any church for a man.
4. **Don't chew gum in church.** It is just wrong to chew gum and then consume Our Lord.
5. **Cross yourself with Holy Water on entering and leaving the church.** This is a reminder of our Baptism, which made us members of Christ's Church.
6. **Dress modestly and appropriately.** Wear your Sunday best. As Catholics, we believe that God comes down to meet us at every Mass. Why would we not dress up?
7. **Show up at least a few minutes early.** If you can't be on time, then sit in the back so you don't disturb others.
8. **Cell phones should never be used in Mass for calls or texting.** The ONLY exceptions are emergencies (big ones) and if you are using the phone for readings or prayers.
9. **Don't sit on the edge of the pew if you sit down before others.** Rather, sit in the middle so others don't have to climb over you.
10. **When we enter and leave Church, genuflect toward the Tabernacle.** Christ is present for our sake. By allowing our right knee to hit the floor, we acknowledge He is our Lord and God. A bow is sufficient. During Mass, if you pass in front of the altar or tabernacle, bow reverently.
11. **Sit quietly while in church.** Once you enter the sanctuary - it is not the time or place to visit with those around you. If you must talk do so as quietly and briefly as possible. Remember that your conversation might be disturbing someone who is in prayer, which is much more important. Sssshhhhhhhhh.
12. **Respect Boundaries others may have.** You might want to hold hands to pray, they may not. They might be sick and not want to shake during the sign of peace. These are all OK. Do not make any unnecessary judgment because they worship differently.

13. **Bow before receiving Holy Communion.** If it is God, then show your respect with a bow of the head. *When the Eucharistic minister presents the Host and says “The Body of Christ” or “The Blood of Christ” (for the Chalice), the proper response is a simple “Amen!” This indicates that you know and believe that what you are about to receive is Jesus Himself. Please make sure you have a firm hold on the Chalice (without grabbing it) from the Eucharistic minister. Please consume the Host immediately. If you do not, a Communion Minister may ask you to. This is to protect the Sacrament. Intinction (“dipping” the Host in the Precious Blood) is not allowed.*
14. **Do not receive from the chalice if you are sick.** This is an act of charity. *It is sufficient to receive under either Eucharistic species (the Body or Blood) to truly receive Communion. So if you “forgot” one species or the Precious Blood ran out – you received Communion.*
15. **Pray after Communion.** It is a good custom, to offer a prayer of thanksgiving after receiving Holy Communion. *“Dear God, Your love for me is kind and merciful. Send me your Spirit, so that I may choose to be more kind and merciful. Amen.”*
16. **Do not leave early.** We should stay to the end of the Mass and sing the recessional hymn.
17. **Please wait until the priest has exited** before making your pilgrimage to the parish coffee.
18. **Leave quietly.** We encourage you to visit with others, but once you are outside of the main sanctuary of the church so you won't disturb others who want to stay and pray.

WHAT IS ON THE SANCTUARY?

The following furniture and fittings are present on the sanctuary during the celebration of Mass – *look for them in the DVD*.

SANCTUARY The sanctuary is the front part of the church from where the Priest stands during Mass. It is usually elevated from the nave, where the congregation sits.

TABERNACLE The tabernacle is where the Consecrated Hosts, which have not been used during Mass, are kept. There is a light left on somewhere close by to remind us that Jesus is present in the hosts.

SANCTUARY LAMP The light near the tabernacle is known as the Sanctuary Lamp. A lit Sanctuary Lamp signifies the presence of God in the tabernacle that contains the Eucharist.

THE ALTAR The altar is the table where the Priest celebrates the Eucharist and reminds believers that this is a special meal. We bring our gifts of bread and wine to the altar. They become Jesus' Body and Blood.

CANDLES Candles are used in Catholic worship to represent the light of Christ. During Mass, candles may be held on either side of the Priest as he proclaims the Gospel. At least two candles are placed on or near the altar.

CRUCIFIX A crucifix, a cross with the figure of Jesus, is always clearly visible during Mass. The crucifix reminds us that Jesus died and rose again to new life.

PRESIDER'S CHAIR The Priest celebrating Mass sits on the presidential chair during some parts of the Mass. Every Catholic church has a presider's chair. In a cathedral, the chair is called a cathedra. It is for the Bishop or Archbishop.

AMBO During the Mass, the Word of God is read from the Ambo. This helps to remind us that what believers are hearing is important and worthy of paying special attention to. The lector is the person who reads the First and Second Readings during Mass. Then the Priest or a Deacon reads the Gospel.

CREDENCE TABLE This is the table where the items, like the Chalice and wine and Ciborium and hosts, that are going to be used for the Mass are stored.