

## ***First Holy Communion Enrolment Ceremony***

### **HYMN**

### **WELCOME**

### **PRIEST**

We gather in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**ALL:** Amen.

**PRIEST:** The Lord be with you

**ALL:** And also with you

### **PRAYER**

God our Father, we know that you love us as a mother loves her child. We know that you care for us as a father cares for his child. Today we come together to ask you to bless the children of second class, as they prepare for their First Penance and First Holy Communion. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

## ***LITURGY OF THE WORD***

### **FIRST READING**

### **PSALM**

### **GOSPEL**

## ***RITE OF ENROLMENT***

**PRIEST** [*The priest invites the children to stand*]

Dear children, do you ask for the Sacraments of First Penance and First Holy Communion.

### **CHILDREN**

We do.

**PRIEST**

Children, do you promise to take your preparation seriously, both at home and in school?

**CHILDREN**

We do.

*[Children sit down]*

***COMMITMENT OF PARENTS AND GUARDIANS***

**PRIEST**

Now we welcome your parents and guardians and all those who love and take care of you. We ask God's blessing on them all, as they prepare with you to celebrate the sacraments of First Penance and First Holy Communion.

*[Priest invites the parents and guardians to stand]*

**PRIEST**

Parents and guardians, what do you ask for your children?

**PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

We ask for the sacraments of First Penance and First Holy Communion.

**PRIEST**

You have asked for the sacraments for your children. In so doing you are accepting the responsibility of helping them to grow in their understanding of the faith and their practice of the faith. You are the first of teachers in the ways of faith and may you be the best of teachers. Do you understand this?

**PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

We do.

**PRIEST**

Do you promise to help, support and pray with your child in preparation for First Penance and First Holy Communion?

**PARENTS AND GUARDIANS**

We do.

**PRIEST**

Do you promise to create a Christian environment in your home and by your own good example lead the child in ways of the faith?

**PARENTS AND GUARDIANS**

We do.

**PRIEST**

Do you promise to accompany your child to Mass on Sunday so as to share in the Eucharist, and be nourished at the table of the Lord?

**PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

We do.

***RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL PROMISES FOR THE ADULTS***

**PRIEST**

*[All the adults are invited to renew their Baptismal Promises]*

**PRIEST**

Parents and guardians, you remember the day you first brought these children to the church for baptism. You remember the promises you made for them that day. Now I invite you to renew those promises.

Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Saviour of the world?

***ALL***

We do.

**PRIEST**

Do you believe that in Baptism you became followers of Jesus?

***ALL***

We do.

***PRIEST***

Do you believe that when you were anointed with oil in Baptism you received the gift of God's Spirit?

***ALL***

We do.

**PRIEST**

Do you take responsibility for the gift of faith bestowed on you?

***ALL***

We do.

## **A BLESSING OF PARENTS AND GUARDIANS**

May Christ strengthen you in your task of preparing the children for First Penance and First Holy Communion. May you be faithful in your commitment to pass on the faith to them.

*[Sprinkle with holy water]*

May the love of God, inspire you.

May the light of Christ, guide you.

May the Holy Spirit, strengthen you.

**ALL**

Amen.

## **HYMN**

### ***PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL***

*[All stand] Priest invites those reading the prayers to come forward.*

***PRIEST***

We pray to the Lord for all the children of the parish preparing for their First Penance and First Holy Communion.

***1 CHILD***

For all the boys and girls preparing for First Holy Communion

May we grow to love Jesus during this special year.

*Lord hear us.*

**ALL**

Lord, graciously hear us.

***2 CHILD***

For all who love us at home and help us to prepare for our First Holy Communion

*Lord, hear us.*

**ALL**

Lord, graciously hear us.

***3 CHILD***

For the teachers in our school: for the care and support they give us.

*Lord, hear us.*

**ALL**

Lord, graciously hear us.

**4 CHILD**

For the people in our parish: for their faith and good example.

*Lord, hear us.*

**ALL**

Lord, graciously hear us.

**PRIEST**

We pray silently for our own intentions... *PAUSE*

*Lord, hear us.*

**ALL**

Lord, graciously hear us.

**PRIEST**

God our Father, hear our prayers, which we present to you in the name of Jesus, who is with us today and always, forever and ever.

Amen.

*[ALL KNEEL]*

**CHRIST BEFORE ME**

**PRIEST:** Christ be with me

**ALL:** all through my life.

**PRIEST:** Christ before me

**ALL:** acting as my guide.

**PRIEST:** Christ behind me

**ALL:** to keep me safe.

**PRIEST:** Christ within me

**ALL:** offering me his love and care.

**PRIEST:** Christ beneath me

**ALL:** to carry me in difficult times.

**PRIEST:** Christ above me

**ALL:** showing me the way.

**PRIEST:** Christ at my right hand

**ALL:** to help me on my way.

**PRIEST:** Christ on my left

**ALL:** to shield me from harm.

**PRIEST:** Christ when I arise

**ALL:** to live like him each day.

### **PRIEST**

*[We stand and pray in the words that Jesus taught us]*

### **OUR FATHER**

#### **PRIEST**

We offer each other a sign of peace.

#### **CLOSING PRAYER** *(said by all the adults)*

Lord, these are your children given to us

To be cherished and loved,

Moulded and formed,

Guided and instructed by us their parents, teachers and priests,

to know your son Jesus and remain a true friend of his.

We ask you to bless us in our preparation with them during this special year of developing their faith.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

### **HYMN**