



IT IS FIRST COMMUNION TIME

LITURGY BYTES *by Michele Hall*



The warmth of spring, flowers blooming, and Easter bring us to another important time in the life of the Church, first Holy Communions! We have two Saturdays, May 3 and May 10, for our young people receiving Jesus for the very first time. When you come to Mass, you might notice a wall of blue banners on the glass side of the worship space. Spend a minute and take a look at these new folks joining us at the table of the Lord and remember them in your prayers.

Let us try to recall our own First Communion Day. What do you remember? Did your parents take many pictures of you in your Communion attire? Perhaps you were nervous, feeling uncomfortable in your new attire or just the opposite, excited and looking forward to receiving Jesus for the first time! No matter what our memories tell us, it is important to reflect on what it is that we are receiving and how this special relationship with Christ has changed our lives. Naturally, at the young age you received for the first time, the previous suggestions would only come at a much more mature time in our lives. However, planting the seeds early is the way young people grow in their love and understanding of this most sacred gift. In the following weeks, hopefully these new little ones will be here sharing at the table of the Lord with their parish family.

Anima Christi

Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, inebriate me.

Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me.

O good Jesus, hear me. Within your wounds conceal me.

Do not permit me to be parted from you. From the evil foe protect me.

At the hour of my death call me.

And bid me come to you, to praise you with all your saints forever and ever. Amen.

Have a blessed, prayerful, and peaceful week ahead!