## The Family Rosary Way of Grace

Home Session: <u>Eucharist 3</u> Accepting our Invitation to the Banquet Luminous Mysteries: Institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper

## Parents, please read this aloud with your child(ren):

<u>Holy Scripture:</u> While they were eating, Jesus took a piece of bread, gave a prayer of thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples. "Take and eat it," he said; "this is my body." Then he took a cup, gave thanks to God, and gave it to them. "Drink it, all of you," he said; "this is my blood, which seals God's covenant, my blood poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." <u>Matthew</u> 26:26-29a

<u>Prayer:</u> (Sign of the Cross) Heavenly Father, please bless, inspire and guide our family as we grow in our faith. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen. (Sign of the Cross)

**Story:** This week we focus on the final Luminous Mystery of the Rosary, the Institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper. The night before dying for us on the cross, Jesus celebrated the Jewish Passover meal as he and his disciples had done so many times before. This time, however, Jesus made some BIG changes. He changed the meaning of the meal as well as the bread and the wine. For many years, this celebration had helped the Jewish people relive the freedom God gave them from their slavery in Egypt. That night, Jesus transformed this meal into a new way of reliving the most perfect gift of freedom from slavery to sin, fear, and isolation.

Each time we gather together to celebrate the Holy Mass, we enter into this celebration with Jesus at his last supper. We remember and relive his sacrifice on the cross and the freedom of new life his resurrection brings! We bring our whole selves to the altar; our joys, sorrows, worries, needs, and gratitude. Through the priest, we join Jesus in offering himself to God the Father as the only perfect sacrifice. Then we receive from the Father, through the Holy Spirit, the gift of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist. In the Eucharist, we are strengthened and united as the Body of Christ, alive and active in this world, preparing for eternal life in heaven.

Because Jesus did all this and asked us to continue doing this in remembrance of him, we gather to celebrate the Mass EVERY Sunday (or Saturday evening), on the day of his resurrection. This is so important to us as Catholic Christians that the Church has made it an obligation to keep us strong enough to live lives in God's grace each day.

<u>Holy Person:</u> Blessed Carlo Acutis was only a teenager when he died. During his short life, he came to love Jesus in the Eucharist very much. Every time he went to Mass he would spend extra time in prayer before Jesus in the Tabernacle. This love he had for Christ showed up in his daily life as well. He listened to kids who were struggling and defended kids who were being bullied. He spent 4 years creating a <u>website of Eucharistic miracles</u>. He also liked playing video games! Blessed Carlo Acutis, please pray for us.

## **Discussion/Reflection:**

**Everyone:** What words do you pray, or will you pray, to thank Jesus after Communion? **Parents & Older Siblings:** Please share a memory from your first communion.

**Response:** Please consider doing one or both of these activities as a family this week:

"Bread in a Bag" Agape Prayer Service

<u>Family Prayer this Week:</u> As a family, please pray the Our Father and the Hail Mary every day this week. Also, on the day your family chooses, please pray 1 decade of the Rosary, meditating on (thinking about) this week's mystery: 1 Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, 1 Glory Be, & 1 Fatima (Oh my Jesus) Prayer. <u>Click here for help with prayers</u>.

The Family Rosary Way of Grace - Home Sessions - Eucharist. Property of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Baker



Luminous Mystery #5: Institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper (Photo Credit: usccb.org/how-to-pray-the-rosary)