



Saint Mary First Eucharist Church Search

The Church will be set up for you to complete the booklet between:
Monday, _____ until Saturday, _____. The church
is opened from 6:30 am until 7:00 pm. The booklet is to be returned the
week of _____.

NAME: _____

1. Our Church, Holy Water Font

The Church building is a home for God's people, the Church. We enter by the front door and find a holy water font. We dip our fingers in the holy water and bless ourselves with the Sign of the Cross when we enter the church. This water and Sign of the Cross reminds us that we became members of this church at our Baptism.

The Holy Water Font is number _____
What does the holy water font help us remember? _____

2. Pews, Windows, Statues

The benches we sit on in church are called pews. We genuflect before we enter the pew. We touch one knee to the floor when we genuflect. This action shows respect for Jesus' real presence with us in the Blessed Sacrament. The windows of the church building often tell stories. They show scenes from bible stories or from the lives of saints. The statues in our church remind us of holy people who have followed Jesus in the past. Often churches have statues of Mary, Jesus' mother, and of St Joseph.

Name two stories depicted in the stained glass windows:

How many statues are in the Church? _____
Can you name them? _____

3. Stations of the Cross

The Stations of the Cross tell the story of what happened to Jesus on Good Friday, the day he died on the cross. Usually a church has seven stations on one side wall and seven on the other side. Some churches have fifteen stations. The 15th station reminds us that Jesus rose to new life on Easter. It reminds us that we are Easter people who celebrate Jesus' rising from the dead.

How many stations does our Church have? _____
Choose one station. Number ____ What is happening in that picture? _____

4. Reconciliation Room

The Reconciliation Room is a special place where people receive the sacrament of Reconciliation. Reconciliation means making peace and bringing people together. This is the sacrament in which God forgives our sins. In this room we can sit down in a chair across from the priest and talk with him face to face about how we have failed to love and how we want to grow. Or, we can kneel in front of a screen and talk to the priest through the screen. Try out the chairs and kneeler.

The Reconciliation Room is number _____
What sacrament do we receive in this room? _____

5. Sanctuary and Altar

The sanctuary is the front part of the Church building, where the altar and the lectern stand. The altar is a special table. The community of Jesus' followers gathers with their priest around this table and shares the meal as Jesus taught us at his last supper.

At Mass, we bring our gifts of bread and wine to the altar where the priest asks the Holy Spirit to come upon our gifts and change the bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ. A white cloth covers the altar. The altar cloth is like a tablecloth at home.

A crucifix and white candles are usually on or near the altar when our community gathers to worship. We light the candles during Mass to remind us that Jesus is present with us.

The *Sacramentary* is the large book of prayers, which the priest prays during the Mass.

6. Lectern, Lectionary

The place in the sanctuary where the reader stands is called the lectern or pulpit. This is also where the priest gives his sermon. The *Lectionary* is the book which contains the readings from the Bible that we hear during the Liturgy of the Word at Mass.

The Lectern is number _____
What is a story from the Bible you have heard in Church? _____

7. Crucifix

A crucifix shows Jesus on the cross. It reminds us how much Jesus loves us. He was willing to die for us. Make the Sign of the Cross together.

What are the letters at the top of the crucifix? _____
Do you know what they stand for? _____

8. Easter Candle

The large candle that stands in the sanctuary during Easter time and near the Baptismal font during the rest of the year is called the Easter candle. Each year the priest blesses a new candle on Holy Saturday at the Easter Vigil. The Easter candle stands for Jesus, who is the light of the world. A candle like this was lit at your Baptism and you received a small candle lighted from the Easter candle.

Ask your parent to show you your baptismal candle when you get home.

What do the numbers on the Easter candle say? _____
Who does the candle stand for? _____

9. Presider's Chair

The priest sits on this chair while he is leading us in prayer during Mass.

What are the names of our parish priests? 1. _____
2. _____

10. Baptismal Font

In the sacrament of Baptism, we become God's children. We share in God's new life and become members of Jesus' Church. When you were baptized, the priest blessed the water in the baptismal bowl or font and poured some over your head as he said, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen."

Each baptized person receives a white garment and a candle. The white garment shows that we have put on the new life of Jesus and will share in his work. The lighted candle symbolizes our faith.

Ask your parents to tell you about your baptism. Who was there?
What was the day like?

The baptismal font is number _____
What happened when you were baptized? _____

What do the white garment and candle symbolize?

11. Holy Oils

The Church uses three holy oils in the sacraments. The bishop blesses these oils at a special diocesan celebration and each parish receives some for use during that year.

Holy Chrism is the holiest of the oils and is scented with balm. It symbolizes spiritual strength. Chrism is used to anoint people in three Sacraments: Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders.

Oil of Catechumens is used in Baptism and is used in preparing adults who want to join the Catholic community.

Oil of the Sick is used in the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. The priest uses the oil to anoint a sick person on the forehead and on the palms of the hands.

The Holy Oils are number _____

12. Liturgical Year

The Catholic Church has a plan for remembering Jesus' story. The plan of reading from the Bible takes a whole year. The liturgical year begins in Advent, the season recalling the time people waited for Jesus to be born. Then we celebrate Christmas and remember Jesus' birth. We remember Jesus' death and resurrection during Lent, Holy Week, and the Sundays of Easter. On the other Sundays of the year we remember Jesus' teaching and healing. That is called Ordinary time.

What season of the liturgical year is it today? _____

13. Relic

A relic is something connected with a saint or blessed, including a part of their body (e.g. hair or piece of bone), their clothing, or an object that the person used or touched.

Relics are classified as 1st Class – a part of the person's body, for example: blood, hair, or bones; 2nd Class – an article touched by the person or touched directly to part of his or her body; and 3rd Class – something that is touched to a 1st or 2nd Class relic.

1. Whose relic do we have? _____
2. What is the relic and class? _____

In addition to this relic, we have a letter from Blessed Mother Teresa, which is a second-class relic. In the altar, we have first-class relics (bones) of St. Dominic, St. Bernard and St. Pius the Fifth. Please look up and share the saint stories with your child.

14. Tabernacle and Sanctuary Lamp

The tabernacle is a special box where the community keeps the Blessed Sacrament. The Blessed Sacrament is another name for the body of Christ. The community stores consecrated hosts in the tabernacle. The priest prays at the Mass that the Holy Spirit comes upon these hosts and changes them into the body of Christ.

The sanctuary lamp is always burning near the tabernacle to remind us that Jesus is present.

When we pass in front of the tabernacle and before we enter our pew we bend our right knee to the floor, genuflect, to show respect for Jesus who is present in the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle. During the time you are genuflecting, say a short prayer such as, "Jesus, I love you,"

Why do we keep the sanctuary lamp burning near the tabernacle? _____

Who is present in the tabernacle? _____