22. What is grace?

Grace is the life and presence of God in us.

23. Do we have more grace, more of the presence of God, in us every time we go to Holy Communion?

Yes, we have more of God's presence in us and grow more like Jesus every time we receive Holy Communion with love.

24. What does the minister of Communion say to the person who comes up for the host?

The minister says "The Body of Christ," because Jesus is meeting us in this sacrament.

25. What does the person say in response?

He or she says "Amen," which means "I believe this!"

26. Should the person chew the host?

Yes, the person should reverently chew the host, just as he or she would chew a piece of bread.

27. What does the minister of the Eucharist say when giving the cup of consecrated wine?

28. Is Jesus truly and fully there in the sacred wine?

"The Blood of Christ."

Yes, Jesus, our Lord and God, is fully there in the sacred or blessed wine. We should thank Jesus for coming into our heart during the time after Communion.

Some Important Things for a First Communicant to Know (Most selections from First Holy Communion, by Frances C. Heerey, S.C.H.)

L. Why am I special?

I am special because I am made in the image and likeness of God.

2. Why did God make me?

God made me because He loves me.

3. What does God want me to do?

God our Father wants me to love Him. He wants me to love everybody.

4. What are the names of the three persons in one God?

The names of the three persons in one God: God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit.

5. What name do we give the divine mystery of three persons in one God?

We call three persons in one God the Holy Trinity, or Blessed Trinity.

6. What is the name of the Son of God?

Jesus is the Son of God.

7. What work does the Holy Spirit do?

The Holy Spirit gives us the power to live as children of God.

8. What prayer helps us remember the names of the Trinity?

The prayer is called "The Sign of the Cross."

9. What is the Bible?

The Bible is a book which tells God's word to His people.

10. Where do we find the Gospel stories about Jesus?

We find the gospel stories about Jesus in the New Testament.

11. Why did Jesus become Man?

Jesus became a man because He loves us and He wants to be with us. He wants to show us how to live.

12. How is Jesus present to us today?

Jesus is present with His people in the Church, in the sacraments, especially in the Holy Eucharist.

13. What is the Catholic Church?

The church is God's family. The members of the church pray together, worship God, follow His Son Jesus who started the Church, and they care for one another.

14. Who is the leader on earth of the Catholic Church?

Our Holy Father the Pope is the leader on earth of the Catholic Church.

15. What is the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass?

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross.



16. What happens at Mass?

At Mass Jesus, through the priest, changes the bread and wine into His own Body and Blood. He speaks His word to us through the scriptures and the homily.

17. What are the two main parts of the Mass?

The two main parts of the Mass are: The Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

18. How do we receive Holy Communion?

We receive Holy Communion by walking reverently up to the minister of Communion (priest, deacon, or extraordinary minister) Either put out your tongue to receive Jesus, or place one hand on top of the other, receive the Host in your hand and put it in your mouth.

19. What should our hearts be like when we approach Jesus?

Our hearts should be loving hearts, for Jesus and for all other people.

20. Is the living Jesus truly present in the form of the consecrated (blessed) bread?

Yes, Jesus is really there in the form of the consecrated bread.

21. Is the consecrated wine in the cup at Mass really the living Jesus?

Yes, Jesus is actually there in the wine that the priest consecrates at Mass.