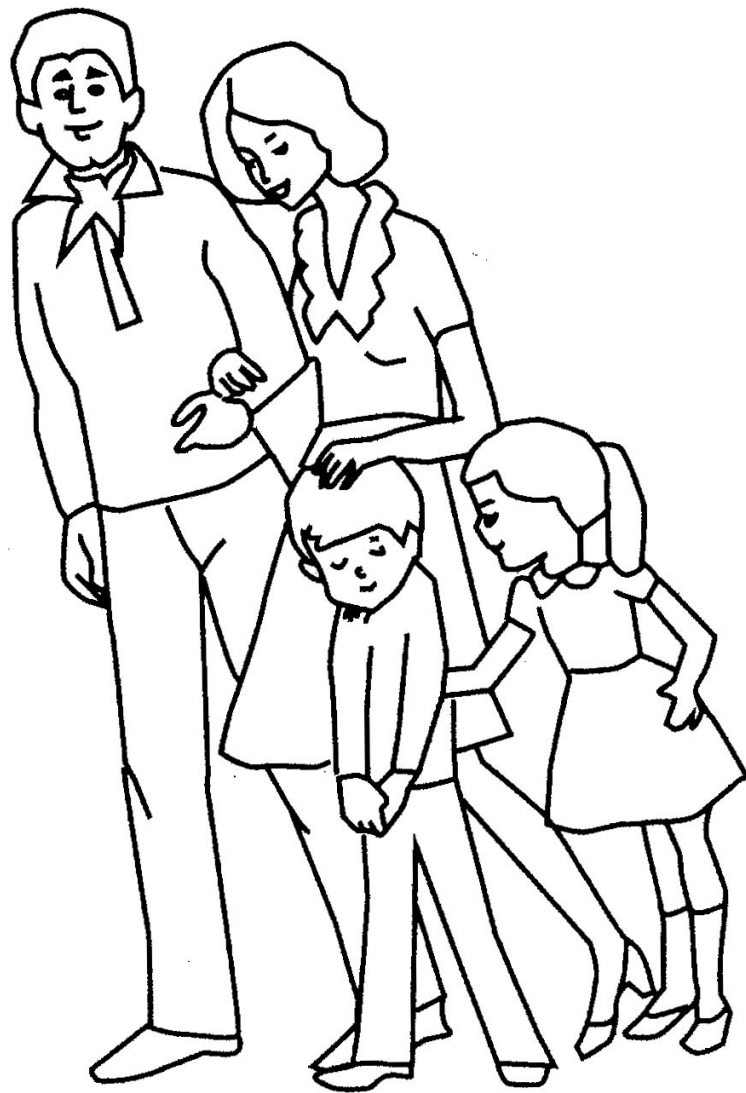


WE GET READY TO GO TO MASS



How can we get ready to go to mass?

Before going to mass as I get dressed I can say a short prayer.

"Dear Jesus, you love me so much and you want to be with me always.

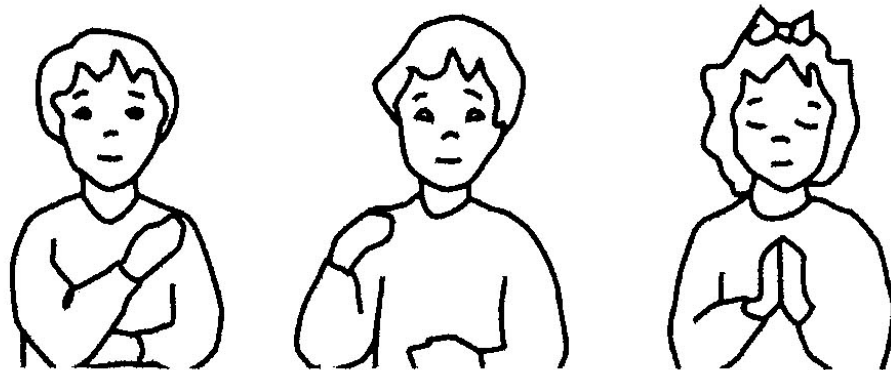
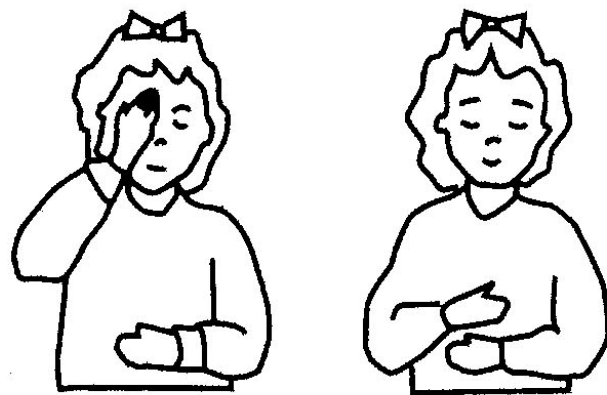
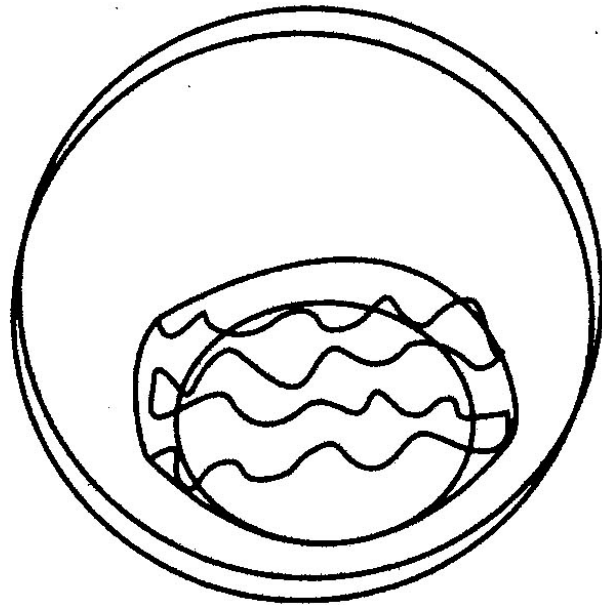
You offer me everything I need to grow up strong and kind.

I am coming to church to thank you for everything I have.

Help me to hear your message for me today."

AMEN

Holy Water I remember my Baptism



When I come to the doors of the church I see the water, it is a reminder of my Baptism.

I remember that I was baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

That means I belong to you, you are my God, I am your child. Jesus taught us to call you our Father.

It also means that I belong here, the church is where I come to celebrate with all my baptized brothers and sisters.

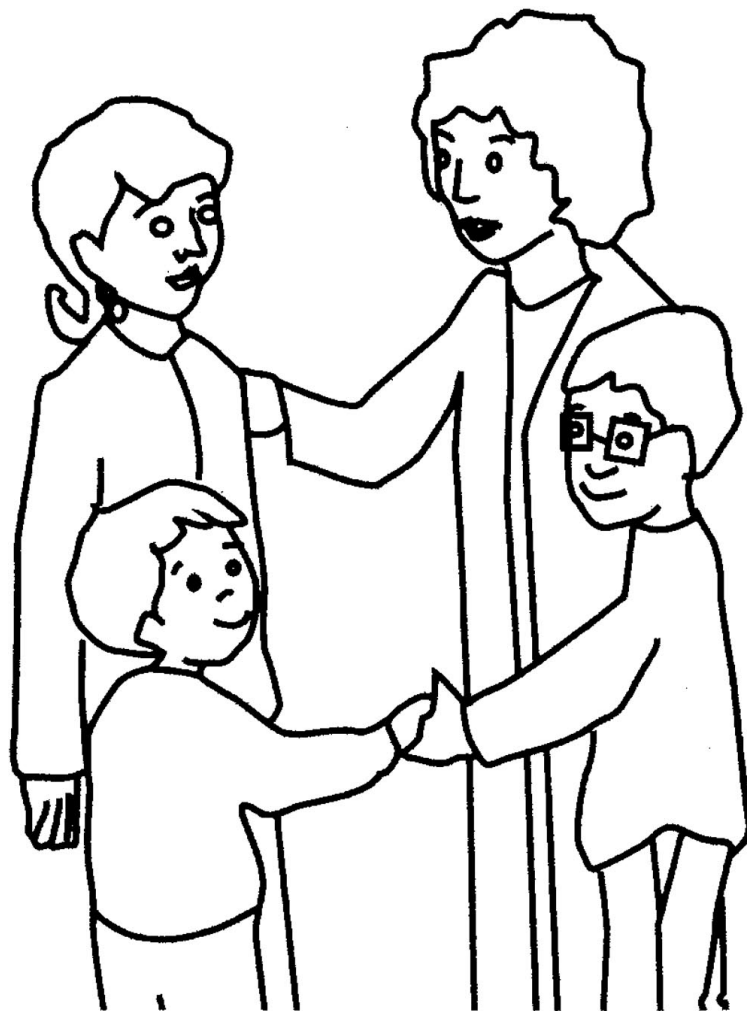
We are your children Oh God.

I dip my finger in the holy water and I make the sign of the cross. That means I bless myself.

When something is blessed it means it is holy.

When I bless myself I remember that I am holy too.

**We are all gathered
together
the family of God**



We are all part of God's family. Do you remember how we became a part of God's family?

Yes we were baptized into the family of God and we are all part of the Communion of Saints.

That means that the Saints are our spiritual relatives, like aunties and uncles and grandparents in the family of God. We are part of the same family.

When I come to church I see my friends and many other people who are loved by God and who love Jesus.

**We are happy to be here and we will soon be singing together.
We are here to help one another.**

When your friends see you they are so happy and they are glad that they came to church too.

When they hear you singing, it helps them to sing.

When they see you praying it helps them to pray.

We gather together to be with Jesus and with each other.

Together we want to thank God for loving us so much that he sent Jesus to be with us forever.



We stand and sing.

When we are all here, we can see the altar servers standing at the back of the church.

They are getting ready for the procession.

A procession is kind of like a special way of walking, together in a certain order.

This procession reminds us that we are on a journey, we are a pilgrim people.

That means that our whole life is a journey, back to God who breathed the breath of life into us.

We see at the beginning of the procession that there are candles.

What do candles make you think of?

Maybe a celebration?

Maybe a time when we needed light because we had no power and we were in the darkness?

Do you see what is at the beginning of the procession?

We see a crucifix.

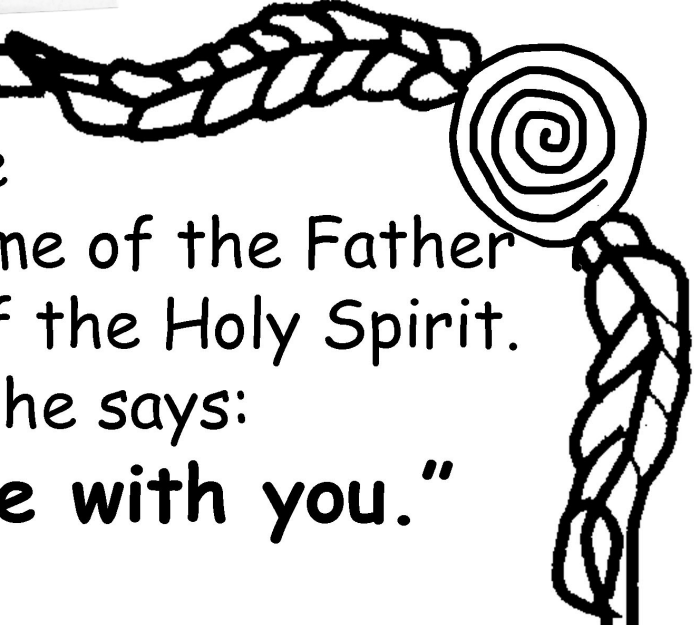
Jesus always goes before us.

The last person in the procession is the priest.

Do you notice what colour he is wearing?

Green? Purple? White? Red?

I wonder why he wears these particular colours?



The priest begins the celebration in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. We say AMEN. Then he says:

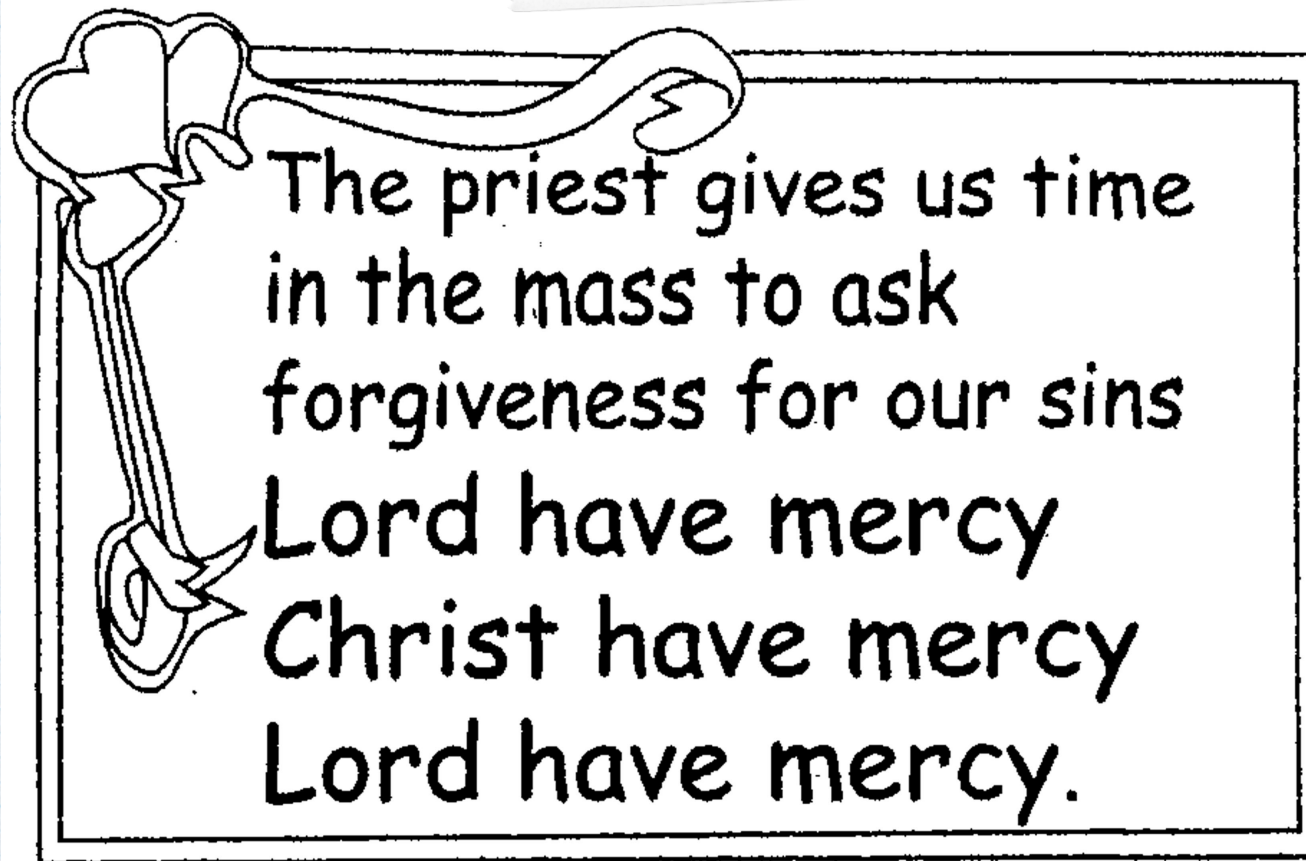
"The Lord be with you."
we answer,
"and with your spirit"

We begin our celebration in the name of The Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. That means that the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit are present at our gathering, and we reply AMEN, yes we want to be here with the three persons of the TRINITY.

All the prayers that are said from this point onward are in the name of God, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Then he says "the Lord be with you."

Here he is saying to all of us gathered here, that from now on "the Lord", who is God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit, is with us. The Eucharist is where the TRINITY is truly present.



At the very beginning of our celebration we ask God to forgive us for whatever we have done this past week that we know we should not have done.

We think about how good God is, and that God loves us so much that through Christ, God wants to offer us loving-kindness, merciful love, loving mercy, even with all our unloving actions.

All of us together ask God to have mercy on us and to forgive us our sins.

Now we can continue our celebration knowing that God loves us more than we can understand.

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people
of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you, we
give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the
Father, you take away the sins of the
world, have mercy on us; you take
away the sins of the world, you receive
our prayer; you are seated at the right
hand of the father, have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
With the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen

Unless we are in the season of Advent or
Lent, together as a people so loved by God,
we offer a great song of praise to God,
called The Gloria.

"Glory to God in the highest", the Gloria in
excelsis, is a most ancient and venerable
hymn by which, we the Church, gathered in
the Holy Spirit, glorifies God and asks God
the Father and Jesus the Lamb, to have
mercy on us.

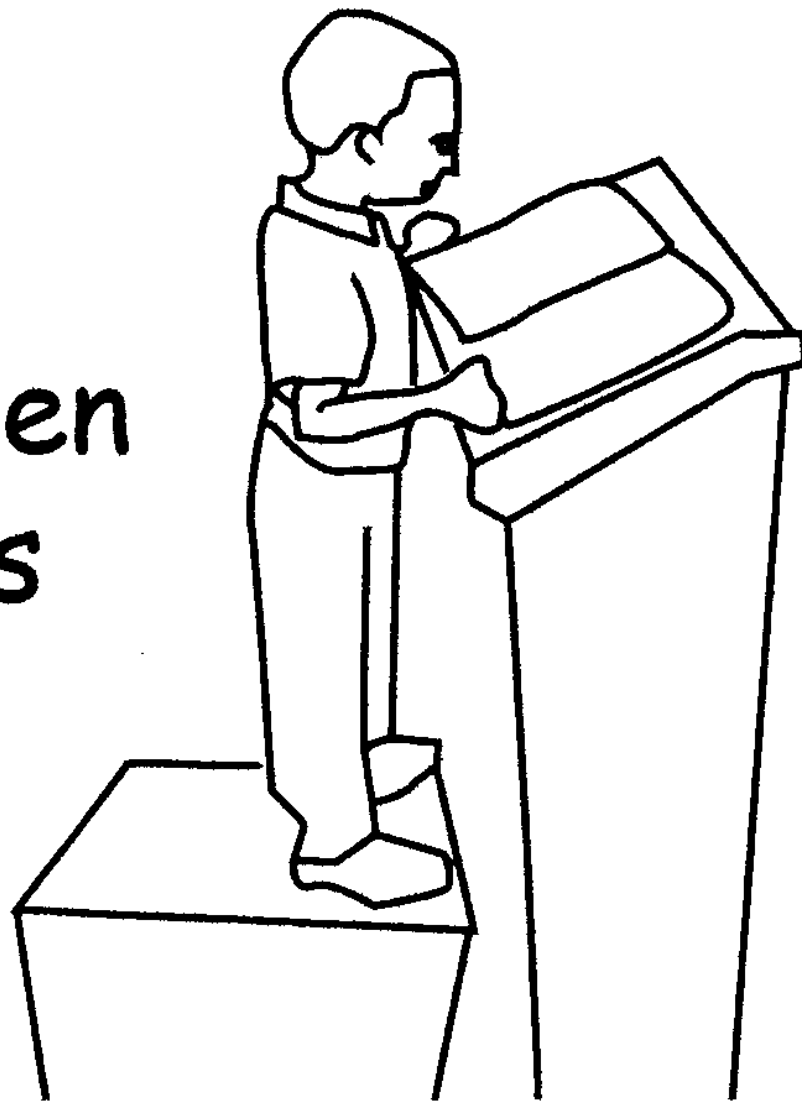
Oh what joy we feel as we sing this ancient
hymn.

We want to tell God how great God is and
thank God for being so good to us.

What words stay with you?

Can you hear the song the angels sang to
the shepherds?

We listen
to God's
word



The priest will pray the **COLLECT** and now the 1st part of the mass, known as the Introductory Rites is finished and we move into the Liturgy of the Word.

Now we sit and listen to the word of the Lord.

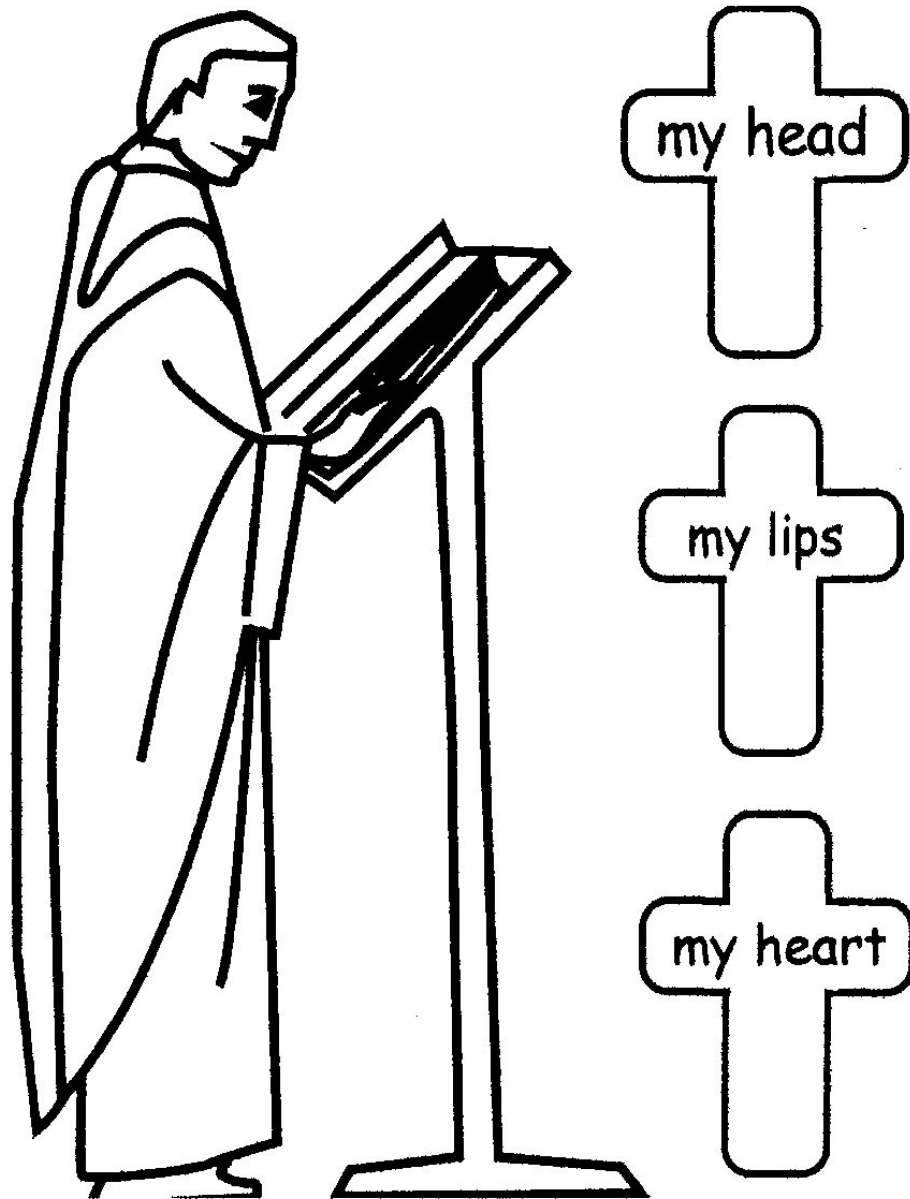
These are the stories from our spiritual ancestors, and because we are part of God's family these stories belong to us as well.

You can ask God to help you to hear a word that is especially good for you to hear today.

Listen carefully.

We receive Jesus in the word.

I MAKE A SPECIAL SIGN ON



Now Jesus comes to us in the word, known as the **GOSPEL**.

This is read by the priest or the deacon

When he announces the reading notice what everyone is doing.

They make a special sign, on their forehead, on their lips and on their heart.

This is a way that we can express that we want the **WORD** of God to stay in our minds, on our lips and in our heart.

Do you notice what the priest or bishop does after he reads the Gospel?

Most often he will kiss the book!

This means that it is not just any old book, but it is Jesus himself, and he is the **WORD OF GOD**.

If I have not yet received my first communion, Jesus comes to me and feeds me through the Gospel.

I wonder what he wants me to hear?

This is me standing
and saying that I
believe in God
The
Creed

We will soon be moving from the Liturgy of the Word to the central part of our mass the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

We all stand together to proclaim what we believe.

We do this by reciting an ancient prayer, called the CREED.

This is what Catholics believe.

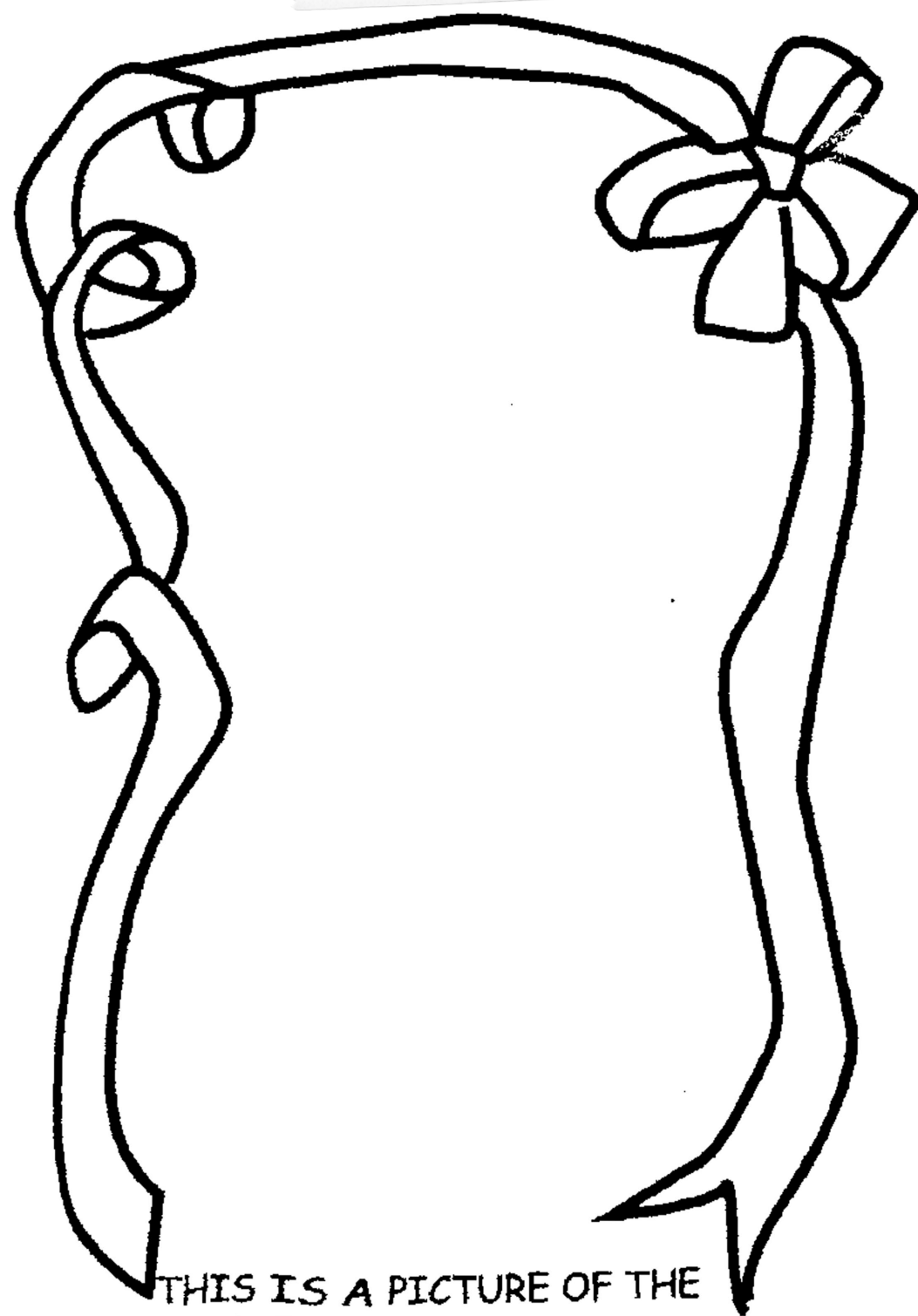
People believe many different things, and we may wonder about that.

But as Catholics we do not have to wonder, "what do we believe".

Each week we stand together and profess what we believe, about God and about Jesus and about the Holy Spirit and about forgiveness and about the resurrection.

Which part of the creed do you think about?

Can you recite it by memory?



THIS IS A PICTURE OF THE
PEOPLE I PRAY FOR.

We are now at the part of the mass known as the Universal Prayer.

This is the moment when we pray for the needs of the church, for public authorities and the salvation of the whole world, for people in need or difficulty, and for the local community.

Often we are able to present our personal prayers as well, the things and people we hold in our hearts.

Who do you want to pray for ?



We bring our gifts to share

Now the transition between the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist is about to take place.

This is the part known as the Offertory
Here we bring forward, our offerings.
The ordinary bread and wine, made from the work of our hands.

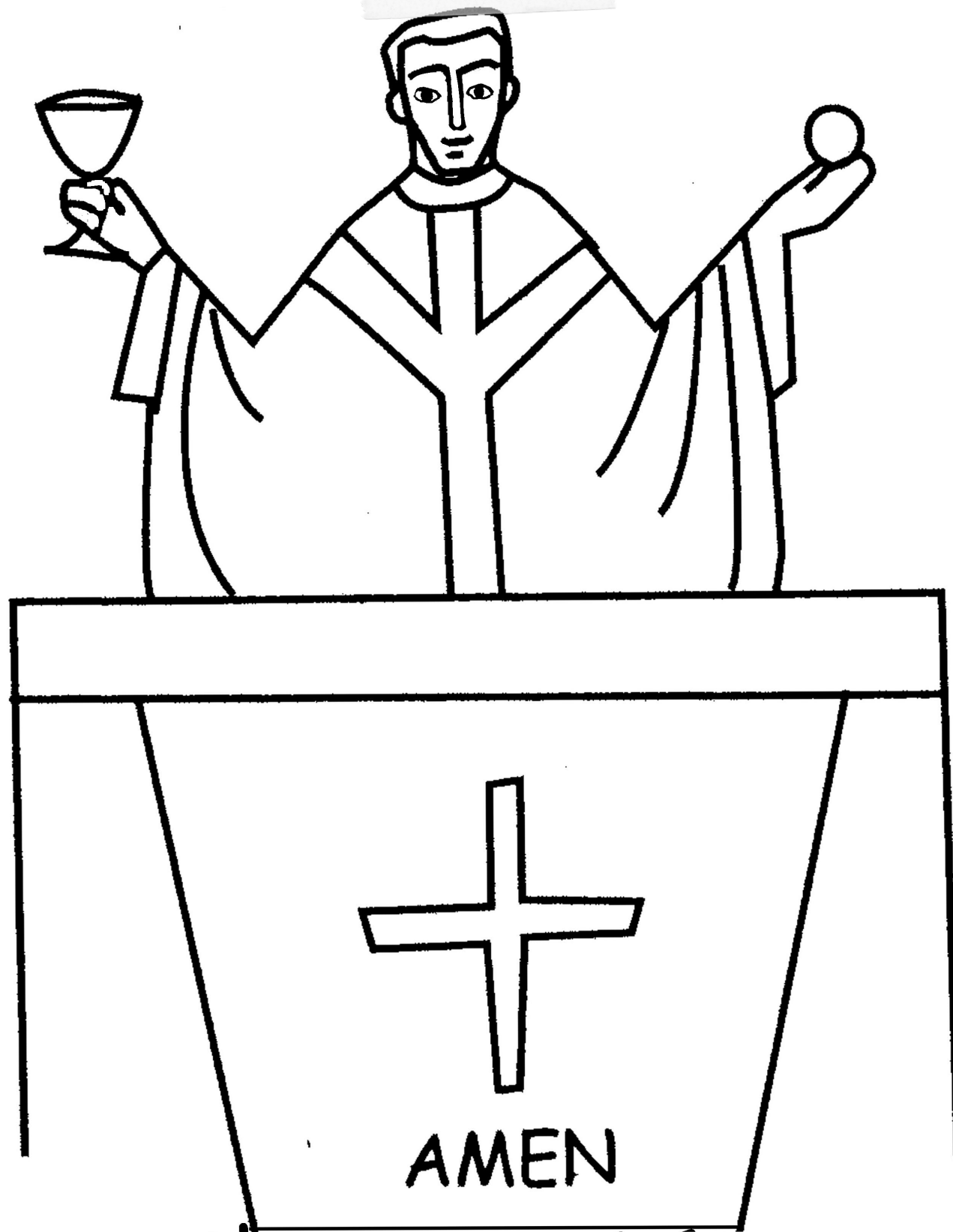
We bring them to the altar where they will be transformed.
Do you know what transformed means?

We bring ourselves, our very lives too, all that we are, all that we have done, all that we can do, all is carried to the altar.

And there on the altar when the priest who is Jesus will present our offerings to the Father by the Holy Spirit, the Father will accept what is offered by Jesus, the Son, and will transform, these offerings into the Body and Blood of Jesus. Then all that we have offered will be changed into Jesus' very self, and offered back to us in communion.

The word Eucharist means "Thanksgiving."

How great is God! How blessed we are! I am so grateful!



Through Him, and with him, and in him,
O God almighty Father,
In the unity the Holy Spirit,
All glory and honor is yours,
For ever and ever.

And all together we say **AMEN!**
We say **YES!**

This prayer has a special name, it is called the **DOXOLOGY**, it is the final prayer of that very long prayer that the priest says, called the Eucharistic Prayer.

Here we are in the presence of Jesus' body and blood, given for us.

This is the high point of the whole of the Eucharistic Prayer, and together we profess our faith in the real presence of Jesus by saying **AMEN**.

We are now just about to receive Jesus. But first we will remember the prayer that Jesus taught us.
Do you know the name of that prayer?

The priest will say
"at the Savior's command, and formed by
divine teaching, we dare to say:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
And forgive us our trespasses,
As we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation ,
But deliver us from evil.

Then the priest says:
Deliver us Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant us peace in our days, that by
the help of your mercy, we may be always
free from sin and safe from all distress, as
we await the blessed hope and the coming of
our Savior, Jesus Christ.

We say:
For the kingdom and the power and the glory
are yours
Now and forever.

Oh what joy I feel!

THE
LORD'S
PRAYER

DRAW A PICTURE OF THE CHILDREN
AND THEIR PARENTS AROUND THE
ALTAR SAYING THE OUR FATHER

OR WRITE THE OUR FATHER HERE

Then the Priest says:
"Peace of the Lord be with you always."
And we reply:
"and with your spirit"

And then we offer one another a sign of peace.

I offer the sign of peace to my family and to those around me.

I especially reach out to someone that I may have offended.

I offer them the peace of Jesus.

Then the priest says:

"Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world have mercy on us,

Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world have mercy on us'

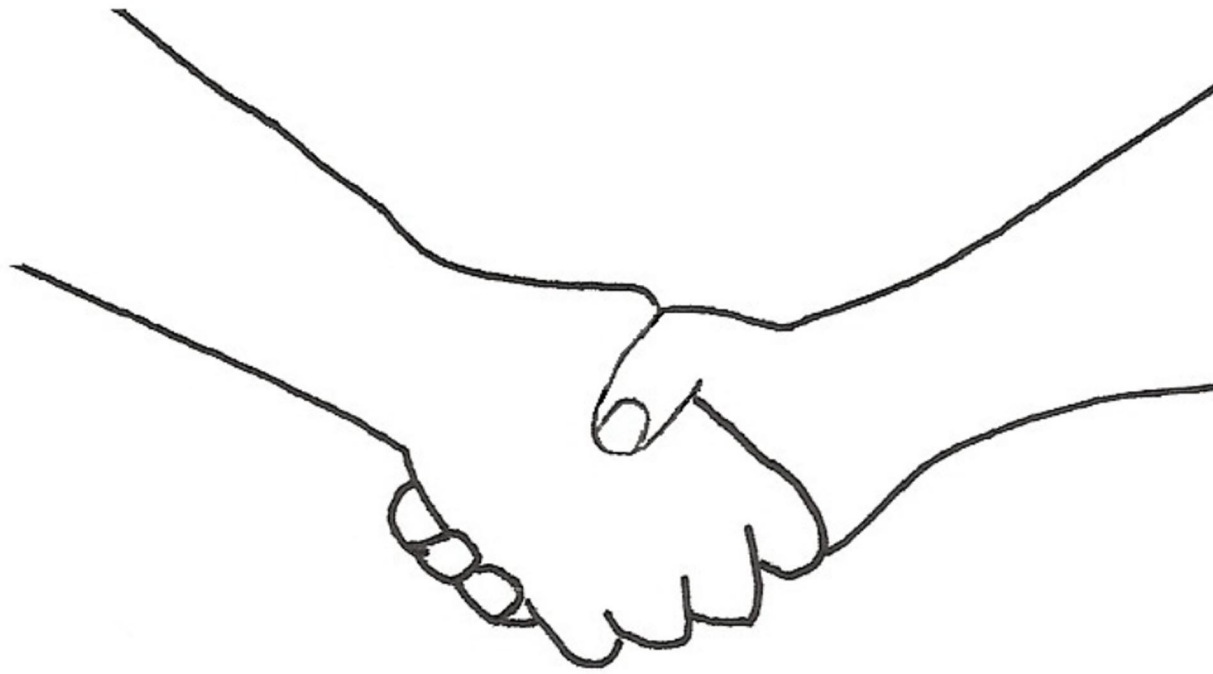
Lamb of God you take away the sins of the world,

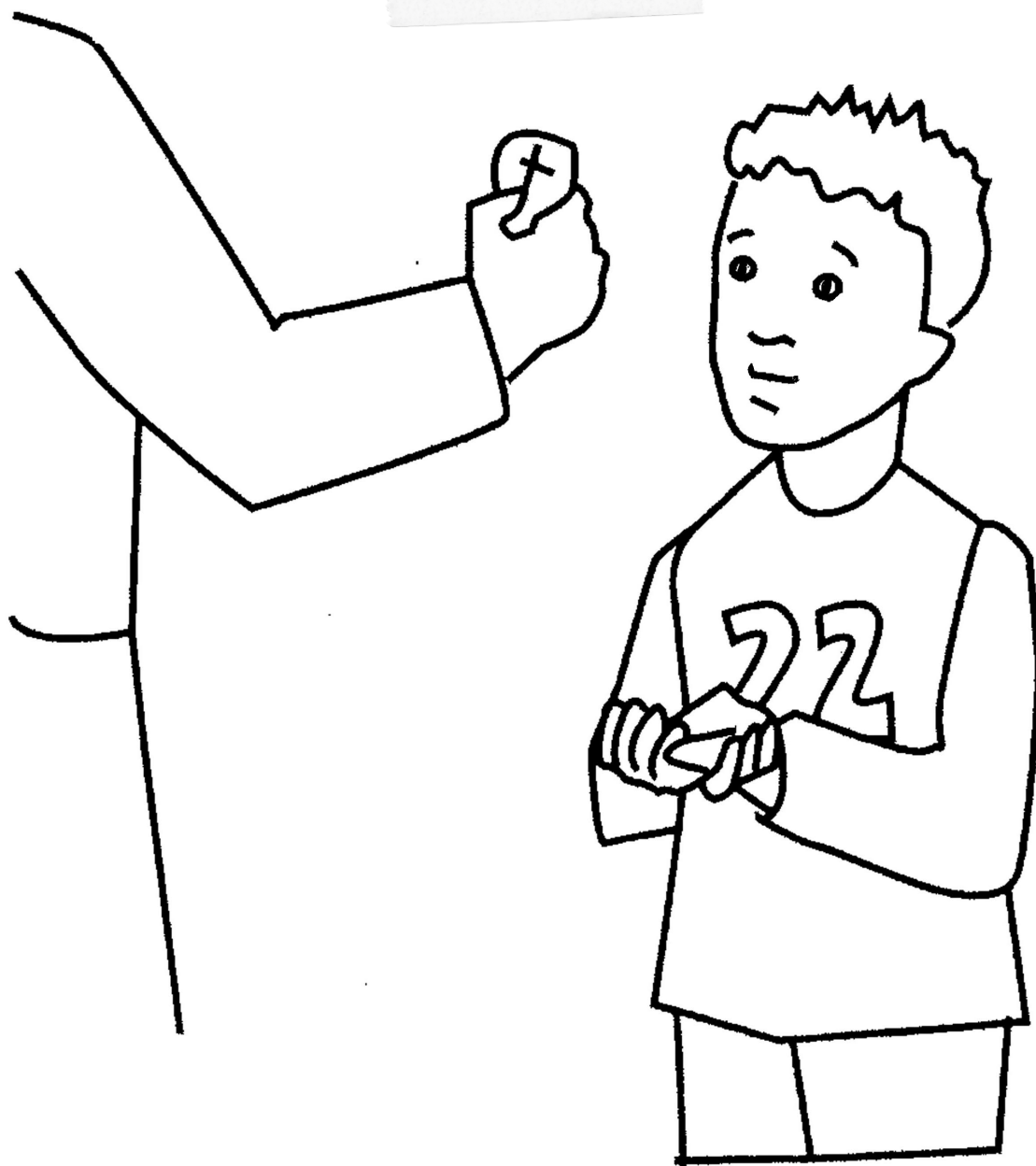
Grant us peace"

We remember that after the resurrection Jesus greeted his friends by saying:

"Peace be with you".

Jesus you are really here!





When Jesus was living in the land of Israel, there was a Roman Soldier, a Centurion, who came to Jesus asking if he could heal his servant. We can find that story in the gospel of Matthew 8:5-13, Matthew chapter 8, verses 5-13

Jesus says I will come to your house, but the centurion said "Lord I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, only say the word and my servant will be healed." v8

The priest holds up for us the body and blood of Christ and he says:

"Behold the Lamb of God,
Behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb".

Behold, what does that mean?

We all look to the altar to the priest who is holding the Body and Blood of Jesus...

We say:

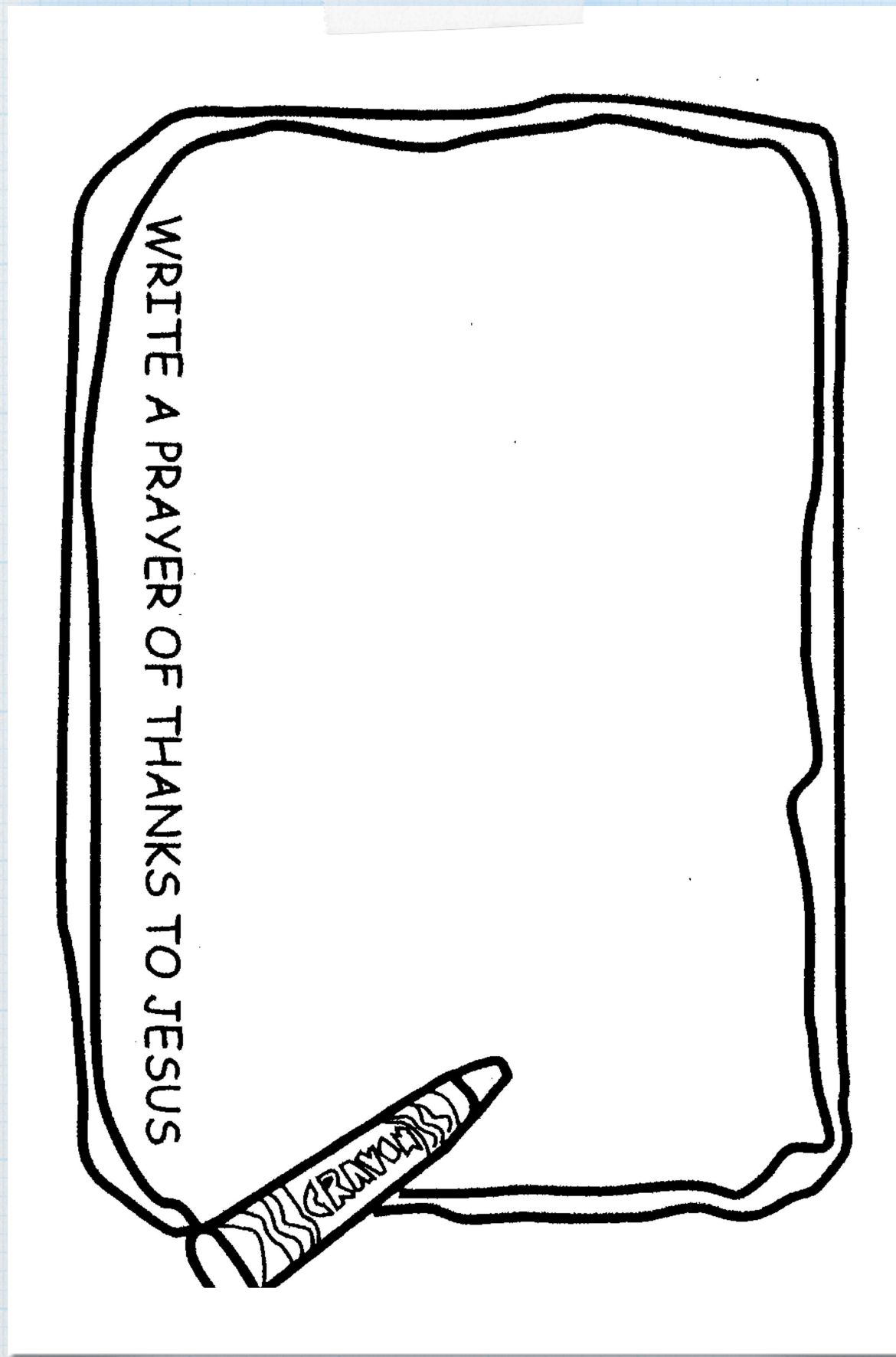
"Lord I am not worthy
That you should enter under my roof,
But only say the word
And my soul shall be healed."

Jesus is the Word! My soul shall be healed!

Then we come forward to receive Jesus.

Jesus come to us to feed us with his very self.

The more we eat the Bread of Life the more we become strong, strong enough to become just like Jesus.



When I return to my place I want to say a prayer of thanks to Jesus.

"Thank you Jesus for coming to me in this communion.

Thank you for feeding me with your Body and Blood so that I can grow up to be like you.

Thank you for offering yourself for me so that I can live forever with you and the Father and the Holy Spirit in everlasting Life.

Thank you for always being ready to come to me in the bread and wine offered on the altar."

The more I eat the body of Christ the more I come to know you Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
The more I come to mass the more I know what it means to be your body in the world.

The more I celebrate with my brothers and sisters, the more my faith grows.

You never leave me alone, you are always there to help me. **THANK YOU!**