



Family Catechetics for First Holy Communion
Session 14 Coming to Mass #2 - "Lord have Mercy"

Aim: To help the child to learn about the "Lord have Mercy" at Holy Mass

Note to the Parent:

This will be a story-telling session, helped on by other members of the family.

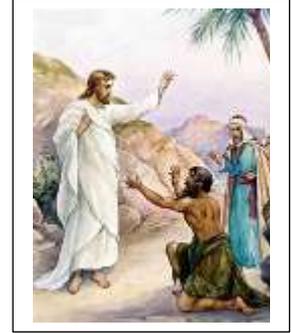
Room Setting: All are seated in a circle in the room.

Parent: Welcome the child and the other members of the family. Invite all to become quiet and think of God being with them. Allow a few minutes, and then invite all to share their thoughts.

Brainstorm:

Parent:

- Now tell the child: At Holy Mass we say or sing the "Lord, have Mercy".
- Can we say it all together, or maybe we can sing it:
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.



Parent and other member of the family: (P=Parent, M=Family Member)

- P.** Would you like to know something about why we say or sing "Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy"?
- M.** A long time ago the people who did not know God called their own gods "Lord". When they prayed to these gods they often said: "Lord, have mercy!"
- P.** The Jews, the Chosen People of God, were very careful not to use the name of God so they called God "Lord". They used the name "Lord" when they spoke of God. They too prayed "Lord (God) have mercy!"
- M.** After Jesus rose from the dead, his followers, the First Christians, called him "Lord"!
- P.** They proclaimed: **"Jesus is Lord!"**
- M.** Even when he was alive, and because he worked miracles, the ordinary people called Jesus "Lord".

Parent: Let us listen to a story of someone who called Jesus "Lord":

- P.** It is the story of a blind man of Jericho: (Luke 18:39-43)
- M.** When Jesus came to Jericho a blind man was sitting by the road begging. He heard the crowd passing by and he asked what was happening.
- P.** They told him Jesus of Nazareth was going by. He cried out: **"Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me."**
- M.** Jesus stopped and ordered the blind man to be brought to him.
- P.** The blind man said, **"Lord, that I may see."**
- M.** Jesus said, "Receive your sight, your faith has saved you!"

Parents:

- So when we call out "Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy," we are asking Jesus to help us.
- We are also proclaiming that Jesus Christ is the "Lord" of all.
- Can we sing the "Lord have Mercy" that we sing in church?

Celebration:

- Let us be like the blind man of Jericho and the woman whose daughter was very sick and asked Jesus for help.
- Invite the members of the family, and your child, to mention someone they want Jesus to help.
- After each prayer all say (or sing): "Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy."

A glass of cool juice all round!