

First Communion Preparation: The Good Shepherd

(Week of Apr. 18)

“I am the good shepherd, and I know mine and mine know me” JN 10:11-18

During the Easter season, we continue to celebrate the Risen Christ, and His presence with us and within us that gives us His peace and allows us to know Him through the Eucharist.

Gather: *Beginning and Ending.* Start with the category of ‘animals’ – the first person names any animal (ex. horse). The other person must think of an animal that starts with the last letter of the animal that the first person names named (ex. elephant). Continue play (ex. tiger...rhino...ostrich...) Play alternates until someone cannot think of an animal!

Connect: *As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.* Our game could go on and on, but eventually we would run out of words. That is true of most earthly things – eventually the fun runs out, or the batteries run out, or time runs out. The only thing that is forever is God, and because of Jesus’ sacrifice, we have forever with Him! During the Easter season, we continue to celebrate all that Jesus has given us – most importantly the gift of Himself in the Eucharist. Today we will look at the other gifts Jesus gave us like inviting us to be one of his followers.



Explore Grade Level Activities:

Blessed Communion Session 5

Blessed Videos

Share with your child that on their First Communion Day they will receive the best gift they will ever —Jesus in the Eucharist!

Focus for Lesson

- **P 149-151:** Preparing to receive Jesus in the Eucharist **Video 3**
- **P 152-153:** The Eucharist empowers us to do great things **Video 4**
 - Ask “What amazing things will God do through you?”
- **P 154:** The Last Supper **Video 5**
 - Ask: “What do you think the disciples felt during the Last Supper?”
- Great Advice **Video 6**

Practice how to receive the Body of Christ.

Summarize the key lessons from Session 5:

- The Eucharist will empower you to do great things.
- This is your first Communion but not your last Communion.
- Your First Communion is a special day!

Journal with Jesus: Have your child spend a few minutes writing their response to the journal with Jesus prompt on page 161. “Dear Jesus, I hope receiving you in the Eucharist inspires me to...” End your session praying the closing prayer on page 162.

Reflect: Read the Gospels from this week and next week, **Jesus Appears to His Disciples (LK 24:35-48)** and **The Good Shepherd (JN 10:11-18)** or you can view it at [CATHOLIC KIDS CONNECTION](#)

Live It: In Sunday’s Gospel, Jesus tells us that we will always recognize His voice – as long as we continue to listen, and He will always love, care for and guide us as our Good Shepherd – as long as we continue to follow Him. This week’s challenge is to let other’s hear Jesus’ voice through you! Using sidewalk chalk, decorate your driveway or sidewalk near your home with messages of kindness and inspiration for your neighbors to see!