



**The LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN** is not a “Sunday School” or a “Junior Liturgy” or a “babysitting service”. As the name spells out, we gather with children to celebrate the Liturgy of the Word, the first part of the Mass.

We do not directly teach the catechism or babysit while parents may “peacefully pray”. This gathering is not a substitute for a Sunday school, or a preparation for First Communion. This is a Liturgy. We follow the same liturgy as the grownups do but in children’s language and with their active participation. It is about worship and celebration of the Word of God. All learning here takes place through the liturgical prayer and worship.

Liturgy of the Word should be celebrated with children aged 4- 8. The Presiding Priest calls them to the front after the Opening Prayer (Collect - the prayer before the readings). They all return to the main assembly after the Prayer of the Faithful, during the Offertory Hymn.