

# **Preparation and teaching on Communion for Children.**

Nov 2024





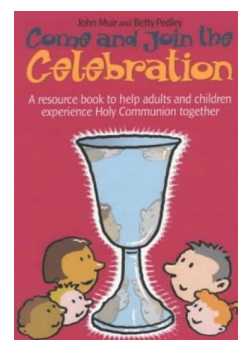


This is a guide for churches considering the admission of children to Holy Communion providing all a church would need to consider and help along the way to admitting children.

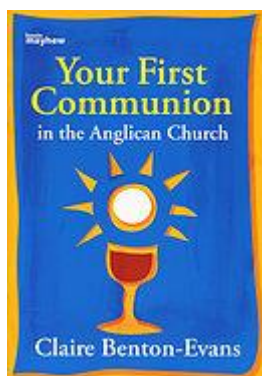
This includes resources for exploring the issue with a whole congregation, case studies from real-life churches, a preparation course, an admission liturgy and advice on including and involving children in Eucharistic worship. The book also includes theological reflection on children and the Eucharist from Michael Perham and considers the impact of receiving Holy Communion on children's discipleship.

This photocopiable resource contains guidance on how to help children understand the liturgy and structure of Holy Communion; activities for use in church with 2-6 year olds; resource sheets for 7-11 year olds; and ideas for additional uses including Communion before confirmation, workshops and school Eucharists. The book aims to help adults share worship with children, thus enabling everyone to participate more fully.

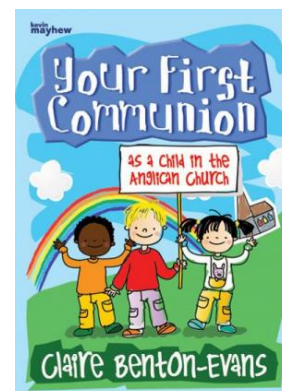
This is currently only available secondhand.



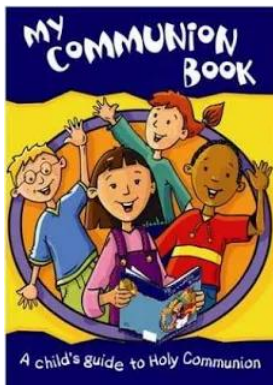
This is aimed primarily at church and children's ministers, parents and teachers to help children aged 7 - 9 to participate fully in eucharistic worship, it explores the background to the question of preparing young children for Holy Communion, give guidance on preparing the congregation, training leaders and involving the family, and includes a guide to using the programme. The programme itself comprises eleven flexible teaching units and is designed to last approximately three months overall, with the children receiving Holy Communion towards the end of the programme. There is an activity book available for each participant.



A first Communion is a very special occasion. There are 2 books in this series both clearly written and illustrated to help children, teenagers and young adults to learn all about Holy Communion and what it will mean for them and the Church. It explains what happens in a Communion service and answers a variety of questions that may arise leading up to this important event.

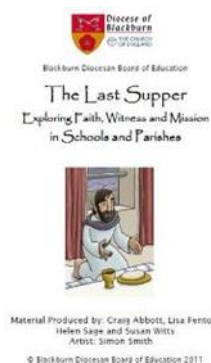
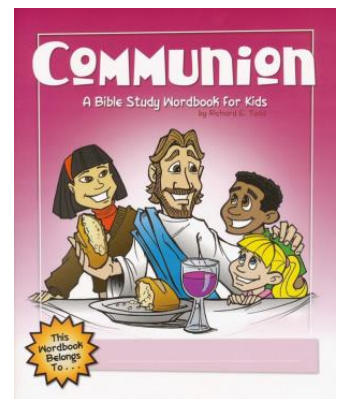


Diocese of **Rochester**  
called together



This all-age resource for children and families is primarily aimed at 4 to 8 year olds. It can be used initially as a sharing book, adult and child reading together, but children may use it at times on their own. Taking the child through the service, the book explains key words and asks questions that relate directly to the child, helping them to engage with the service of Holy Communion in a fun, interesting and meaningful way.

This resource is part of a series aimed to help children grow in their faith. Can be used on a Sunday morning in midweek programs or at home with a parent. These biblically based books have Scripture, activities and ideas for personal application. Students will enjoy mazes, word searches, colouring pages, cryptograms, quizzes, certificates and much more!



**The Last Supper** is a resource written by the Diocese of Blackburn to help prepare children for Holy Communion. The material covers several aspects of faith so please email Sarah Earnshaw (Sarah.Earnshaw@Blackburn.Anglican.Org) as she can send just what you need.

Last Supper CD Rom

**Godly Play** is another way of preparing children to receive Holy Communion.

There are 5 sessions where stories are shared as part of the preparation. Baptism, Exodus, Jesus the Good Shepherd, Faces of Easter and Holy Communion. This has been planned by Rachel Archer – please contact the CYP Team for details.

Children and communion services aren't always the easiest of combinations! This is a full-colour cube designed for children between 4 and 8 years-old, it can be used during church as a fun way of taking children through the service.

Cube

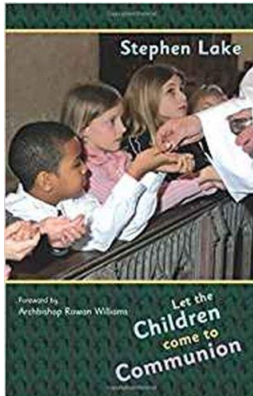


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**Going for Growth** website has a page of resources including the regulations and liturgy

Going For Growth

Let the Children Come to Communion : encourages the admission of baptized children to communion; summarizes in one place relevant practice, information and theology; shares the experience of those who have already taken this step; aims to help move the debate on, encouraging the Church into full participation. The author's fervent hope is to stir the Church into action on an important issue and to stimulate decision-making about introducing and developing this ministry with children. There are extended interviews with leading practitioners including: David Stancliffe, Stephen Venner, Diana Murrie, Margaret Withers and Mark Russell. Stephen Lake is Sub Dean and Canon Residentiary of St. Albans Cathedral.



If you are from a catholic tradition it will be worth looking at this resource.

**I Belong** is a programme designed to prepare children for their first communion. It contains lively, colourful material in which illustrations and examples are used to reflect the world where today's children live and experience faith. There are "Family Time" pages with suggestions for prayer and something to do together as a family.

Redemptorist Press

