

Justin and Mia Discover
**THE TREASURES
OF THE MASS**



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When Justin and Mia come in, a tall man dressed in a green and white robe smiles at them. He is the parish priest, Father Martin.

Mia asks him, "Is Mass for children?"

"Yes, of course," Father Martin says.

"But what are we going to do at Mass?" asks Mia.

Father Martin answers, "Mass is like a treasure hunt."

"What are we looking for?" asks Justin, who is very interested.

"The special treasures that God wants to share with us,"

Father Martin says.

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Justin and Mia sit next to Simon the catechist. Today he is helping the children to participate in the Mass.

“So, this treasure hunt,” Mia asks him. “When does it start?”

“Do you hear the music?” Simon asks. “We begin the Mass by singing all together.”

“Like we’re all on the same team,” Justin says.

“Or part of the same family,” adds Mia.

“This family is the family of those who are baptized,” explains Simon.

FOR PARENTS

All of us are part of the big family of those who are baptized. God knows each of our names. We can stop by the baptismal font to tell our children about the day they were baptized.



While everyone is singing,
a procession begins moving
toward the sanctuary and altar.

Mia asks, “Why is Father
Martin walking behind
a great big cross?”

“The cross is the sign
of the friends of Jesus,”
Justin recalls.

“We come together
to meet Jesus,” says Dad.

FOR PARENTS

There may be many
crosses in a church. We can first
search for them and count them
together to make sure that
children understand the
importance of this sign
before we explain it.



Everyone says, "In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen."

Justin remembers what his grandmother told him:

"The Father is God because he loves us as his children."

"The Son of God is Jesus," says Mia. "But what is the Holy Spirit?"

"That's more difficult to explain," Simon says. "The Holy Spirit is the power of God. The Spirit is like the wind that pushes us forward and gives us God's special help."

"And what does 'Amen' mean?" Mia continues.

"'Amen' is our response," says Dad. "It is like saying a very strong 'Yes! I believe!'"



FOR PARENTS
To make the Sign of the Cross, begin by touching the forehead (1), saying, "In the name of the Father." Then touch the center of the chest (2) and say, "And of the Son." Next, touch the left shoulder (3) saying, "Holy." Conclude with the right shoulder (4) by saying, "Spirit. Amen."

