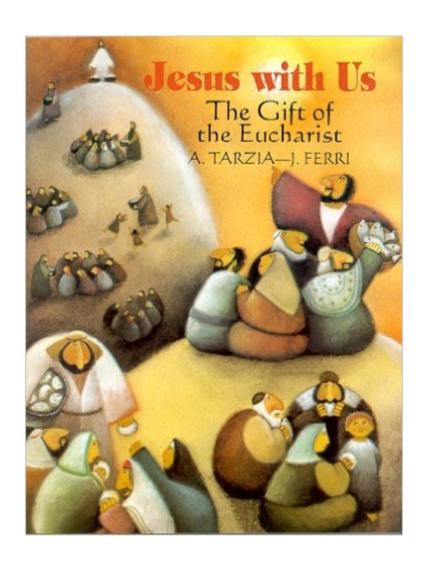
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Jesus With Us: The Gift Of The Eucharist (First Communion)





Synopsis

A history of the Eucharist, that sacrament of the Catholic Church in which, by partaking of bread or wine, one receives the body and blood of Jesus.

Book Information

Series: First Communion

Paperback: 32 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews (13 customer reviews)

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Christology

Age Range: 4 and up

Grade Level: Preschool and up

Customer Reviews

The illustrations are wonderful and some of the information in this book is really great, but some of it makes me uncomfortable. When introducing the topic of sacrifice to God, the book states "In the Bible, the Jewish people, the Christian people and the Moslem people read about people who gave gifts to God." The Muslims read the Bible? I just don't know why that sentence is even necessary. In addition, it goes on to state "In some religions bread and wine are offered to God as sacrifices." Well, why? There is no explanation of this being motivated by an innate desire to follow the one true God or of it pointing to the Sacrifice of Christ (see the Catechism). Sacrifice is described as something nice that people wanted to do for God because he gave them so many wonderful things. There is no mention of original sin or atonement. For me, there is too much focus on it being a special meal rather than on it being a re-presentation of the Sacrifice at Calvary, which opened the gates of Heaven for us. The Passover is mentioned as "an important anniversary" for the Jewish people instead of a covenant with God. The book explains that "Jesus wanted to give another

meaning to the celebration, too." No, Jesus offered himself as the Lamb of God to be slaughtered in atonement for the sins of the world (rather than for the sins of one family as in the Passover). Just as the Jewish family would then consume the flesh of the lamb, we consume the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of the Lamb of God in the Eucharist. This Sacrifice was the fulfillment of the old Covenant and the establishment of the new. I do not feel that this point is made in the book, so the kids never get the connection between the two. Then we get to the section about Vatican II, which IMO is unnecessary.

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