***While they were eating, Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and giving it to his disciples said, "Take and eat; this is my body****."* **Mark 14:22-24**

***Congratulations!***
 You have been specially picked by a second grader preparing to make their First Holy Communion! They want you to be their Bread Partner!  Our bread partners support these children as they journey towards receiving their First Holy Communion on \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Perhaps it was your smile, maybe they see you in church, maybe it is where you sit - either way they need your prayers, encouragement and support over the next few weeks! This is a wonderful opportunity to journey with our young people and grow in your own prayer experiences.

Bread Partners come in all ages, sizes and shapes they are individuals, couples and/or families - we are glad you are one of them!

Our hope for you as a bread partner is that you will be one who spiritually journeys with the student as they prepare to receive the Body and Blood of Christ for the first time. We hope this experience will help the students to see the Church in a broader sense and understand that we are all one, a part of a larger picture, the Body of Christ.

 As members of our individual families, we share meals around a table. We do this as members of the Body of Christ as well. We are all nourished and fed at the table of the Lord and bread becomes the symbol of our nourishment both literally and symbolically; it is the sign of our communion with each other and with the Lord. Being a Bread Partner is just one way we can make this vision a reality in the lives of our students.

There are many things you can do, and we *encourage* you to do, as a partner to your student. Here are some ideas:

* Pray for them daily!
* You might write weekly letters of encouragement and prayer. (Notes and prayers can be sent via mail to the student at home or dropped off at Church by Wednesday to be delivered to their Faith Formation class.)
* Send a small gift or token of support.
* Look for your student at Mass and say hello.
* Attend the First Communion celebration.

All of these will give you the chance to develop a friendship with your First Communion student. This experience will be what you make it! Do what you can!

Enclosed, you will find your student’s name and address. Thank you *so much* for helping us to make this an occasion to remember!

Many blessings,

Andy Krueger

Coordinator of Faith Formation

Andy.krueger@stmarychurches.org

**Student Name**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Parents’ Names**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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