



Handprint Cloth for First Eucharist Celebration

Materials:

1 or more king-size sheets (of a size suitable for the altar)	Flat foil pans and foam paint rollers
Several colors of fabric paint and fabric pen markers	Water and paper towels for cleanup



FAITH CONNECTION

At the Concluding Rites of the Mass, we are sent to love and serve the Lord. In this project, children (with the help of parents or other adults) prepare an altar cloth for First Eucharist with their handprints and names, signifying their willingness to serve others.

Directions:

1. Prepare—or have a volunteer prepare—a cloth suitable to be used on the altar for First Eucharist. It may be necessary to sew several sheets together.
2. Decide on a symbol or emblem, such as a chalice, for the center of the cloth and then mask off the area.
3. On the day of the activity, arrange an area where the cloth can be laid out. Put small quantities of the various colored paints in separate pans.
4. Have each child come up individually to choose a color. Instruct the child to put his or her hands in the paint, palms down and flat. Then use foam paint rollers to spread the paint evenly over the child's hands. Immediately transfer the child's hands to the cloth and press them down for 2 to 3 minutes. Print or write the child's name close to his or her handprints.
5. After the paint is dry, paint the symbol on the center of the cloth. If you want, add a ribbon trim to decorate the cloth.