

## ***Liturgy of the Word with Children in relation to the Sacraments of Initiation.***

*In the Diocese of Auckland, the order of the Sacraments of Initiation is to be Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist and the Sacraments of Confirmation and the first reception of Eucharist are to take place within the same celebration.*

(Belonging and Beyond, Policy Document of the Catholic Diocese of Auckland)

*Children old enough for catechesis should be admitted to Confirmation and the Eucharist.*

(Rite of Confirmation #11)

*Children are to experience in proportion to their age and personal development the human values that are present in the Eucharistic celebration.*

(Directory of Masses with Children 9)

The Directory of Masses with Children is concerned with pre-adolescent children. In general, in New Zealand, this is to be considered as primary and intermediate school aged children.



Even those children who have received fully the Sacraments of Initiation, at the age of discretion, being about the seventh year, and who share equally with adults at the table of the Eucharist, are enjoined to celebrate the Children's Liturgy of the Word.

Parents, as first teachers, and all adults gathered, take seriously the injunction of Jesus. (Matthew 19:14)

