

Homily. 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Year.A. 25/26 July 2020.  
1st Holy Communion Weekend. 6x Masses due to Covid 19 restrictions.

Children, please stand in your place. I know that it has not been the easiest of times to prepare for the celebration of your First Holy Communion. I also know that achieving anything truly worthwhile and important is never easy, something that you'll discover more and more as you grow older.

With this in mind I want to thank you, children, on this special day, along with your parents and families for all of the effort you've put in so as to get ready for this big event in your lives. I also publicly offer my thanks to Melissa, our Parish Sacramental Co-ordinator, to those who work with her, to our Parish Office Staff and to all of our parishioners for their generosity and sacrifices so as to make this day possible in these challenging times.

All of this work and effort and searching has led us to the pearl of great price, the discovery of a treasure which is worth more than anything else in life, the gift of Christ Himself coming to live within us. He will be with us always, offering to nourish, guide and protect us on our many journeys in this world. Children, this greatest of all gifts is the reason why we're all rejoicing in celebrating here with you. Let me finish now by asking everyone that, having found the priceless pearl and hidden treasure of Jesus, may your 1st Communion never become your last with us in our Parish and community of faith. Thank you, well done and my hearty congratulations as we look forward now to our future together in Christ.