

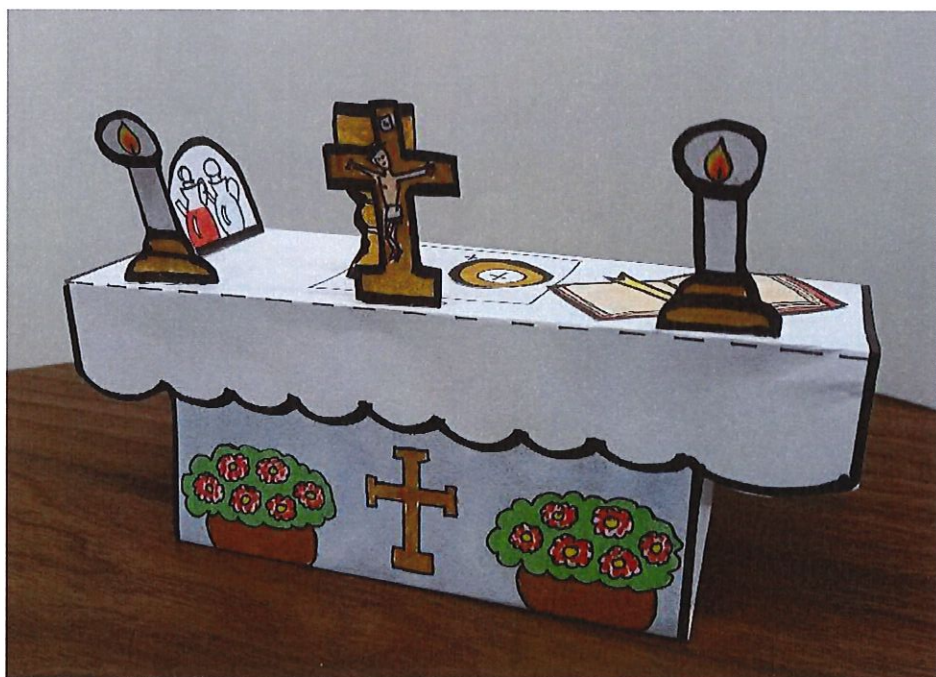
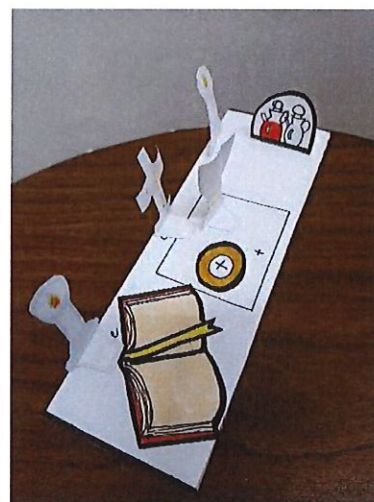
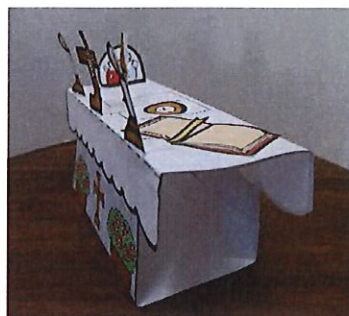
# The Table of the Lord

## *Altar Craft*

*This craft will help you remember the different items used at the altar when we celebrate the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. As you assemble the altar, be sure to think about what each item is for and what it might represent about how you will participate in the Mass (see next page).*

### Instructions for Craft

1. Print out the altar on card stock if possible
2. Color the altar and cut it out. Fold it so that it makes an upright altar, paying attention to the fold lines, then glue the flap.
3. Color all the items that go on the altar and then cut them out—be sure to keep the flaps on them as you cut them out.
4. Fold the flaps so that the items will stand upright and then glue or tape them down on the altar, using the words as your guide for where they should be placed.
5. Set up your altar in your prayer space or on your family dinner table. Talk and share about the meaning of the different items on the altar. Bring the prayer to Mass with you.



## Praying and Thinking About the Table of the Lord

<b>Name</b>	<b>Function/Purpose</b>	<b>Connection to You</b>
<b>Crucifix</b>	Reminds us of the connection between Jesus dying on the cross and the sacrifice of the Mass. The Mass is a memorial of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.	<i>When you look at the crucifix, realize that Jesus knew and loved YOU as he died. When you look at the Eucharist, realize how much Jesus loves you now.</i>
<b>Paten and Host</b>	The paten is the special plate that is only used to hold the host that will become the Body of Christ.	<i>When you look at the host, you can think about how Jesus called Himself the true bread that comes down from heaven. This bread will strengthen you as you journey to heaven.</i>
<b>Chalice</b>	The chalice is the special cup that is only used to hold the wine that will become the Blood of Christ.	<i>In the Bible, God says that the blood is the life of the person. Blood is used to seal a covenant. When Jesus gives you His Blood, He is telling you He gives you His life and makes a covenant with you.</i>
<b>Candles</b>	The candles are used to help us focus on the altar and shine light on it. Candles represent the light of Jesus Christ. The smoke of the flame is a symbol of our prayers rising to heaven.	<i>As you see the light of the candles, know that you are filled with the light of Jesus Christ from your Baptism and after you receive Him in the Eucharist. Ask Jesus to help you shine His light to all those you meet.</i>
<b>Missal</b>	The Missal is the prayer book that Father uses to celebrate the Mass. The prayers are a treasure of the Church and lead us to worship God and learn more about Him.	<i>Listen carefully to the prayers and follow along in your own Missal if you have one. God commands you to go to Mass so that you can worship Him—not because He needs it, but because you find your true identity by knowing, loving and serving God. Ask God to help you pay attention.</i>
<b>Cruets</b>	These little containers hold the water and wine that are used in the chalice. A little water is added to the wine as the priest prays—He is worshipping Jesus who became human for our sake without losing His divinity.	<i>When you see the priest (or deacon) add the water to the wine, thank Jesus for becoming one of us. You can ask Jesus to help you become a citizen of heaven. Jesus became human to help us become children of God.</i>
<b>Altar</b>	The Altar is a special table that is used to offer a sacrifice. The sacrifice of the Mass unites us to the sacrifice Jesus offered on the cross and anticipated at the Last Supper. We don't kill Jesus again, but we celebrate a memorial where the true and real effects of Jesus' sacrifice are re-presented so that we can receive them.	<i>When you look at the altar, that special place of sacrifice, thank Jesus for loving you so much that He died for you. Pray about the ways you can offer the sacrifice of praise to God and how you can make little sacrifices in your life to honor God and love others. Bring to each Mass a petition for a special need and offer it to the Father in union with Jesus.</i>

*God my Father,*

*By the power of the Holy Spirit, I am united to the Body of Christ at Mass,  
to glorify and praise and serve You with all my love.*

*I thank you for the love made real and true by Your Son's Presence.*

*As I participate in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass,*

*give me a heart and mind to worship you and give you thanks.*

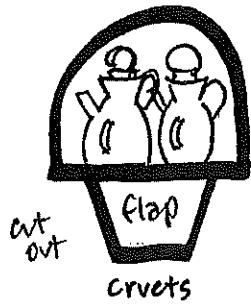
*I ask for holy imagination so that I can see what is really happening with my eyes of faith.*

*I ask for holy reverence so that I can honor Your Son as He deserves.*

*I ask for holy courage, that I may choose to live by the love You communicate to me.*

*In the name of Your Son, our Lord and Savior, I pray. Amen.*

# The Table of the LORD



cut out  
& glue

