

Gabi Goes to Mass

Things to bring:

- “Mass Bag” with 3 crayons, bible activity book, and water/juice
- Bulletin – you get them from the man at the door.
- Post it Notes – When you arrive, put notes at book marks into your blue book. The hymn numbers are on the board at the front. Each time you finish with a page, take that note out.
- Don’t bring food.
 - When she gets old enough to take communion, she will learn that we are supposed to wait an hour after eating to take communion. (The bread does not want to get mixed up with the other food.)
 - Also, snacks tend to get messy and loud for all children.
- BRING A FRIEND.
 - The best would be either Schuyler, Grady, or another able bodied young person. But any caring person works fine.
 - They can help Gabi with the movements of the service and allow you to worship without too much distraction.
- Share this with the Priest and the Director of Religious Education. Ask them for other ways to help and be included in the church.

Things to do:

- Pick a lady in the church who is wearing a color that Gabi likes. Tell Gabi to do what that lady does. IF she stands, then stand. If she sits, then sit. If she kneels, then kneel OR bow OR raise hands.
 - When the lady uses the Blue book to help her sing, then you use the blue book too.
 - At the back of the blue book, the prayers and Bible readings for each day are listed. You might have already marked the pages.
- Remind Gabi that kneeling is a way to show Jesus that you love and obey Him. Bowing or raising hands are other ways of showing Jesus that you love and obey him.
- Play seek and find:
 - Use pictures on the bulletin – they go with the Bible stories of the day.
 - Use letters and words in the bulletin – they help Gabi get to know the people of the church.
 - Look around the room –
 - Find the sun shining through the window.
 - Find a picture of the sun.
 - Find Jesus rising into heaven (It is big).
 - Find Jesus with a cross. (The cross is where Jesus got hurt.)
- When it is time to greet people, have Gabi say “peace be with you” to each person.
- Use the special water by the door as you arrive and as you leave. Put your hand in, and then cross yourself saying – “in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost, Amen.”
- Encourage Gabi to listen and be ready to say “Amen” with everyone else and hopefully she will start learning to say the other things with all the people.