**Blessed Imelda’s First Communion**

Once there was a young girl named Imelda. She was very holy and wanted to enter the convent to be a nun very early in life. She was probably about 10years old when they finally let her join. Now at that time, you had to go through many many years of classes before you could receive First Holy Communion. Usually you could receive your First Holy Communion at about 13 or 15 years old. So Imelda had to wait a while. Every day she would pray to Jesus, “Jesus please please help me to be able to receive you in the Eucharist today. I really want to receive you today.” And every day Imelda would ask the priest if she could receive her First Communion that day. Day after day, the priest would say, “No, I’m sorry Imelda, but you’re too young.” Finally, on day, Imelda was praying and was sure Jesus told her that she would get to receive her First Holy Communion that day. So, before Mass, Imelda asked the priest again. Again the priest said “no, you’re too young.” But Imelda still had faith. When time came for communion, Imelda went up, but again the priest told her, “Imelda, I’ve already told you you’re too young.” Then Mass ended, and Imelda was so sad. She sat down and prayer to Jesus, “Jesus, I thought you told me I would receive you today.” But just then, something amazing happened. The priest was opening up the tabernacle, the place where Jesus lives, and all of a sudden, a piece of Jesus, one Host, started floating through the air, left the tabernacle, and headed toward Imelda. The priest was shocked! It floated over and landed on her tongue, so she did receive her first communion that day! Blessed Imelda was so, so, so, happy! You can’t describe how happy she was to be so united with God! She sat and prayed and prayed and prayed and was so close to God! (the real story is Blessed Imelda died of happiness after going into ecstasy being united to the Divine Trinity, but maybe don’t say that to kids. It may scare them that they might die if they receive communion.)

Points of the story:

Jesus is present in the Eucharist. Blessed Imelda knew that if she received communion, she would receive Jesus, and she really really wanted to be so close to Jesus. Do you want that too? How badly do you want to receive communion? You can go more than just on Sundays too. You can go to Mass and receive Jesus everyday if you want.