Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Next weekend (May 6/7) we will begin our First Communion celebrations. As you know, we celebrate First Communion in small groups and at weekend Masses. We do this because the children are being welcomed to Communion with the Lord in the sacrament of the Eucharist and communion with the Body of Christ, God's people in our parish. Sunday (or Saturday evening) Mass is the most excellent time and setting for these celebrations!

An *average* weekend Mass at Holy Family is about one hour in length. First Communion Masses run 65-67 minutes long. Those extra 5-7 minutes on your part help provide the community of faith into which these children are being drawn -and- will provide *you* with a beautiful and grace-filled experience of the innocence these children have to offer us in our faith. Our First Communion Masses will be at: 5:00 on May 6, 10:30 on May 7; 5:00 on May 13, 10:30 on May 14. Please join us in welcoming these children and their families to the Lord's Table.

Sincerely,
Fr. Fleming

Lord, when I can't see where you are, remind me how you never lose sight of me...
When I strain to listen but just can't hear you, remind me how you never miss a word I pray...
When I'm alone and feel abandoned, remind me how you hold me in the palm of your hand...
When I just can't seem to find you, remind me how you seek me out, night and day…
When I find it hard to trust in you, remind me how you never give up on me...
When I can't forgive myself, remind me how your mercy is forever...
When I don't know where to turn, remind me how you guide and watch my every step...
And when I can't - whatever - then remind me
that you *can*, you *do* and you always *will* forgive and care for me with love
Amen.

(www.ConcordPastor.blogspot.com)