

# Admission to Communion before Confirmation

## Information and Resources

On 15<sup>th</sup> June the new Regulations came into operation, replacing the previous Guidelines. There are three key implications for all parishes to be aware of:

- Because this is now canon law it impacts on everyone, it should be something that all PCC's discuss
- Even those churches who have had permission to admit to communion before confirmation under the guidelines will have to reapply
- Even if your PCC has voted against applying for permission to admit to communion before confirmation, you CANNOT REFUSE someone who presents themselves to receive who has been admitted elsewhere.

A copy of the Regulations is available on the Diocesan Website together with a copy of the form requesting permission from the Bishop.

If you are considering how you may prepare children for receiving Holy Communion here are two useful resources:

“Children and Holy Communion” by Diana Murrie and Steve Pearce. Never was so much packed into such a small book! There is a summary of how the current thinking on this subject has been reached. There is a six session course for preparing children to be admitted to Communion, and there are also all the handouts and sheets to go with the course. Everything you need in one!

“Welcome to the Lord's Table” by Margaret Withers. Again – all you need. Theological background to the topic, help in thinking who could help prepare children for admission, considering pastoral issues and supporting the whole family from the beginning of the book. The main substance is a ten unit course to help children explore themselves, the Gospel message and the Holy Communion. There is also now an accompanying activity book for children on the course.

All these resources are available from the Resources Centre and for further information on the topic please contact the Children and Youth team.