

SISTER Teresa Helen clicked her signal, and the children rose from their knees and quietly settled themselves in their seats. They are the First Communion class of St. Mary's Sunday school, and on the morrow, the beautiful feast of the Sacred Heart, they will receive for the first time Him Who said: "Suffer little ones to come unto Me."

"Now, my good children," said good Sister Teresa Helen," the great day for which you have been so earnestly preparing is at hand. All who have seen you during your little retreat have been very much edified. I am sure, by your recollected conduct, your fervor at your prayers and your attention to the instructions. I hope that none of you will break the silence of the retreat until after Mass to-morrow."

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"Do not forget," continued the good Sister, "that you must be in this room at 6 o'clock to-morrow morning. We will then say the concluding prayers of the Novena before going into the church. To-morrow will be the greatest and happiest day of your lives, and you must be sure to invite your parents to be present at the Mass. Remember, too, what I have said about asking their forgiveness for your past faults, promising them to be better children in the future, and kneeling and asking their blessing before leaving home in the morning. You are dismissed now. Good afternoon, and God bless you."

In such an assemblage of children there are always two or three whom one naturally singles out from the