



16
Holy Communion
Service,
Wallajahpet Church



Questions

What is happening here?

Who do you think the people are?

Where is this taking place?

What is the man on the right wearing which tells you he is a bishop? Is this the same as an English bishop wears?

Find out about Jesus and the Last Supper and how this is linked to the Holy Communion service.

Background

In the small village church at Wallajahpet a large congregation from all over the area has come together for a confirmation service followed by Holy Communion. Bishop William has just confirmed the young men kneeling at the altar rail and now they are receiving their first communion from him personally. This is a very special moment for them which they will always remember. They may have waited as much as two years for this special service. *You can see another photograph of this Holy Communion service in the pack (photograph 18) and a confirmation is taking place in photograph 19.*

Bishop William has consecrated (blessed) the bread and wine, using the same words that Jesus used at the Last Supper. The bread stands for the body of Jesus and the wine stands for his blood. Christians eat the bread and drink the wine to remember the death of Jesus and his love for them. If you would like to see English copies of the service he used then you can find these at <http://www.csimichigan.org/Liturgy.htm>

Bishop William is wearing a saffron coloured stole, an episcopal ring and a pectoral cross which were given to him when he became a bishop (was consecrated bishop). Find out about bishops on <http://www.bishopsinaction.com/> Saffron is a holy colour in India and is worn by Hindus, Buddhists and Sikhs as well as Christian bishops.

