

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

1. Contact the sacristan if you are unable to serve when you are assigned. Call or text.
 - a. 4:30 mass Susan Humphrey Cell (719) 251-0724
 - b. 7:30 mass Kathy Fabian Cell (719) 671-4875
 - c. 9:00 mass Cathy Garcia Cell (719) 250-2466
 - d. 11:00 mass Sharon Sisneros Cell (719) 250-4025 or Richard Noriega Cell (719) 821-6937

Dress: Extraordinary Ministers should dress neatly, in a way consistent with the dignity of their ministerial role. Good taste and common sense are the best guides in this area; please avoid wearing shorts, t-shirts, tank tops, low-cut blouses, and short skirts, etc.

Appropriate dress is a sign of the reverence the minister has for the Eucharist and for the importance of the ministry.

Arrive at Church at least 10 minutes before Mass to sign in. Sacristans arrive 30 minutes before Mass. If you cannot attend on a day that you have been scheduled, it is your responsibility to find a substitute or contact Sacristan.

2. If your name has an **astrick*** behind it on the schedule, please stay after Mass to clean vessels.
3. When a Deacon is present 6 Eucharistic Ministers are needed. When no Deacon is present, 7 Eucharistic Ministers are needed. If there is a co-celebrant and Deacon present, 5 Eucharistic Ministers are needed.
4. Show reverence by bowing to the Altar when approaching and leaving the Sanctuary, (except when carrying Plate or Cup back to the altar).
5. At the sign of peace, sanitize hands and take assigned position (see position chart). NOTE THE CHANGE

Precious Body Ministers

1. Present the Host to the communicant saying "The Body of Christ."
2. The Host may be received by mouth, taking care that you don't touch the communicant's tongue. After the communicant has responded "AMEN," place the Host on the palm of their hand. If they don't respond, considerately say, "Amen."
3. Return to the altar and give your vessel to Deacon or Father or set it on the alter. One EM should wait for Father and Deacon to give the vessels back, if no servers are present. Place them on the credence table.
4. IF YOU NOTICE SOMEONE WHO DOES NOT CONSUME THE BODY OF CHRIST (EVEN IF YOU'RE SITTING IN THE PEW), STOP THEM AND TELL THEM TO CONSUME IT OR GIVE BACK TO YOU!

Precious Blood Ministers

Ministers of the Cup: Stand far enough away from the Minister of the Host to avoid congestion.

1. The purpose of purification is for reverence and hygiene.
2. Unfold the purifier. Present the cup to the communicant saying “The Blood of Christ.”
3. After the communicant has responded “AMEN” hand the cup to the communicant.
4. Wipe the inner and outer rim of the cup. Rotate the cup and change the position of the purifier after each communicant.
5. Intinction is not permitted. If someone starts to dip the host in the cup, just place your hand over the cup.
6. Ministers of the Blood should consume any remaining Precious Blood before returning their chalices to the Altar.
7. Hand the cup and purifier to Father or Deacon or set it on the altar. Do not put the purifier in the cup.
8. Father or Deacon will purify Father’s chalice. If we have a visiting Priest who does not purify the chalice the Deacon will do it.

DO NOT CONSUME FROM FATHER’S CHALICE.

After Mass

The two Eucharistic Minister with the **astrick*** by their name are responsible for staying after mass to take the vessels to the sacristy.

1. Using cloth towels only wash and dry the vessels. NEVER submerge the vessels in water.
2. Set up for the next mass. The instructions are written above the sink in the sacristy.
3. Return the vessels to the credence table for the next mass on Sunday. 4 cups, 1 chalice, water in the cruet and 2 plates. Place 4 purifiers on the credence table. When Father is present, place a purifier on his chalice then the small patten, the large host and pall on top. If the ciborium is empty on the credence table, fill it with hosts and return it to the table.

Practical Questions

Who can bless another person?

According to the official Book of Blessings, "Laymen and laywomen in virtue of the universal priesthood, a dignity they possess because of their baptism and confirmation, may celebrate certain blessings, as indicated in the respective orders of blessings, by use of the rites and formularies designated for a lay minister. Such lay persons exercise this ministry in virtue of their office (for example, parents on behalf of their children) or by reason of some special liturgical ministry or in the fulfillment of a particular charge in the Church, as is the case in many places with religious or catechist appointed by decision of the local Ordinary."

The Extraordinary Minister may offer a brief prayer for those in the Assembly who come forward in the communion procession and who are not receiving Holy Communion, such as "May God bless you." This prayer is to be offered audibly and **may not be** accompanied by the gesture associated with a blessing. e.g., the raising of the hand for the sign of the cross.

What should I do if I drop the Sacred Body or spill the Precious Blood?

First, don't panic. It's not the end of the world; everything will be fine. Simply bend down on one knee and pick up the dropped host and consume it (if you are comfortable doing so), if not, give it to Father or Deacon when you return to the altar.

Be careful not to spill anymore hosts while you are retrieving the dropped one. You might have to stop traffic before you can bend down. Do so courteously, remembering that Jesus is also present in the members of the assembly whom you are stopping.

If you spill some consecrated wine, and if you can manage the cup with only one hand, bend down on one knee and place the purifier over it.

If the cup is too full for you to manage gracefully, ask the next person in line to hold the cup while you place the purifier over the spill. Get the purifiers from the altar and resume distributing the Precious Blood. Father or Deacon will properly clean the spilled Precious Blood.

What do I do if someone who is not Catholic comes to me for Communion?

In most cases, you should give them Communion. As Communion ministers, we are not responsible for judging who is worthy of sharing in Communion with us. We cannot know the heart or conscience of the person standing in front of us. Our primary obligation is to act as Jesus would and to be as hospitable and welcoming as possible. Do not cause a fuss during the Mass by refusing Communion to anyone. If a child does not have his or her hands crossed over their chest, it is best to ask..."Have you made your First Holy Communion?" If they are obviously too young, just offer a blessing.

Is it ok for Communion Ministers to skip the cup?

No one is required to share Communion from the cup. However, since the faithful are to be encouraged to do so, part of the ministry of the Communion minister is to offer that encouragement by example.

Communicate reverence and dignity at all times in the performance of your duties. Dress appropriately.

Develop a devotion to the Eucharistic presence of Christ, knowing the true presence of Christ of the Eucharist, not just knowing about the Eucharist.

Taking communion to the Homebound

Get a Pix from the sacristy. Take Communion to the homebound directly after mass, or the same day. **Do not take it home!**

Pick up a book. "Communion of the Sick" in the sacristy/office (see next pages).

Thank you for your ministry. Your time and talent and commitment are appreciated.

Fr. Steve, Deacon Ed

If you have any questions or require additional clarification, contact Fr. Steve, Dearon Ed, the sacristan assigned to the mass you attend or Diana Alvarado (719) 251-9146 (diana.alvarado12@gmail.com).