



HOLY CROSS CHURCH

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS

OF HOLY COMMUNION

**Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God;
whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies,
so that God may be glorified in all things through Christ Jesus. (1 Peter 4: 11)**

Welcome! The **Ordinary Minister** of the Sacrament is a priest or deacon who, by their ordination, is commissioned to administer Holy Communion to the faithful. **Extraordinary Ministers** of Communion are “any others of Christ’s faithful, approved by the parish priest according to the norms of Canon Law”. (Vatican II document Redemptionis Sacramentum)
This extraordinary ministry was created exclusively for those instances where there are not enough ordinary ministers to distribute Holy Communion, due to the consummate importance of assuring that the faithful have the opportunity to receive Holy Communion at Mass, even when it is distributed under both species. (cf. RS, no. 102)

Preparation:

1. Arrive at least 15 minutes before Mass time. Record your name in the sign in book and put on a cross. A common prayer is recited with Father, Altar Servers, Lectors and ExtraOrdinary Ministers in the Sacristy before Mass begins.
2. Discuss which duties you are to perform with your Team coordinator.

**If you are unable to fulfill your ministry talk to your Team Coordinator to see what procedure he/she prefers that you follow; either find your own replacement or let them know in reasonable time for them to find a replacement for you.

Procedures:

1. Come up after the Sign of Peace. After entering the sanctuary, no greetings should be exchanged. Once the “Lamb of God” is being sung we have moved onward liturgically from the sign of peace. **Bow before the Altar in pairs**, and proceed to the credence table to sanitize hands and then stand at the Altar behind Father. Blood of Christ Ministers will stand on the outside and Body of Christ Ministers will position themselves under the Crucifix.
2. The Lead Body of Christ Minister will proceed to the Tabernacle open it, genuflect, remove the ciborium, **close the Tabernacle door** and bring the ciborium(a) to the altar before standing in position 2 on the Tabernacle side of the Crucifix.
3. The Lead Blood of Christ Minister (position 4) steps forward to pour the Blood of Christ using the purificator when going from cup to cup to prevent the Precious Blood from dripping.
4. The Presider will then offer the Body of Christ to each Minister. ExtraOrdinary Ministers will consume together, **after Father consumes the Body of Christ**. The Presider will then offer the cup to Blood of Christ Ministers who will in turn offer it to their respective Body of Christ Minister.
5. Father will then offer the Body of Christ to the Altar Servers followed by the Lead Blood of Christ Minister. **All ExtraOrdinary Ministers as well as Father will not proceed down the stairs until all in the Sanctuary have received both species.** (Unless Father ministers to the choir at which time the second Blood of Christ Minister will join him) Once Communion distribution begins, the Body of Christ Ministers should pace themselves slowly at first, according to the demand for the Blood of Christ so as not to get too far ahead and cause a build up of people.
****Communion in the Gerein Centre will be distributed AFTER the main congregation.**
6. The Ministers on the Tabernacle side distribute Communion on that side of the church. The Ministers on the ambo side distribute Communion on that side of the church. Carry sacred vessels respectfully. When distributing the Body of Christ, hold it up and make eye contact; say, „The Body of Christ.“ The response of the communicant is „Amen.“ It is improper to call a person by name as all are one in Christ.
7. The Communicant can receive in the hand or on the tongue. For those not receiving communion, simply say to the individual „God loves you“ or “May Jesus live in your heart” and make a sign of the cross on their forehead or touch their hand.

8. Ministers of the Blood of Christ present the cup saying „the Blood of Christ“. The communicant responds „Amen“ and will take the cup in his/her hands. Wait until they respond. After they have received, wipe the inside of the cup with the purificator and give the cup a slight turn.
9. When Blood Ministers chalice is empty, place the purificator over the chalice and wait patiently until all the congregation has received communion. Then proceed to the credence table to purify the vessel.
10. If there is any of the Precious Blood left, it should be consumed by the ExtraOrdinary Ministers. If there is too much, give it to Father and he will consume. Vessels **must** be purified by pouring a small amount of water from the carafe into the cup, rinse and consume the water. Wipe the cup with the purificator and leave it on the table. Return to your seat without bowing. ****Return to the Sacristy following Mass to wash the vessels with soap and water.**
11. The Lead Body of Christ Minister will take the ciboria to the celebrant at the altar who will consolidate hosts in one or two ciboria. The Minister will then return the ciborium(a) to the tabernacle, place it inside, genuflect, close the door and lock it. Return the key to the altar.

Additional Notes:

ExtraOrdinary Ministers should be Be people of faith and commitment to the teachings of the church and be regular in attending the Sunday Eucharist (Sat/Sun). They demonstrate a faith-filled reverence for the Eucharist.

The Consecrated Host is **the Body of Christ**. The Consecrated Wine is **the Blood of Christ**.

****A change has taken place. Use respectful language for the sacred species which expresses your faith**

1. Ministers of the Blood of Christ must receive from the cup. If Ministers do not wish to receive the Precious Blood, they should only be Ministers of the Body of Christ.
2. When there are several priests concelebrating, they will be ministers of Communion. They will receive communion under both species first. Then the extraordinary ministers of the Communion will receive the Body and the Blood of Christ from the priests.
3. Both the Body of Christ and the Blood of Christ are always to be offered by a minister to each communicant. Only a priest can take communion for himself.
4. Intinction is NOT permitted. (Dipping the host into the Precious Blood) It is the Roman Catholic tradition that we drink from the cup.
5. If you drop a host, pick it up and consume it yourself. If it falls into a person's clothing and it is inappropriate for you to retrieve it, have the person do it.
6. If one spills the Precious Blood, place the purificator over it and leave it there. Signal to an Altar Server that you need another purificator and wait for them to deliver it to you before continuing. After Mass, wash the area with a small amount of water and wipe dry with another purificator. These are then placed in the bag for used purificators.

Because of serious health conditions, some communicants, unable to eat anything containing wheat gluten, cannot receive the Eucharistic bread. Such persons may always receive Communion under the form of wine alone. This is true even if, at the Mass, Communion is not offered under both kinds for all the faithful.

A minister may be commissioned as a Lector and as an Extraordinary Minister of the Communion but may fulfill only one role at any particular mass. The commissioning is for a 3 year period which is renewable.