

Eucharistic Ministers of Communion

Guidelines

Before Mass:

- Please arrive ten minutes before Mass is scheduled to begin.
- According to the checklist, see if everything is in place.
- Sunday Mass Checklist
- Credence Table:
- Chalice, purificator, corporal.
- Communion Cup and purificator.
- Communion Paten.
- Basin with pitcher and towel.
- Gifts and offertory bags (table - entrance of the church)
- Ciborium or paten with bread
- Cruet with wine

Before Communion:

- After exchanging the sign of peace go up through the center aisle, stop at the sanctuary step, bow and take your place on the sanctuary floor next to the step (going to the altar).
- The priest will distribute Holy Communion to each Minister.
- The priest will offer the cup to two ministers, and the paten to the third minister, if present.

During Communion:

- **The Host Minister proceeds to the center aisle on the tile floor and begin to distribute communion. Use eye contact and articulate clearly: “The Body of Christ”.**
- **The Cup Ministers take their places on the tile floor close to the sides of church. Stand next to the organ, not in front of it. Use eye contact and articulate clearly “The Blood of Christ”.**
- **Wipe the side of the cup where the person drinks and turn the cup a quarter turn for the next communicant.**
- **If you run out of consecrated wine, place the purificator over your cup to indicate that it is empty. Wait until all have finished, and return to the credence table all together.**
- **If you or one of the priests run out of hosts, bring the ciborium from the tabernacle in the sacristy.**
- **You may place your hand on the heads of pre-first communion children and pray a blessing, saying: “May God bless you”.**

After Communion:

- **All ministers return to the credence table, the Cup Ministers purify the vessels and leave them on the table. The Host Minister places the remaining hosts in the ciborium, in the tabernacle, joins the other ministers at the table.**
- **Ministers leave the credence table together and line up in front of the altar. All make a slight bow (inclination of the head) then return to their place.**

After Mass:

- **Go to the credence table, bring the sacred vessels to the sacristy. Dry the chalice. Rinse the cups and pitcher with clean water and dry. Return everything to the OLM cupboard.**
- **Place used linens in the bag provided.**