



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Guidelines

Appropriate Dress of Ministers

The ministry of an Extraordinary Minister is one of example and witness. Ministers at the very least should not allow their dress to be a distraction to the faithful. Ordinarily it should be the desire of Extraordinary Ministers to be examples of reverence and should therefore dress in a manner that is not revealing, profane or overly casual. Please avoid the following when you are scheduled to minister.

- T-Shirts
- Shorts
- Sneakers
- *Women* - bare shoulders and midriffs
- *Men* – Sleeveless shirts

Please be aware that you may be needed to serve at a mass you are attending yet are not scheduled to minister. It is requested that ministers come to mass dressed to serve.

Procedures

- ***Sign in on the bulletin board in the vestibule outside the sacristy upon your arrival at church.***
- At the Lamb of God approach the sanctuary and assemble on the sacristy side of the altar.
- Ministers are to sanitize their hands upon reaching the sanctuary.
- The priest distributes the Body of Christ to each of the ministers.
- The deacon will distribute the ciborium to the ministers.
- The first 4 ministers go to the middle of the church. Two in the center aisle and one at each of the side aisle
- The last 2 ministers go to the side aisles in the front of the church.
- Hand sanitizer is available near or close to each communion station.
- At the conclusion of the distribution of Holy Communion
 - Ciborium are brought to the sanctuary and ministers assemble on the sacristy side of the altar.
 - Ministers wait to hand them to priest or deacon.
 - Ministers wait until the Blessed Sacrament is reposed and then genuflect with the priest/deacon before returning to seat in the assembly.

General Notes

- If you are taking communion to the sick, ministers are to come forward with their pyx at the end of the distribution of communion and immediately leave the church after receiving the pyx from the priest or deacon.
- If a minister wishes to or needs to wait for the dismissal of the congregation, the minister is to wait in the sanctuary for priest or deacon.
- **NEVER** take unconsecrated hosts from the sacristy and place them on the altar or place them in the tabernacle.
- **Do not** attempt to assist with the distribution of consecrated hosts to the ciborium during the Lamb of God

Weekday Masses

- The assistance of 1 EMHC at weekday masses is requested.
- If you are attending a weekday mass, please come forward at the Lamb of God

Theological Reflection

Taking time to ask ourselves significant questions regarding your ministry can help us to become more attentive to the gift of ministry.

Recall how God led you to be involved in the ministry that you are involved in?

What are the parts of this ministry that you find challenging? Why?

How do you experience God's presence amidst these challenges?

What are the fruits of this ministry? (For you and others)

Say a prayer of thanksgiving for the gift of ministry, including the challenges and fruits it bears.