

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Check off your name on the sign-in sheet located on the Ministry table.
2. Be aware of the number of Ministers needed. If the Deacon is present we may need one less minister.
3. After the Sign of Peace, immediately approach the altar and do a reverent head bow before you ascend the stairs. Cup ministers stand at the side of the altar. Bread ministers stand behind the altar.
4. If you are unable to take the stairs, stand at the side on the floor. The priest, deacon or a fellow Eucharistic Minister will distribute Communion to you prior to handing you your Ciborium.
5. Do a reverent bow of the head prior to receiving the consecrated Host and Precious Blood.
6. Bread ministers are to stand in the center of each aisle. Cup ministers are to stand at the point. All ministers should stand as close to the step as possible.
7. It is your call to make the moment of Communion as personal as possible. Do not rush – allow this moment its full ritual beauty.
8. Speak to the person. Hold up the bread or the cup, and looking the person in the eye, say, “The Body of Christ” (you may choose to add their name), “The Blood of Christ” (again, their name is optional). Wait for their response: Amen.
9. Place the bread in the outstretched hands or on the tongue of the person – allowing each the opportunity to indicate the manner in which they wish to receive.
10. Hand the cup to the communicant. When the cup is returned, carefully wipe the rim of the cup and rotate it prior to distributing to the next person.
11. When children approach, give them an appropriate blessing. You may use “May Almighty God descend upon you and remain with you forever,” “May Jesus help you to be his loving child” or “Remember always, that Jesus love you.” Use whatever blessing you prefer. It is nice if you are comfortable signing their foreheads and/or touching their shoulder.
12. When all persons have received in your area, evaluate whether you are needed to assist other ministers with the flow of the assembly. When you are finished, place the cup on the credence table after you have consumed the remainder of the Precious Blood and/or place the ciborium on the tabernacle table and return to your seat in the assembly.
13. Be sure to find a substitute if you are unable to perform your scheduled time as a Eucharistic Minister. If you substitute for someone, whether asked or not, please indicate so on the sign-in sheet.