

GUIDELINE FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS – St. John’s Church

REQUIREMENTS:

- Confirmed
- Come 15 minutes prior to Mass (**Please be on time - if you are not checked in with the Sacristan 10 minutes before Mass begins you will be replaced**)
- Yearly commitment as a Liturgical Minister and renew with annual training.

PREPARATIONS:

- A Eucharistic Minister arrives and checks in with the Sacristan in the St. Ann’s Chapel
- All ministers will wear their name tag and a wooden cross identifying them as a Eucharistic Minister for this Mass.
 - A cross with a red cord identifies the wine/Chalice distributor
 - A cross with a brown cord identifies the bread/plate distributor
 - If you choose to bring the Ciborium from the Tabernacle to the altar at Communion time
You are also responsible for returning it to the Tabernacle after Communion
- Eucharistic Ministers may sit anywhere in the Sanctuary until the Sign of Peace when you will come up to the altar.

PROCEDURES:

Sign of Peace

- The Eucharistic Ministers come to the altar during the Sign of Peace and stand behind the Presider.
- The Eucharistic Minister will get the Ciborium from the tabernacle and place it on the altar and join the other Eucharistic Ministers.
- Eucharistic Ministers should clean their hands using a sanitizer (use sanitizer if necessary)
- (Stand close to the altar behind the Presider)

Holy Communion and Distribution

- After the priest has received both the body and the blood of Christ and the deacon (if one is present), then the Eucharistic Ministers receive communion
- The Eucharistic Ministers always receive the Chalice or plate from the priest for distribution
- If you are given the Chalice for distributing the wine, remember to distribute the Chalice to the other Eucharistic Ministers. (Completely open your purificator to wipe the Chalice off)
- When all Eucharistic Ministers have been given the Chalice or plate go to your assigned location to distribute the bread or wine
- See diagram for locations for distribution of Bread and Wine

Distribution

- The Eucharistic Ministers who distribute the Body of Christ - Eucharistic bread – Hold the Bread slightly above the plate or Ciborium
- Look at the communicant and say in a clear voice, *The Body of Christ*, without any change to this wording.
- After the communicant has responded *Amen*, the Bread is placed on the tongue or in the hand.
- The Eucharistic Ministers who distributing the Blood of Christ should completely open the purificator, and then hold the Chalice up slightly,
- Look at the communicant and say in a clear voice, *The Blood of Christ*, to which the communicant responds, *Amen*.
- After each communicant receives the Blood of Christ, the Eucharistic Minister should wipe the rim of the Chalice with the purificator and turn the Chalice slightly (about a quarter turn) before presenting it to the next communicant.
- If someone comes forward with a Pyx as they receive - fill the Pyx with the number they request and then distribute to that person.

Blessing Those Who Do Not Receive

- When someone comes forward with arms crossed over their heart, you can bless them by placing your hand over their head or place the opposite hand that you distribute the bread.
- You may use word of your choice to bless them. Such as "Jesus loves you", "Bless you".

Eucharistic Ministers Assigned locations

- The Eucharist Ministers who are distributing on the south side of the Church will distribute to the musicians (instrument players and choir) within the music area. They will wait at their stations for you.
- It is your responsibility to distribute to those in the handicap area on the south side of the Church.
- The Eucharist Ministers who are distributing on the north side of the Church will distribute to persons who wish to receive where they are seated of the north side of the Church or in the front pew. Those people will remain in their pew and wait for you. You should then go to your assigned place for distribution to the rest of the congregation.

All Eucharistic Ministers stay in your place facing the altar until everyone has received Eucharist.

- Then those with the Chalice will go to the Sacristy and consume the remaining blood in St. Ann's Chapel.
- The Eucharistic Ministers with plates hand their plate to the Minister with the Ciborium who will respectfully place any remaining consecrated hosts into the Ciborium. They will give you your plate back. After all the hosts have been placed into the Ciborium you all go into St. Ann's Chapel where the Ciborium is placed in the Tabernacle. All the Eucharistic Ministers will return their crosses at this time and return to their seats in the congregation.

Eucharistic Ministers



