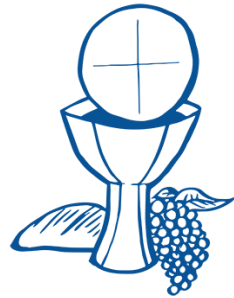


# St. Ann Parish Handbook for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

The role of Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, like all roles of service, is a true ministry, called forth from those who have the special gifts for that ministry. The ministry of the Eucharist is a ministry of **gift-giving**. It should therefore, be a ministry for those who themselves are loving, generous, and self-giving people. The ministry of the Eucharist is also a ministry of **welcoming**. It should therefore, be a ministry for those who are warm and accepting, who can look each person in the eye comfortably, and who can welcome all without judging any.



The person called to be an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion should have a sense of reverence for the Eucharist that is obvious to all through their demeanor, their attire, and the manner in which they handle the consecrated bread and wine. Through their example, the Extraordinary minister encourages an equal reverence in those receiving communion.

## Extraordinary Minister Duties Before Mass

1. All ministers of Holy Communion are to show the greatest reverence for the Most Holy Eucharist by their demeanor, their attire, and the manner in which they handle the consecrated bread or wine. (Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion Under Both Kinds in the Dioceses of the United States of America #29)
2. **If you are scheduled, please arrive no later than 15 minutes before the mass starts and sit in the designated seat for Eucharistic Ministers in the section to the left of the sanctuary.**

We currently have 5-6 Eucharistic Ministers at each Mass who distribute the Body of Christ and/or Precious Blood.

### Body of Christ

B1 - Priest

B2 - lay minister \*if Deacon not present, this minister will retrieve the ciborium from the tabernacle.

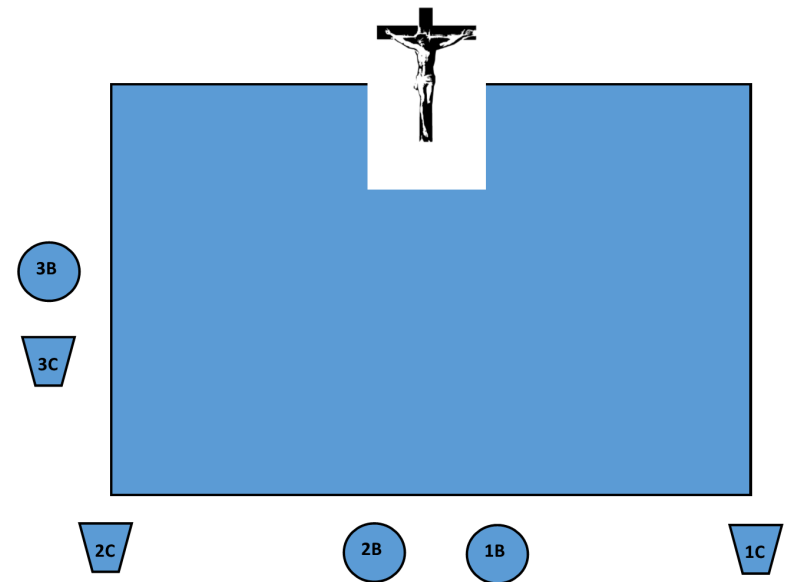
B3 - lay minister \*this 3rd minister will be a "floater" and will be distributing to both sides (choir side, then vestibule side, then handicapped section.)

### Precious Blood

C1 - Deacon or lay minister

C2 - lay minister

C3 - lay minister with B3 "floater"



Key: B=Body of Christ C= Blood of Christ (Cup)

## Extraordinary Minister Duties during Mass

1. **As soon as the Lamb of God begins**, B1 or Deacon should get the ciborium from the tabernacle. Be sure to walk AROUND the sanctuary. Wait at the bottom of the stairs until the priest comes to receive the ciborium then walk back AROUND the sanctuary and stand next to the kneelers.
2. During the Lamb of God, all ministers should approach the Sanctuary and stand next to the altar server kneelers.
3. Fr. will bring the Eucharist to you. He will then bring the chalice to those that wish to receive. After receiving Christ, sanitize your hands at the credence table.

### Body of Christ

1. You may say, "The Body of Christ" to each recipient.
2. As a parishioner comes forward, hold up the Body in reverence then place Jesus in their hands. This should be done by turning the Host so an edge comes in contact with the parishioner's hands and then letting go (a DROP method.)
3. If at any time, you need to sanitize your hands, please walk to the small table on the side front of the sanctuary, put the ciborium down and sanitize your hands. Then resume your position.
4. If an adult or child comes up for communion and they have their hands crossed over their chest, you may say, "Christ's blessing on you" or "God bless you." EM's should **not** make the sign of the cross as part of the blessing, as they are not ordained ministers.

### Precious Blood

1. If you are distributing the Precious Blood, present the cup to the communicant with these words: "THE BLOOD OF CHRIST". The communicant will respond "AMEN". When the communicant returns the cup to you, receive it with both hands and with the purificator, wipe in one direction slightly turning the cup a quarter turn.
2. If the communicant is a child, keep your hands on the cup while they receive.
3. If the cup should accidentally spill, place the purificator over the spot where the Precious Blood was spilled. The important thing to remember is to treat the spill with reverence. Prevent people from walking over the spill. The area will be properly purified after Mass. Obtain another purificator from credence table.

## At the Conclusion of Communion

1. After the last person has received, Ministers of the cup consume the remaining Precious Blood at the credence table. If you are unable to consume the remainder, share the cup with another Eucharistic Minister. Place the cups and purificators on the credence table. Do not cover the cup with the purificator. Then return to your seat.
2. Ministers of the Body of Christ will place their ciboria on the altar. The last EME may be asked to return the ciborium to the tabernacle. Genuflect, lock the door to the tabernacle and return to their pew.
3. **After Mass, the Eucharistic Ministers are required to go to the Credence Table to gather the vessels. Take them to the sacristy and assist in the washing.**



Gracious Lord, You nourish us with the body and blood of your Son, that we might have eternal life. Bless these our brothers and sisters who have been chosen to give the bread of heaven and cup of salvation to your people.