

SAINT JOSEPH



Extraordinary  
of  
Holy E

After the Mass, it is the responsibility of the Ministers to assist in the washing of the vessels for the next Mass (*or putting away*).

In the sacristy, a special sponge should be used on all sacred vessels (*Cleansing the vessels with sponge to remove the bacteria*). Soft, yellow towels should be used for drying of the sacred vessels. Do not use paper towels which the priest uses during Mass, nor should towel paper be used, nor should towel paper be used to scratch the inside of the sacred vessels.

Once the sacred vessels have been rinsed and dried, they are either placed on the table (*cf pictures above*) or they are placed in their proper labeled places.

**NOTE:** When the purificators are used, they must be placed in the white container (*on the left*). Please **DO NOT** place them in the black container as they immediately go to the black bin. There is a separate container for the black bin. There should be placed. It is also a good idea to dry a bit before immediately placing in the bin.

**Please remember** that the sacred vessels and the Precious Blood of Christ require the greatest reverence and proper handling. A purificator should never be thrown away unless it has been properly treated and disposed of in the Ministry.

If you have any questions, please contact the sacristan or Father ST to ensure that everything is completed properly. Again, see the pictures in order allows the different vessels to be accustomed to their placement and ensures proper placement during the Mass.

## Caring for Sacred Vessels after Mass

participating in the sacred  
Ministers of Holy Communion is  
the proper washing of sacred  
vessels at Saint Joseph Church that  
in accordance with the norms  
they are purified at the altar  
distribution of Holy Communion.  
Sacred vessels are placed on the  
table, they are ready to be  
washed in a sink. Just like cleaning any  
dish, water, soap and a soft drying



(Carolyn Kelly) will prepare the  
vessels. In the event of her absence,  
the proper placement of each sacred  
vessel is so much to assuage Father's  
concern, importantly, to assure the same  
method which reduces confusion and  
disorder of the vessels during the Mass.



The priest's chalice is with cross facing  
up. The ciborium is set in the chalice with the  
cross on the inside of the cup, covered by the  
ciborium veil.

## Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Brief Theology and History

Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are  
priests, and deacons. They are authorized to  
distribute Holy Communion by virtue of the  
office of the priest and deacon. The Code of  
Canon Law states: "Extraordinary Ministers of  
Holy Communion to the faithful who are unable  
to receive Holy Communion in a fitting manner,  
therefore, that they give Holy Communion  
in this ministry of their order, and in the name  
of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the faithful" (Holy Communion  
Outside Mass, 17).

Under certain circumstances, the minister of Holy  
Communion can be delegated to distribute Holy  
Communion (or a priest, on a single occasion).  
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are  
laymen or laywomen (usually seminarians and  
deacons) who become Extraordinary Ministers of  
Holy Communion by institution. The role of an  
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion does not replace  
the minister of Holy Communion but **supplements** it on a  
particular occasion (Sacramentum, 151). When a  
Minister of Holy Communion is present for Holy  
Communion, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy  
Communion should not serve. The term  
Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion  
refers to those who confect the Eucharist  
in persona Christi (Redemptionis Sacramentum,  
900). As such, it applies only to

Determination of the need for Extraordinary  
Ministers of Holy Communion should be made  
for the parish. Two areas of need should be  
identified: facilitating distribution of Holy  
Communion on Sundays and weekdays so that  
the distribution does not become unduly prolonged  
and facilitating Holy Communion on a regular  
Sunday Mass, for the sick and homebound.  
homes or institutions within the parish (Redemptionis  
Sacramentum, 900). Extraordinary Ministers of Holy  
Communion are authorized to distribute Holy  
Communion when a "priest and deacon are

... advanced age or some other reason when the number of faithful is so great that the very celebration is "impracticable" (158). In these cases, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion may be appointed. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are appointed when there will otherwise be a shortage of the Mass (*Redemptionis Sacramentum*, 158). Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion may assist in the distribution of Holy Communion when this takes place, "their number should not exceed what is required for the distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ" (159). (*Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion in the Dioceses of the United States*, 158).

... notes also note that, "in practice, the role of the priest and the deacon as ministers of Holy Communion by an excessive use of the chalice might in some circumstances be necessary for permitting the distribution of Holy Communion or for using intinction instead of dipping from the chalice" (Norms, 24).

... directs pastors to provide for the reception of Holy Communion by the sick and homebound. Pastors have the right to periodic visits to the homebound bringing Holy Communion, Anointing of the Sick, Penance and Anointing of the Sick, and the Sacrament of Comfort and spiritual care. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion may be appointed for priests and deacons of a parish in the homebound. This need for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion can arise in situations "difficult to bring Communion, especially in hospitals or similar situations" (*Immensae Caritatis*, 158). Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion may be appointed for the day Mass (see *Pastoral Care of the Sick, Homebound, and Frail*, 158). The day Mass, however, is a day on which the

**Q. Is it proper for an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to approach the altar to give Holy Communion to the sick?**

A. It is the tradition here at the altar that the Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion approach the altar immediately after the priest.

**Q. Is it proper for an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to go to the altar and give Holy Communion to the sick?**

A. No. The Eucharist should always be consecrated, offered up and received by individual communicants. (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 160).

**Q. May an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion break the Eucharist with the breaking of the Eucharist?**

A. No. The fraction of the Eucharist should be done by the priest, with the assistance of a deacon. (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 160).

**Q. What is the proper procedure if the Eucharist is dropped or the Precious Blood is spilled?**

A. "If a host or any particle should be dropped, it should be reverently gathered up; and if any of the Precious Blood is spilled where the spill occurred should be immediately wiped up. Water should then be poured over the spill in the sacristy." (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 160).

**Q. May Holy Communion be given to the sick kneeling?**

A. Yes. While the norm for the reception of Holy Communion is that Holy Communion is received kneeling, a member of the faithful may receive Holy Communion kneeling. (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 91).

**Q. Should an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion give a blessing to one who comes to Holy Communion in procession, but who does not receive Holy Communion?**

A. No. In this case, an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion should direct the individual to the nearest priest or deacon to receive a blessing to the nearest priest or deacon.

**Q. May Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion wash their hands before and after giving Holy Communion?**

A. It is not the tradition here at the altar that the Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion sanitize their hands before and after giving Holy Communion.

of the Precious Blood remains, minister, who should also see to it ed." (*Pastoral Care of the Sick*, 74).

### **How to follow when a sick person**

consume an entire host, a smaller r and a glass of water may be person in consuming the host ut, it should be wrapped in a church or chapel from which the Communion was sent. There, lve the host in a small bowl of ter should be poured into the

### **How to use Communion vessels at Mass?**

states that only priests, deacons, *ministers and candidates for the* Communion vessels (*General* 279). This may occur after the on. Alternatively, vessels which n a corporal and covered, either and then purified immediately (*the Roman Missal*, 163).

### **How to use the Minister of Holy Communion Precious Blood at the conclusion of the Communion?**

, an Extraordinary Minister of directly consume any Precious nclusion of the distribution of r circumstances should remaining o the sacarium (*Redemptionis* mption of remaining Precious riest and/or deacon reverently, ing back to the sanctuary.

### **How to give the host to an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion before his own consumption?**

s of Holy Communion should the celebrant has received the

pastoral ministry of priests difficult for them to bring Ho home or in healthcare facilities Holy Communion may serve well.

Catholics actively participate and summit of their Christian manifests itself by:

- Gathering with a community and holy day,
- Praying together at Mass and listening together to God's
- Giving thanks and praise to creation, and in a special way His life, death and resurrection
- Sharing in and becoming part of the reception of Holy Eucharist

Catholics believe that through Mass and in a special way, the Communion at Mass, they are of Christ, and are therefore sent to the world until he comes again. bishop of Hippo, put it this way:

What you see...is bread and a report to you. But your faith knows bread is the body of Christ, the If then, you wish to understand the Apostle as he says to the "Christ and His members"... which you are, and by replying of the body of Christ so that Be what you see, and receive what

Centuries later Saint Thomas explanation of how this mystery transubstantiation. By the "accidents" (the visible reality) but the "substance" is changed

ed from the people that the  
o see themselves as unworthy  
ough they were baptized and  
few people received Holy  
on the tongue. By the 13<sup>th</sup>  
r shared with the people. As a  
practices, the people's main  
s through the elevation of the  
actually added to the Mass.

on was their opportunity to  
"receiving." Jesus' command  
d eat, and take and drink"  
all believers. In modern times,  
change this approach to the  
Pope Pius X in 1903. Pope Pius  
of the command of Jesus that  
ne changed the practice of the  
son have to wait until the age  
share in Holy Communion.  
age of reason, usually about  
med to the altar table of the  
n to the altar table, Pope Pius  
eir parents and grandparents.  
opation in Holy Communion  
l believers. Pope John XXIII  
n 1962.

r the distribution of Holy  
formed, instructed and  
MHCs may be male or female.  
ural diversity of their parish  
are appointed for a given  
n the distribution of Holy  
ne sick and homebound when  
ommunion are unavailable.

on apart from their parish  
Cs do not perform any other  
ss at which they serve as an

## FREQUENTLY ASKED

**Q. May an Extraordinary Minister bring the Eucharist to the sick in the tabernacle?**

A. In the celebration of Mass, only the priest or deacon may bring the Eucharist to the sick in the tabernacle (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal, Canon 239*).

**Q. When an Extraordinary Minister is asked to expose and repose the Eucharist in the tabernacle, should he or she retrieve the Eucharist from the tabernacle and bring it to the sick person?**

A. When bringing Holy Communion to the sick, the Extraordinary Minister is the custodian of the key to the tabernacle. He or she should use the number of hosts in a pyx for the sick person's Holy Communion (*Holy Communion and the Eucharist Outside Mass, 10*).

**Q. May an Extraordinary Minister bring the Blessed Sacrament home to a sick person later that day or during the week if the person is unable to receive Holy Communion to another sick person?**

A. No. It is never permissible for an Extraordinary Minister to bring the Eucharist home to a sick person for the purpose of administering it at a later date or at that location.

**Q. What is the Eucharistic fast for a sick person who is unable to receive Holy Communion? (Immense Caritatis, III).**

A. If, this is not possible, no fast is required. The fifteen minutes also applies to Extraordinary Ministers and health attendants who are administering Holy Communion to the sick. The Eucharist is being brought.

**Q. Can the Precious Blood be brought to a sick person?**

A. Yes. "Sick people who are unable to receive Holy Communion under the form of bread may receive Holy Communion under the form of wine alone. If the wine is consecrated and the presence of the sick person, the wine should be kept in a properly covered vessel until it is brought to the sick person after Communion. The Precious Blood should be kept in a vessel which is closed and sealed with a wax cap."

prepared to be taken to the  
g Precious Blood should be  
ne priest or deacon.

their places in a dignified and  
ng

ld be purified by a priest or

hands in the ablution bowl in  
e or after distribution of Holy  
are reminded to wash their  
the rest room before Mass

ministry, EMHCs **do not bow or**  
bernacle.

**en hosts that can be used?**  
that a low-gluten host is valid

**roach the altar?** As soon as  
s, they should approach the  
kends and the left during the  
wait until others come to the

**o I have as a EMHC?** After the  
n cleaning the sacred vessels  
e next Mass if appropriate.

When the situation requires,  
call upon members of the faith  
aid him in the distribution of  
occasion. Those called must be  
who are themselves able to rec

As the Church teaches, the bis  
diocese. For this reason, the  
Paterson regulates this mini  
ministries in collaboration wi  
of the Diocese.

### **Selection Criteria**

In order for a person to be  
following conditions must be

- Be a Catholic living in ha  
the Church and be able to
- Be of sufficient age and m  
of an EMHC at Mass or to  
various locations (i.e. pri  
hospitals)
- Be chosen and appointed  
inary Ministers of Holy C

### **Commissioning**

After preparation for this mi  
commissioning of EMHCs  
Sunday Eucharist, by the past  
to exercise their ministry o  
institution.

### **Length of Service**

Since ministry is a call both f  
in which it is exercised, it is a  
ministry and renewal of the  
agreed upon by the individ  
generally will serve for a per  
after which time an evaluation

ence for the Eucharist. This demeanor at Mass (*full, active e liturgy; CSL 14*), their attire, handle the Eucharist.

urance is in keeping with the the presence of Christ in the re should be appropriate and role. EMHCs should refrain perfume or aftershave because mmunion have sensitivities to e fragrances often remain on

s of Holy Communion have ne chalice or ciborium), they mmunion stations

on, the minister holds the host ooks at the communicant, and "Body of Christ" to which the Amen". These are the only **g is to be added or subtract-** n the Sacred Body is placed in ue according to the manner cant.

to walk away carrying the y in a subdued voice, "Please

ion under both species is ations of the Eucharist; but it on to receive from the Sacred

Blood, the EMHC holds the ad says in a clear voice while ant, "The Blood of Christ" to responds "Amen". These are l. **Nothing is to be added or me.** Generally, the communi- ed Cup firmly in both hands

and drink from it. However disability or weakness, th assist in holding the Sacred

- After the Blood of Christ l should wipe the rim of the with a purificator and **tu** before presenting it to t EMHC should be careful n the purificator is dipped in
- The Sacred Cup is always cant; it may never be left fo in the case of concelebratin
- Communicants bringing th intinct (or dip) the host is M
- Those EMHCs finishing d move to assist those minis cantants to serve; follow spee regard.
- It is recommended that th Sacred Cup for every one r This allows for a smoot procession.
- It is recommended that m positioned a sufficient dist Body of Christ to ensure a ion procession.

### **Accidents During Distribution**

- If a host falls to the ground Communion, the EMHC s and consume it then, o. It should **never be put bac** another communicant.
- If the Precious Blood i immediately be covered. I washed after Mass with wa
- Once EMHC's are done v their vessels to the altar wh