

## EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

### Before Mass

- Please arrive 15 minutes before Mass (at 10 minutes til, a substitute will be recruited).
- Check in with the Ministry Scheduler Pro App on the iPad located in the sacristy. It is usually at the counter with the lectionary Book.
- Take an EMHC necklace from the sacristy door and place it upon your person.
- Make sure to tell Father or the Director of Liturgical Ministries you are here.

### At the Beginning of Communion

- Once the Lamb of God has ended, kneel in the front pew (if you are able); otherwise, you can stand by the column.
- As Father is receiving the Precious Blood, go to the center of the steps of the sanctuary, along with the other EMHCs. **If a deacon is not serving at that mass, the EMHC to the farthest left facing the sanctuary will immediately proceed up to the altar by Father and receive Communion. Once having received the Precious Blood, this EMHC will follow Father, distributing the Precious Blood to the other ministers.**
- If you are the EMHC farthest toward the choir side, you will distribute Communion to those who are pew-bound, mostly located in the back of the Church. Once you have received your paten, go to them immediately, via the aisle that is closest to the choir. Hospitality Ministers will be back there to assist you in finding the people. Upon returning to the front of the Church, join Father in the center

aisle, distributing Communion to the congregation. Make sure Father realizes you have arrived, so he will stop distributing to both lines and let you take one of the lines.

### During Communion

- If you are running low on Hosts, check to see if other ministers have a surplus of Hosts that you can take, or you can begin to break your remaining Hosts so that we have enough for all.
- Be aware that a person might approach who is not Catholic or who is not prepared to receive Communion and thus acts uncertain or hesitant. You can give them a word of encouragement such as "Peace be with you" and kindly motion for them to proceed in the procession without receiving.
- If you notice that someone takes the Host from you but does not consume it, kindly remind them to consume it or offer to consume it for them, or otherwise eventually notify Father or the deacon so they can look into the matter. Remain calm and charitable and try not to draw attention.
- If a person requests an extra Host for someone seated in the Church, kindly ask them to escort you to that person (do not give out extra Hosts to people). After Mass, you can introduce the person to the hospitality ministers, so that Communion will automatically be brought to that person in their pew at the next Mass they attend.

+J.M.J.+

### After Communion

- Ministers of the Precious Blood face the altar and consume as much of the remaining Precious Blood as they are comfortable with. If you do not wish to consume it, the clergy will consume it.
- To minimize congestion in the sanctuary, the priest and deacon will take another minister's paten and chalice from them, so that those ministers may simply return to their seats. Remaining ministers do as outlined below...
- The Missal indicates that **when a deacon is present, the purification takes place at the credence table. If there is no deacon present, Father will purify the vessels at the altar.** Therefore, *when a deacon is present*, take chalices directly to the deacon at the credence table, and take any patens with Hosts remaining to Father at the altar, so he can put the Hosts in the ciborium. Then Father will give the empty patens back to you so you can take them to the deacon at the credence table. *When deacon is NOT present*, take both patens and chalices to Father at the altar and then immediately return to your seats.
- As soon as you are empty-handed, return to your seat. Please do not wait around for other ministers to all bow together. Bow to the altar only if you are either passing in front of the altar or if you have just descended the steps (in which case you can bow wherever you have descended the steps; it doesn't have to be in the center of the steps).

### A few DON'Ts

- Do not give out extra Hosts to people in the Communion line when they request them for the

homebound. Kindly direct the person to go to Father's line or to speak with him after mass. Father has to ensure that those who take Communion to the homebound are trained and have received a mandate from the Archbishop.

- Do not dump the Hosts from your paten into another paten. Father will directly put Hosts into the ciborium at the altar. This minimizes the risk of spilling Hosts and Host particles onto the floor.
- Do not stack patens together at any point, since then the clergy would need to purify the particles of the Blessed Sacrament off the bottom of the patens. Not only Hosts but also *particles* of Hosts are the Body of Christ, so we do whatever we can to contain them and not spread them around.
- After Communion is finished, do not put your purificator down into the chalice. Instead, drape it on top, or hand it to the deacon or other minister. If a purificator is put into the chalice, it soaks up the remaining Blood and becomes less effective when used to purify the sacred vessels.
- Do not forget to return the EMHC necklace to the sacristy door after Mass.

### Other Considerations

- Individuals in need of a Low-Gluten host should request one from the sacristan before mass. This is then placed in a special pyx, which Father distributes to the person at Communion.
- If you have time, offer to help the sacristan with resetting everything after Mass