

Overview

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion serve the Eucharistic life of the community. They are acknowledged by the bishop at the request of the Rector to assist the celebrant and other Ordinary Ministers during liturgy in sharing the Eucharistic body and blood of Christ. This position requires commissioning by the Rector, subject to the Bishop's approval, every 3 years.

Activities/Responsibilities

- During the Liturgy helps the Ordinary Ministers of Communion share the Eucharist.
- May assist with the division of the sacrament among the extra cups and plates needed for the Communion Rite as well as reserving what remains in the Tabernacle and cleansing the vessels after the Rite.
- Attempts to make eye contact by holding the host or cup at a level that allows the Minister to look just above or around it. Saying only "Body (Blood) of Christ."
- For those wishing to receive only a blessing, this is done by laying a hand on or over their head and saying appropriate words of blessing.
- Responds to special circumstances that may arise during the Liturgy.
- Performs special tasks with dignity and otherwise participates fully as an exemplary member of the assembly modeling good liturgical participation.
- Is faithful to the schedule and arrives on time for the Liturgy as arranged by the Ministry Coordinator.
- Is responsible for finding an alternate in the event of short notice cancellation.
- Is helpful in assuring that all the parish community's liturgical assemblies are adequately served with this ministry.
- Participates in rehearsals of ceremonial procedures in the parish community.
- Is available to clean the vessels as required.

Skills, Experience, and Qualifications

- Is a fully initiated member of the Catholic Church in full communion with the Church.
- Must be a mature, confirmed, practicing Catholic.
- Is recognized within the parish community as a person of good reputation and love for the Eucharist.
- Participates fully as a member of the liturgical assembly.
- Has participated in a training process that reflects on the mystery of the Eucharist and theology of Liturgy.
- Completion of a Volunteer Information Form is required.