



EXTRA-ORDINARY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

CHURCH OF ST. JOHN AUGUST 16, 2011

JMJ

"Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you." John 6:53

The Eucharist completes Christian initiation. If there is one thing which distinguishes Catholics from other Christians, it is our devotion to the Sacrament of the Eucharist. It is the "source and summit of the Christian life", with which all other sacraments and church ministries are bound up and toward which all are oriented. Though all sacraments are important, the Eucharist is the spiritual center of Catholic life. Through the Eucharist we remember what God has done for us through Jesus Christ. Because this is really and truly the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ, your ministry of distributing Holy Communion, God's intimate visit with his faithful souls, is most sacred. Accompanying this most privileged ministry are some responsibilities:

QUALIFICATIONS:

Must be baptized, receive Eucharist, be confirmed and be in good standing with the Roman Catholic Church. Must be approved by Bishop and commissioned.

Must be a registered member of St. John's Parish in Foley.

PREPARATION FOR THIS LITURGICAL MINISTRY:

Dress appropriately. For men please wear slacks (not jeans) with a button shirt and tie. A coat would be a nice touch. For women - skirts and dresses which are below the knees and slacks are appropriate. Please keep shoulders and midriff covered. For all, advertising on a shirt is a distraction.

Traditional jewelry is fine - nose rings, tongue rings, etc would be considered distracting.

The focus must be on Jesus, not on how good or bad we look. Be as transparent as possible. Please arrive at least 10 minutes before Mass to sign in and to pray together with Fr. Dan and the other liturgical ministers. We will then have peace of mind knowing that all roles are filled.

DURING THE MASS:

Fr. Dan will bring the ciborium from the tabernacle and will return it to the tabernacle after Communion.

All Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Ministers proceed to the sanctuary at the Sign of Peace make a profound bow (from the waist) in front of the altar and then all go to the side chapel to sanitize hands. There are two bottles on cabinet to help in this process.

You are no longer assigned to Body of Christ or Blood of Christ - be ready to distribute either one. Start lining up on the server (ambo) side first. This allows anyone filling in, some time to sanitize hands and go to nearest spot (Tabernacle side).

Fr. Dan will give the Body of Christ to each person. He will then give the chalice to every other Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Minister. Those receiving the chalice can distribute to the others and the Mass servers.

DISTRIBUTING COMMUNION TO THE CONGREGATION:

Fr. Dan will stand on the floor. You may stand on the step or the floor. One will stand next to Fr. Dan. The other two will stand on the floor next to the front pews facing the center aisle. Look for the taped X on the floor for your position.

Those distributing the Precious Blood should be on the ends. Please move as far to the ends as possible to allow room for 4 ministers of the Body of Christ and to allow for easy flow of the communicants. Both sides should keep the same distance from the middle.

Allow time for the communicant to respond "Amen". If the communicant does not say "Amen", say it for them.

Host should be consumed immediately after the person receives it. It should not be taken to the pew and then consumed. If you notice that it was not consumed, *tell Fr. Dan after Mass.*

If a host should fall, the Extra-ordinary Eucharistic Minister should pick it up immediately and place it on the Corporal on the altar. Fr. Dan will consume it. Give the communicant a new host.

If some of Jesus' Blood should spill, place a purificator on the floor where Jesus' Blood was spilled. An extra purificator will be on the credence (shelf under the window in sanctuary) table for this reason. After Mass the spill will be handled appropriately.

No intinction (dipping the host in the Blood of Christ in the Chalice should be allowed. Don't make a big deal if it does happen, but let Fr. Dan know after Mass if possible.

Blessing of children and those who cross their arms to their shoulders may be done if you feel comfortable with it. You may place your hand on their head (palm or back of hand) and say to them, "May God bless you".

When Holy Communion has been distributed, please give your paten (host container) to Fr. Dan. Then go to side chapel to rinse your finger and thumb in the ablution cup (small dish with cover) and then dry on a small square cloth.

For those distributing the Precious Blood, please unfold the purificator to wipe the chalice. This will help in reducing the amount of Precious Blood on the purificator. Please consume the remaining Precious Blood and place the chalice with the purificator on top on the corporal on the side chapel altar. Please **do not** wipe out the chalice with your purificator. The chalices and purificators will be purified after Mass.

All of you then line up on the main floor in front of the steps. When Fr. Dan genuflects after putting Jesus in the tabernacle, please bow or genuflect with him. Once the tabernacle is closed, please return to your pew.