

Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion

Under normal circumstances we will be using four ciborium/bowls for the distribution of Holy Eucharist and four chalices with the Precious Blood. One ciborium/bowl is to be placed on the offertory table with the wine cruet and the other three placed on the credence table before Mass with the four chalices and the presider chalice. The gift bearers will need to bring up to altar the one ciborium/bowl and wine cruet at the beginning of the Offertory then given the collection baskets from the foot of the altar which are then handed out to the congregation as norm.

Note: The extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion are to proceed to the altar after the priest self communicates (receives the Holy Eucharist). This is after the Agnus Dei (Lamb of God), which in the past the gathering had been taken place during the Lamb of God. Lining up at the foot of the steps to the altar, bowing to the altar, then all gather around the altar. The ordinary ministers (Priest &/or Deacon) of Holy Communion will give the ciborium with the Body of Christ to the ministers along with the chalice with the Precious Blood. This is based on the premise that the Body and Blood of Jesus is to be given from the altar by the priest/deacon, verses the sacred elements being taken from the altar. This will speak to the people in a subtle way that Christ is always offered/given. This holds true to why intinction isn't allowed except when ministered by the priest. (Intinction is the Eucharistic practice of the communicant partly dipping the consecrated bread/host, into the consecrated wine/blood before consumption by the communicant.) So for a communicant to receive the Body of Christ in their hand then go to the minister with the chalice and dip the consecrated host in the Precious Blood would be considered a taking of the Blood of Christ instead of giving and receiving the Blood of Christ as distinct of when the communicant is handed the Chalice to drink from. If someone approaches you to do intinction simply put your hand over the chalice and gently say that "this isn't allowed", wait until they consume the Body of Christ and then offer them the chalice to drink from. Another distinction during Holy Communion is that a deacon is considered the minister of the chalice. When a deacon is present at Mass he is ordinarily to be given the roll of administering the chalice.

After communion the Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are to place the ciborium/bowls on the altar and purify their fingers with the lavabo bowl and pitcher of water on the credence table. The chalices are to be brought to the credence table then consuming the remaining Precious Blood. All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are then to stand at the foot of the steps facing the altar, when all are present together bow to the altar and proceed to your pew.

On behalf of Father Burns and myself we want to express our deep appreciation for your ministry.

If you have any questions, concerns or suggestion please let us know.

Respectfully,

Deacon Charlie Koressel.

February 4, 2014