

Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Frazee, MN

Ministry Notes: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

General preparation for all ministries

1. If you are on the schedule and cannot be in attendance, please do your best to find a substitute
2. Fast from all food and drink (except water) for one hour before the start of Mass
3. Sometimes the duties of a ministry rightly distract us during Mass. It is recommended that you pray with the scripture readings prior to Mass so facilitate your full participation
4. Consider what concerns and gratitude you will bring to the Lord in the Eucharist
5. Choose apparel that is appropriate for the Mass. Without offering specific guidelines, the guiding principles are *modesty* and *dignity*
6. Prior to leaving the church, offer a prayer of gratitude

Things to know

1. Chalice (Blood of Christ)
2. Ciborium (Body of Christ)
3. Tabernacle
4. Purificator (and where they are in the sacristy)

Prior to Mass

1. Arrive at least 15 minutes early
2. Check-in in the sacristy
3. Join in the prayer before Mass in the Sacristy

During Mass

1. After the Sign of Peace, stand at the first step of the sanctuary in a line in front of the Ambo
2. After Father has received Holy Communion, process into the sanctuary and form a line from near the Ambo to the step of the High Altar (as you would have lined up before)
3. After you have received Holy Communion, the ministers of the Precious Blood nearest to the servers should offer the servers and music ministers the chalice.
4. All proceed to their stations.
 - a. Two ministers of the Body of Christ in the center aisle.
 - b. Ministers of the Blood of Christ can stand as far away from the Body of Christ as possible.
5. Be aware of the other ministers.

- a. For example, both ministers of the Blood of Christ have left from the other side because all of the Blood of Christ has been consumed, one of the other ministers can go to the other side.
 - b. If Father proceeds to the back of the Church to offer communion to those who could not come forward, one of the ministers of the Blood of Christ should accompany him.
6. When the communion procession has ended, consume what is remaining in your Chalice while you are standing at your station. Bring the chalice to the credence table and return to your pew. If you are not able to consume what remains of the Blood of Christ, go to the credence table and ask another minister to assist you. If this is not possible, leave the chalice on the credence table and Father will consume the rest.
7. Note: Father will get the Blessed Sacrament from the tabernacle and return it to the tabernacle after the distribution of Holy Communion.
8. The minister assisting with the distribution of the Body of Christ will return the ciborium to the Altar after the communion procession has ended and return to the pew.

Special Issues

- a. If the Body of Christ is dropped on the floor, pick it up and give it to the priest, who will consume immediately
2. If the Blood of Christ is spilled, a Mass server will come to assist you.
 - a. Without stepping on the Precious Blood, turn and face the altar, so that the Precious Blood is between you and the altar.
 - b. The Mass server should see you turn. If not, try to make eye contact with him/her.
 - c. The Mass server will come with a purificator and wipe up the spilled Precious blood.
 - d. When the server is finished, resume ministering the Precious Blood.
3. Ministers of the Body of Christ: we should see people consume the Body of Christ after we give it to them. If you are certain someone has not consumed the Body of Christ, follow them, ask them to consume it or ask for it back.
4. If someone needs assistance with the chalice, offer it to them. You can help hold the chalice while they receive a small portion of the Blood of Christ

Thank you!