

## **Eucharistic Minister**

### **GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. Write your name on the sign-in sheet located on the table in the Narthex and check off “assigned.”
2. After the Sign of Peace, approach the altar and do a reverent head bow before you ascend the stairs. Cup ministers stand at the side of the altar. Bread ministers stand behind the altar.
3. If you are unable to take the stairs, stand at the side on the floor. The priest, deacon or a fellow Eucharistic Minister will distribute Communion to you prior to handing you your Ciborium
4. Do a reverent bow of the head prior to receiving the consecrated Host and Precious Blood.
5. Bread ministers are to stand either in the center aisle or the far side aisles. If there are three bread ministers, the person in the middle follows Father while the other two take the far side aisles. Be sure the choir/cantors receive first. If you are at the cantor side, please step about three feet away from the point of the stairs so that you will not be in close proximity of the microphone. Cup ministers are to stand at the aisles by the stairs. All ministers should stand as close to the step as possible.
6. If the Deacon is present he will ALWAYS act as a cup minister. Only one person need stand at the side of the altar.
7. It is your call to make the moment of Communion as personal as possible. Do not rush – allow this moment its full ritual beauty.
8. Speak to the person. Hold up the bread or the cup, and looking the person in the eye, say, “The Body of Christ” (you may choose to add their name); “The Blood of Christ” (again, their name is optional). Wait for their response: “Amen.”
9. Place the bread in the outstretched hands or on the tongue of the person – allowing each the opportunity to indicate the manner in which they wish to receive.
10. Hand the cup to the communicant. When the cup is returned, carefully wipe the rim of the cup and rotate it prior to distributing to the next person.
11. When children approach, give them an appropriate blessing. You may use “May Almighty God descend upon you and remain with you forever,” “May Jesus help you to be his loving child” or “Remember always, that Jesus loves you.” Use whatever blessing you prefer. It is nice if you are comfortable signing their foreheads and/or touching their shoulder
12. When all persons have received in your area, evaluate whether you are needed to assist other ministers with the flow of the assembly. When you are finished, place the ciborium on the tabernacle table and return to your seat in the assembly. If you are a cup minister, consume the

wine and place the cup on the table next to the altar unless the Deacon is present. If he is present, he will consume any wine left in your cup.

13. The cup minister no longer needs to purify the sacred vessels. This will be done by the Deacon or the Priest. It is very important that you remember to consume the remaining wine to aid them with their duty, unless the Deacon is present when he will consume any wine left in your cup.

14. Make sure that you find a substitute if you are unable to perform your scheduled time as a Eucharistic Minister.

15. If you substitute for someone, sign your name in their space and mark either “substitute” or “volunteer.”