

Eucharistic Ministry

Special Notes for All Saints Parish

- ◇ H1: Host 1 is always Father or the Presider.
- ◇ If a deacon is assisting, he will always serve as C1/Chalice 1. C1 is responsible for the purification of the vessels following Mass. Deacons and priests are ordinary ministers of the Eucharist and should always distribute communion at Masses where they assist or concelebrate if they are physically able. If you are scheduled as an extraordinary minister at a Mass where we have the unexpected service of a deacon or additional priest, we may have need for fewer extraordinary ministers (beginning with C1, then H2, etc). If we know this in advance, we will attempt to contact you. Thank you for your understanding!
- ◇ After giving the sign of peace to two or three people, proceed to your places for ministering communion (discreetly using the hand sanitizer on the credence table).
- ◇ H2: Host 2 will bring to the altar vessels needed for distributing the Precious Body. This may be a ciborium from the credence table or tabernacle. H2 will also be responsible for returning any unconsumed hosts to the tabernacle. If the key is not in the tabernacle, it will be under the white cloth just in front. Genuflect and return the key to where you found it.
- ◇ See the chart on the back for where to stand. Positions marked with a * are for larger Masses and are not always assigned. You may trade spots beforehand with another minister if you wish. When lining up to receive communion, please wait until Father has received BOTH species to approach the altar. All ministers of the Precious Body should stand on the Organ side. C2 should always be first in line next to the servers—so as to receive the fullest chalice. ALL extraordinary ministers will receive the chalice, paten, ciborium, etc. from the hands of Father (unless it is a deacon or other ordinary ministry)
- ◇ When serving as a minister of the chalice, leave as much room as possible between you and the host, so that congestion does not occur.
- ◇ In giving Holy Communion, the minister holds the host slightly above the vessel, looks at the communicant, and in a clear voice says, “*The Body of Christ*” to which the communicant responds “*Amen*”. These are the only words to be used. Nothing is to be added or subtracted, not even a name. Then the Sacred Body is placed in the hand or on the tongue according to the manner indicated by the communicant.
- ◇ Arrive early! Please arrive 15-20 minutes before Mass and come to the sacristy to check in and to pray with Father and the other ministers. Also it is good to arrive early to give yourself time to prepare your heart for your ministry.
- ◇ SUBSTITUTES: Ideally, contact the parish secretary at office@dmallsaints.org the by the first Sunday of the month if you have known conflicts for the following month. This way, you will not be scheduled and have to find a substitute. If you do have to find a substitute, you can use the list provided to you to find your own replacement. Please call or email the office with your substitute’s name, so that it can be changed. If a minister is consistently absent without finding a substitute, we will attempt to contact you to find out if you wish to remain on the schedule. Schedules are posted on the parish website, sent out in the weekly eblasts, and on the tables in the gathering space.

Frequently Asked Questions

- ◇ What do I do if someone does not consume the host when they receive it (aside from someone who has a pyx and is a minister to the homebound)? If a communicant begins to walk away carrying the host, the minister should say in a subdued voice, “Please consume the host now.”
- ◇ What do I do if someone drops the host? Simply pick it up and either consume it reverently or hold it off to the side and Father will consume it. Never embarrass someone if you can help it! Proceed to distribute the hosts.
- ◇ What about spilling the Precious Blood? Again, it is important not to embarrass the communicant. You can protect the spot by moving forward as you continue to distribute, but leave your purificator to cover the spot when you are finished and bring a clean, wet purificator from the sacristy to wipe it up. This can be rung out in the sacrarium (special sink for purifying vessels) and placed in the laundry bag in the sacristy.
- ◇ When are the chalices filled? —The Preparation Rite calls for the pouring to be done as the gifts are being prepared, instead of after consecration. This will be done by Father (or a deacon) and the servers will bring forth the chalices and purificators at that time.
- ◇ What do I do if there is Precious Blood remaining after communion? —This may be consumed by you or another minister at the credence table (not in the hallway). When the chalice is empty, cover it with your purificator so that C1 knows that it has not been purified yet.

