

Eucharistic Bread and Cup Ministers

Thank you for being a Eucharistic Minister! Through your ministry you do much to welcome people to the table of the Lord and to help them have a prayerful appreciation for the Eucharistic Celebration in which they are participating.

1. When you arrive at church

If neck crosses are still hanging in the vestibule for the communion stations, please take one. A map on the table below the crosses shows to which station each cross corresponds.

2. During the Sign of Peace

- a. After offering peace to one or two people, immediately walk to front of the church on the Joseph and Mary statue side.
- b. Eucharistic Cup Ministers form a line beginning on the upper level, from behind the ambo and extending down to the lower level.
- c. Eucharistic Bread Ministers (or “bowl” ministers) line up on the lower level behind the Eucharistic Cup Ministers. Bowl Ministers should try to not line up in front of the Cup ministers.
- d. A sanitizer bottle is on a stand for any who wish to discretely take a squirt from it.

3. After Eucharistic Ministers line up

- a. As soon as the priest receives his own communion from the cup, the bowl #4 and cup #4 ministers walk forward to the side of the altar.
The priest or deacon gives them communion, and they then stand in front of the counter to communicate the rest of the Eucharistic Ministers.
- b. Walk up to the bowl #4 and cup #4 ministers to receive your own communion.
- c. Walk to the altar for a priest or deacon to give you your bowl or cup.
- d. Walk to your station.
- e. Wait for the other Eucharistic Ministers to all be in place, and then begin distributing communion.

4. How Eucharistic BREAD Ministers give out Communion

- a. Give out communion reverently but reasonably quickly.
- b. Be welcoming with your mannerisms. Don't look dour!
You can establish eye contact with people and wear a friendly expression.
- c. The Missal designates for you to use the words “The Body of Christ”.
Do not say “Receive the Body of Christ” or “The Body of Jesus Christ.”
- d. If a child or adult comes forward with an arm or arms crossed over the chest, that is an indication that he or she wishes to receive a blessing rather than communion.

Pray a simple blessing for him/her. Touch his/her head or shoulder and say, “May God bless you.”

The prayer can be meaningful and still not take longer than giving out a host.

- e. If a host is dropped, pick it up and hold it. You can either consume it yourself when you are done distributing communion, or give it to the priest or the deacon when they return to the altar. Do not put the host back in the bowl.

5. How Eucharistic CUP Ministers give out Communion

- a. Give out communion reverently but reasonably quickly.
- b. Use the words “The Blood of Christ.”
- c. After each person receives from the cup,
 - wipe the inside and outside of the rim with the purificator cloth,
 - give the cup a ¼ turn so that the next person will drink from a different portion of the rim.
- d. If a person wants their host dipped in the cup, take the host and dip it for them, and then place it on their tongue. Do not allow them to dip the host for themselves.
- e. If eucharistic wine is spilled, cover it with a purificator and rinse it with water.

6. After you are finished with your station:

- a. Return to the sanctuary, or you can assist with one of the communion stations by the main aisle.
- b. If you have a bowl bring it to the altar, or if a cup bring it to the counter. If it is a cup, ideally consume any remaining eucharistic wine (not required).
- c. The cup #4 minister will pour a little water into each empty cup. If eucharistic wine is remaining in some cups, the #4 minister will pour it all into one cup for the sacristan to take to the sacristy for people to consume.

7. Thank you!

Now go back to your pew for the conclusion of mass.

***Thank you for your
Eucharistic Ministry at St. Pius X Church!***

Extra Instructions for Eucharistic Bread #4 and Cup #4 Ministers

1. Before Mass, please offer any assistance that the sacristan might need.
2. During the sign of peace, take the ciboria from the tabernacle and bring it to the choir side of the altar.
3. Follow directions on above pages for receiving your own Communion and distributing it to the other ministers.
4. After Mass, leave tabernacle key in the tabernacle. In the sacristy:
 - a. Wash and dry wine goblets and bowls and carafe for the next mass.
 - b. Leave the tabernacle key in tabernacle.
 - c. Fill a ciborium and carafe for the next Mass and leave them on the counter top.
 - d. Prepare the priest's chalice for the next Mass with:
 - 1) chalice, 2) paten, 3) purificator, 4) corporal.

Please note that some priests have their own chalices which they prefer to use, and others use the parish's chalice. Check with the sacristan or the priest if you are not sure which chalice to use.

Thank you!