ATTITUDES

The Eucharist is the climax of the Mass. Consequently, we should take it seriously. As an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion (EM), you are acting as a connection between the person receiving Communion and Jesus Christ, in the form of the Host or the Wine. At the same time, the Eucharist is a joyous occasion. We are receiving the Body and Blood of Christ. We are united with the Body of Christ and each other through the Eucharist. Smile at the people you are ministering the Eucharist to. The Eucharist is a sign of communion with Jesus and with each other, so the more friendly and personal we can make it feel, the better.

All EM’s must be trained by the archdiocese in order to serve in Mass. The EM coordinator will notify you and help you sign up for upcoming archdiocesan training dates.

POSITIONS

Offertory:

EM 1- Takes up corporal. Takes book holder off altar and brings it to table. Brings the 2 chalices up to the right side of the Altar. Brings up second paten before Communion.

EM 2- Brings up purificators and water. Goes up to receive the gifts with the priest. Pours wine into chalices.

EM 3- Waits for the priest to start blessing the wine, and brings up towel and bowl and pours water over priest’s hands over the bowl with water brought up by EM2.

Pre-Communion:

EM’s should go up and stand behind the priest after the sign of peace, during the Lamb of God.

*Wait to consume the Eucharist until after the priest has done so. He may distribute the Eucharist to all the EM’s before he consumes it himself.

One EM should distribute hosts with the priests. The other two EM’s should take the chalices and stand behind the Altar.

Distribution of Communion:

Hand the Eucharist or the cup to the recipient with your right hand. If necessary, break the Host as you distribute it.

If you drop a host, just pick it up and hold it beneath the paten.

If somebody comes up to you with their hands crossed on their heart, place your hand on their shoulder and say, “The Body/Blood of Christ.”

If you are ministering the wine, once the recipient hands the chalice back to you, wipe it off and rotate the cup for each person you serve.

Post-Communion:

Once everyone has received Communion, minister the Host and Cup to the music ministers, and then go back to the sacristan in the sacristy and hand them any leftover Hosts or wine. One EM should fold
the corporal along its creases and take it back to the sacristan.

**After Mass:**

After Mass ends, it is appreciated that the EM’s assist the sacristan with the pick up of the items used for Communion left on the credence (side) table. Please ask the sacristan if they would like help cleaning any items, then assist them as requested.