

Back to Ministry Spotlight

Eucharistic Ministers



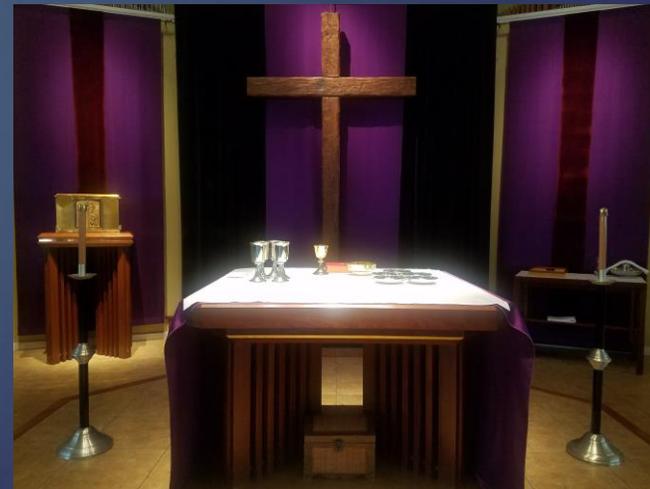
Are you being called?

This ministry is for those whose Spirituality is calling them to participate more directly in the celebration of Eucharist as an 'extraordinary minister of the Eucharist.' In 1973, diocesan Bishops were authorized to commission Catholic laity to distribute Communion during Liturgy and bring Holy Communion to the sick and dying. The 1983 Code of Canon Law (can. 230.3) states that "lay people can exercise the ministry of the Word, preside over liturgical prayers, confer Baptism and distribute Holy Communion whenever the needs of the Church require it, or whenever sufficient ordained ministers are not available."



Are you “Extraordinary”?

Extraordinary means “out of the ordinary,” the ordinary in this case being a priest or deacon. It also means exceptional. As a volunteer ready to distribute Holy Communion during parish Liturgies you present yourself in service to the faith community. Serving as a Eucharistic Minister is both a great privilege and a form of humble service, in that you distribute the Body and Blood of Christ, the very Bread of Life and the Cup of Blessing.



Requirements

You must be a fully initiated member of the parish and an example of Catholic/Christian living in faith and conduct! Do you love all others as yourself? Do you seek God in the teachings of His Church? Do you have a daily prayer life and attend Liturgy EVERY Sunday unless incapacitated? You must be dedicated to be at the Liturgy you want to be scheduled for, and to be prepared to take the place of those who may not be available (hey, life happens).



Training & Scheduling

At St. Ignatius of Antioch Parish we offer those who are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Ministry training and guidance. It consists of attending a first training when scheduled, usually directly after one of the weekend Liturgies. Once that is completed, there will be a commissioning by the Pastor during a future Liturgy. Then you will be put on the next available schedule that comes up every 3-4 months. However, after your commissioning you may begin serving by coming to Liturgy early and volunteering to replace anyone who might not have been able to be present. Once or twice a year there may also be a Ministry Retreat, about 90 minutes, for continued training and fellowship.



Duties

As a Eucharistic Minister you will participate in processing into the Sanctuary at the start of Liturgy, prepare the Altar during the Preparation Rite, distribute either the Body or the Blood of Christ,; Head Ministers process out, and finally properly clean and store the Sacred Vessels. Your service may also include bringing Communion to the sick and elderly.



Interested?

Please call the office at 925-778-0768. You may also reach out to any of the ministers or priests after Liturgy. Blessings and Peace!

