

Important EMHC Updates

Good evening to all our Eucharistic Ministers of Holy Communion. This email is to address a couple housekeeping type issues that have come to our attention recently.

The first one is primarily directed toward our Home Bound Ministry volunteers. We understand that some of you are approaching fellow ministers in the Communion line to get an extra host for your Pyx. This is not the proper procedure and indeed has been addressed by Archbishop Aquila in a directive some time ago.

A home bound minister should either arrive before the Mass starts and place an unconsecrated host in the pyx and place it on the altar for consecration. The pyx should be retrieved immediately after Mass and taken as soon as possible to the intended parishioner. The other option is to request the key to the tabernacle from the priest or Sacristan after Mass and place a consecrated host in your pyx again taking the Eucharist as soon as possible to the intended parishioner.

Please do not put your fellow minister in the awkward position of declining your request while in the communion line.

Secondly, as we approach the parish portion of the National Eucharistic Revival kick off on the Feast of Corpus Christi, prayerfully reflect on just what you are doing as a Eucharistic Minister of Holy Communion. We are being allowed after being mandated by our Archbishop to share, distribute the Real Body and Blood of our Lord and Savior to our fellow parishioners! This is the only lay ministry in the Catholic Church that requires training and mandation by our Bishop.

Therefore, we are asking all of our EMHC to make a more outward and reverent appearance in their commitment. Please consider what you are doing as part of the Mass: arrive early, prepare your heart in prayer and wear your Sunday best. As you approach the Altar you are an integral part of that liturgy whether as an EMHC or a lector. Plan ahead and dress as nice as you are able.

Lastly, we would like to invite and encourage all of you to plan now on joining us on Corpus Christi, June 10th after the 10 am Mass to walk with us in our Eucharistic procession. This will be a very fitting way for all the Eucharistic Ministers from all the Masses to demonstrate our love and devotion to the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Yes, you can come even if it is not your "regular" Mass. Just meet us in the prayer garden around 11:15 am. We will end with Benediction followed by social time with good fellowship and I understand there may be some snow cones?

Thank you for your continued commitment to our All Saints Community and also for your attention to the schedules and the sign in sheets each Sunday.

May the Lord Bless you and keep you in His care,

Dale Clark
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