

Eucharistic Minister Guidelines – Holy Rosary Catholic Church

1. Eucharistic Ministers are asked to arrive at least fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of Mass. Please sign in on the table in the foyer of the church.
2. If you are unable to serve at a scheduled Mass, it is your responsibility to swap with someone or find a replacement. Having all ministers present prior to the start of Mass helps to create a reverent and prayerful environment.
3. Please remember to silence all cell phones, to refrain from chewing gum, and to dress appropriately. Casual clothing such as jeans, shorts, low-cut tops, short dresses, and t-shirts are not appropriate.
4. Ministers may sit anywhere in the congregation.
5. At the Sign of Peace, please proceed to the sanctuary and stand with the altar servers on the left side facing the altar.
6. At Masses without a Deacon, one minister should step forward to receive Communion first, and then follow Father Matt with the chalice to offer the Precious Blood of Christ to the other ministers.
7. One Host minister stands on the bottom step with Father Matt, while the other two Host ministers stand nearer the first pew on either side, about eight feet back from the center aisle. The two Ministers of the Precious Blood stand between the host ministers but further from the center aisle.
8. The minister makes eye contact with each communicant and says “The Body of Christ” (or “The Blood of Christ”). We are not permitted to modify this statement in any way. Also, it is not recommended to use a person’s name when they approach you to receive communion. No minister can know all of the people’s names and we do not wish to treat anyone as an outsider.
9. All Eucharistic Ministers remain in place until everyone has finished receiving Communion. Host Ministers return to the altar with Father Matt and hand him their patens/bowls so he can place any leftover consecrated hosts in the ciborium.
10. Ministers of the Precious Blood normally consume any remaining wine while at their stations before they return to the altar. If there is too much Precious Blood to consume by yourself, please proceed to the credence table where one of the other ministers can assist you.
11. All ministers try to leave the sanctuary and return to their pews about the same time.

12. We kindly request that all ministers remain after Mass to wash all of the vessels that were used. Please make sure to dry the bread bowls so that the hosts do not stick together. After vessels are washed, they may be left on the counter in the sacristy unless there is another Mass scheduled to begin shortly. These vessels consist of the bread bowls, chalices, wine cruet, and water cruet. The pitcher and bowl used for the washing of hands should also be emptied and dried. The purificator, corporal and hand towel should be placed in the container for dirty linens located in the second drawer in the sacristy.

Again, thank you for your service to Christ and to our parish!