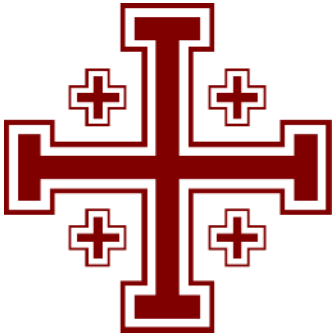


PASTOR'S CORNER

THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST – PART II



Last weekend in my Pastor's Corner I announced that beginning on the weekend of the First Sunday of Advent, November 26/27, Holy Communion will be offered at Holy Name Parish under both kinds or species, bread and wine. This option will be available at all Sunday liturgies (*which includes the Saturday evening vigil Mass*), Holy Days of Obligation, Solemnities and other special occasions. Today I continue my catechesis on receiving Holy Communion under both species.

When Holy Communion is offered under both species, the communicant is always required to receive the Eucharist under the form of bread. The only exception might be if the person is allergic to the bread as some people are gluten sensitive, or the person has a medical condition which may make it difficult for them to swallow the host. If there is anyone who cannot receive Holy Communion under the form of bread because they have an allergic reaction to gluten, low gluten hosts are available and I am happy to offer them. There are special procedures that need to be followed and I would need you to inform me so I can make those arrangements. The low gluten hosts are **99.9%** gluten free.

The general rule for the distribution of Holy Communion under both forms is to have twice as many distributing the Blood of Christ. However, we will begin with one Extraordinary Minister of Holy communion distributing the hosts in the center of the sanctuary as has been our custom. On each side, we will have an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to distribute the Precious Blood.

Communion of the Blood of Christ is carried out by the communicants' drinking from the chalice. After receiving the Body of Christ, the communicant moves to the Extraordinary Minister of Holy communion who is holding a chalice. The minister says, "The Blood of Christ." Bowing, the communicant responds, "Amen", the minister hands over the chalice, which the communicant takes from the minister and raises to his or her mouth. Each communicant drinks a little from the chalice, hands it back to the minister, and then returns to their place. The Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion wipes the rim of the chalice with the purificator.

Many steps have taken place in order to provide Communion under both kinds at Holy Name Parish. The first which I mentioned last week was to invite and train a number of new ministers as well as those who were currently serving. The next step was to purchase additional Communion cups to be used for the distribution of the Precious Blood.

Two other steps that have not yet taken place is to add a sacrarium as well as hot water to the sacristy. A sacrarium is a sink with a separate drainpipe that drains directly to the earth. This is so that the water used for sacred purposes as when washing chalices, patens or altar linens which may contain drops of the Precious Blood or particles of the Sacred Host do not enter into the sewer system, but return to the earth. We do have an electric water pitcher that will warm water so that we may properly wash the vessels. However, it is my hope that in the near future we will add both a sacrarium and small hot water heater in order that we can ensure the Eucharist is not profaned, and that it will be easier to maintain our altar ware.

I hope all will prayerfully consider receiving Holy Communion under both forms, the Sacred Host and the Precious Blood.