

DOCUMENTING OUR MINISTRIES

MINISTRY: EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

DATE OF THIS DOCUMENTATION UPDATE: FEB2009

MINISTRY DESCRIPTION:

A Eucharistic Minister is a lay person authorized to administer the Consecrated Elements at a Celebration of Holy Eucharist. A Eucharistic Minister should normally act under the direction of a Deacon, if any, or otherwise, the Member of the Clergy or other leader exercising oversight of the congregation or other community of faith.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS:

A Eucharistic Minister may distribute either element at the celebration of the Holy Eucharist when there is not a sufficient number of ordained clergy assisting the celebrant. The Eucharistic Minister is not restricted to the distribution of the cup at the Celebration of the Eucharist.

Persons selected for Eucharistic Ministry should be trained in the following areas:

1. The use and structure of the Book of Common Prayer;
2. A brief history of Eucharistic Ministry;
3. The theology of the Eucharist;
4. Practical considerations in distribution of the elements.

Responsibilities:

1. Communicate availability to the parish deacon by the date requested, normally the 15th of each month for the following month.
2. If unable to serve when scheduled, to find a substitute and report changes to parish office.
3. Arrive 15 minutes prior to the liturgy rested and prepared to serve and wearing appropriate shoes and clothing.
4. All liturgical ministers are expected to be attentive in mind, body, and spirit during worship and to always be aware of one's posture and its impact on the congregation.
5. Attend Worship Leaders' meetings as scheduled.