

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

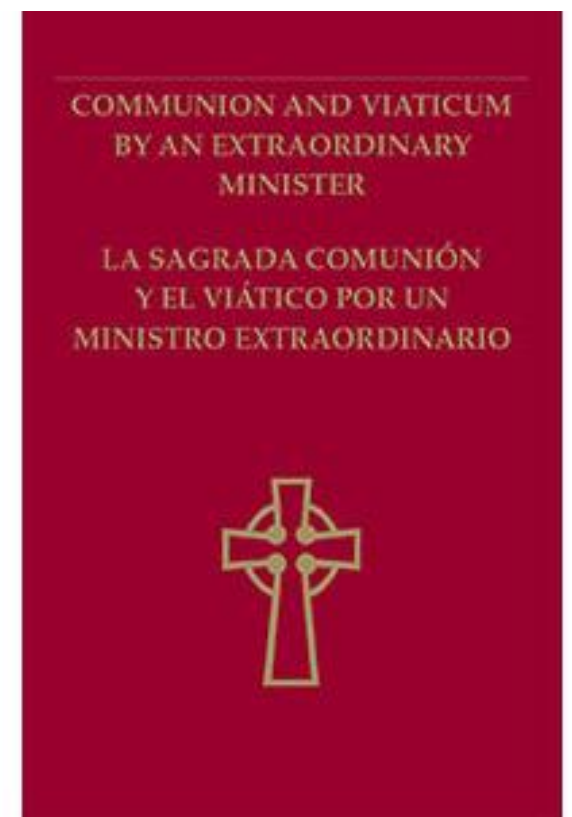
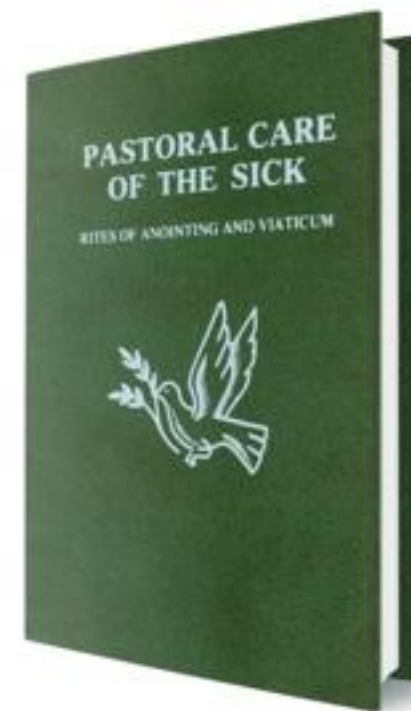
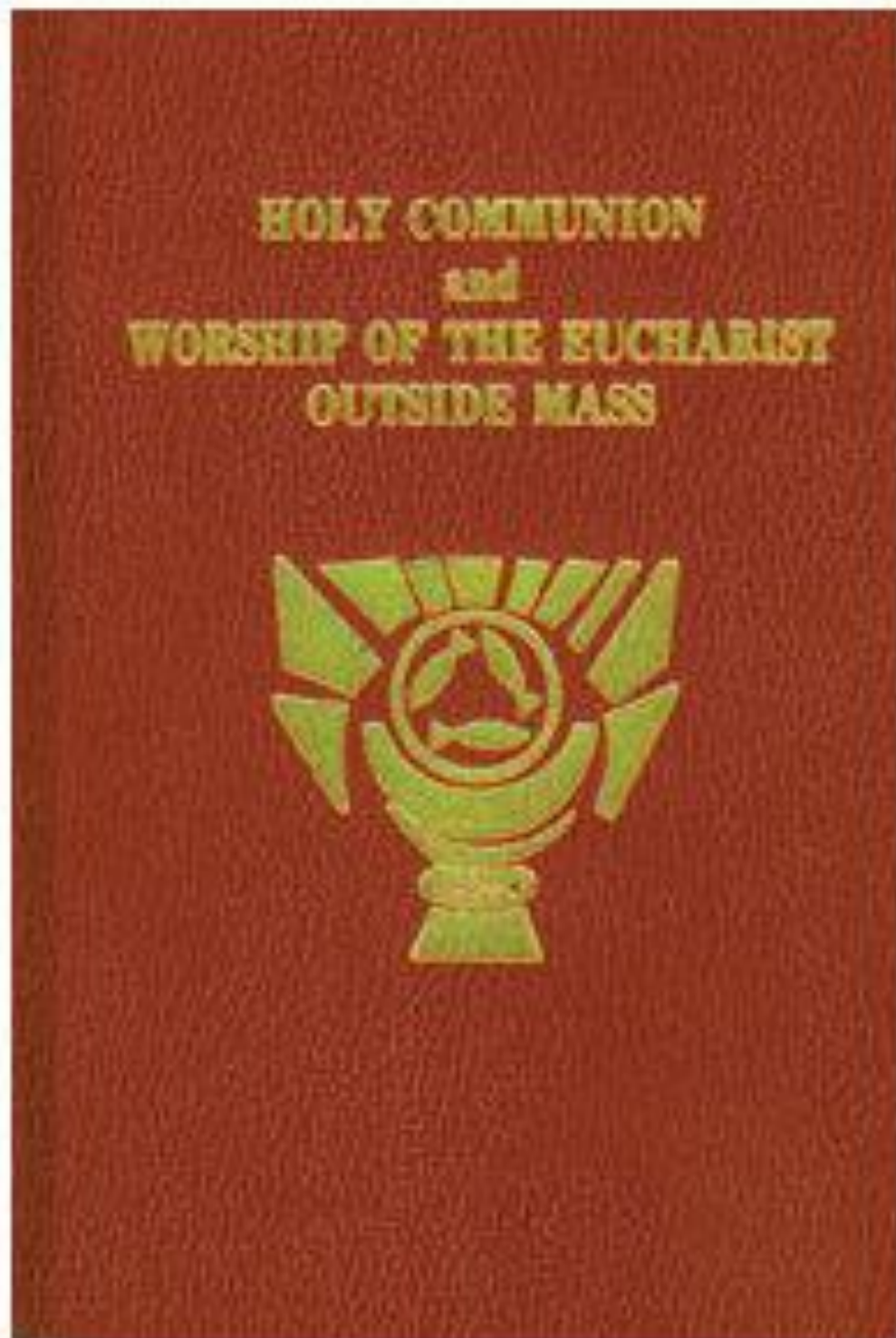
Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph

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Outline for the Day

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Importance of this ministry
- 3. Communion of the Sick
- 4. Case Studies
- 5. Questions
- 6. Prayer



Liturgical books



A Ritual for Laypersons (Liturgical Press)

ORDINARY RITE OF COMMUNION OF THE SICK

INTRODUCTORY RITES

GREETING

The minister greets the sick person and the others present. One of the following may be used:

Peace to this house and all who live in it.

Or:

**The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.**

Or:

**Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ.**

The minister then places the blessed sacrament on the table and all join in adoration.

PENITENTIAL ACT

The minister invites the sick person and all present to join in the penitential act, using these words:

**Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins,
and so prepare ourselves for this sacred celebration.**

Holy Communion Outside Mass

TEXTS FOR THE PEOPLE

A suitable table should be prepared and covered with a linen cloth upon which the blessed sacrament will be placed. Lighted candles are prepared and, where it is customary, a vessel of holy water. Care should be taken to make the occasion special and joyful. The elderly and those suffering from any kind of infirmity, as well as those who take care of such person, may receive the eucharist even if they have not fasted from food and beverages within the hour before communion.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

GREETING

The minister greets the sick person and the others present. The people reply:

And with your spirit.

The minister then places the Blessed Sacrament on the table and all join in adoration.

SPRINKLING WITH HOLY WATER

If it seems desirable, the priest or deacon may sprinkle the sick person and those present with holy water.

Pastoral Care of the Sick 43

The concern that Christ showed for the bodily and spiritual welfare of those who are ill is continued by the Church in its ministry to the sick. This ministry is the common responsibility of all Christians, who should visit the sick, remember them in prayer, and celebrate the sacraments with them. The family and friends of the sick, doctors and others who care for them, and priests with pastoral responsibilities have a particular share in this ministry of comfort. Through words of encouragement and faith they can help the sick to unite themselves with the sufferings of Christ for the good of God's people.

*Holy Communion and Eucharistic
Worship Outside Mass*

II. Purpose of Eucharistic Reservation

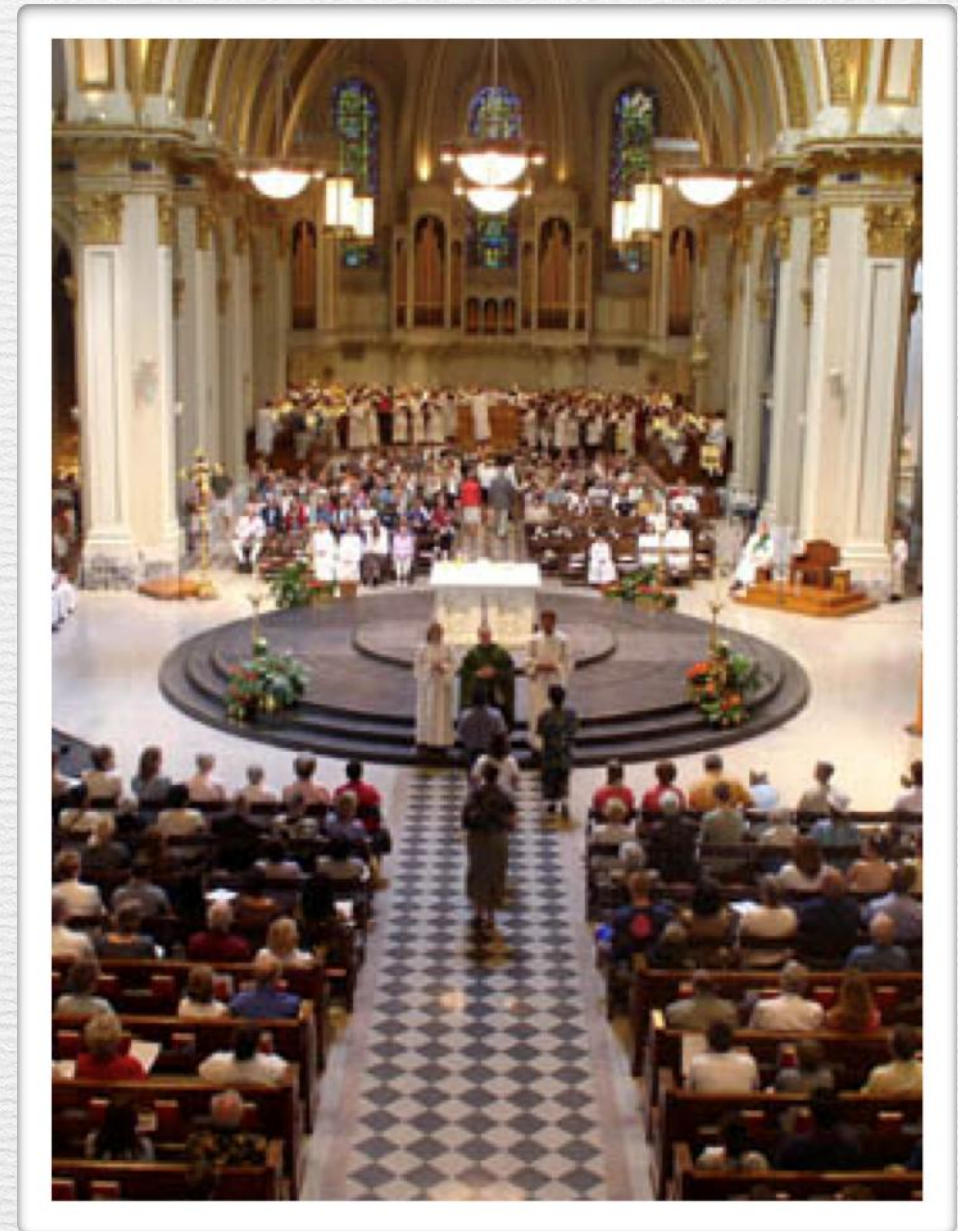
5. Reasons

- “The primary and original reason for reservation of the eucharist outside Mass is the administration of viaticum. The secondary ends are the giving of communion and the adoration of our Lord Jesus Christ present in the sacrament.”



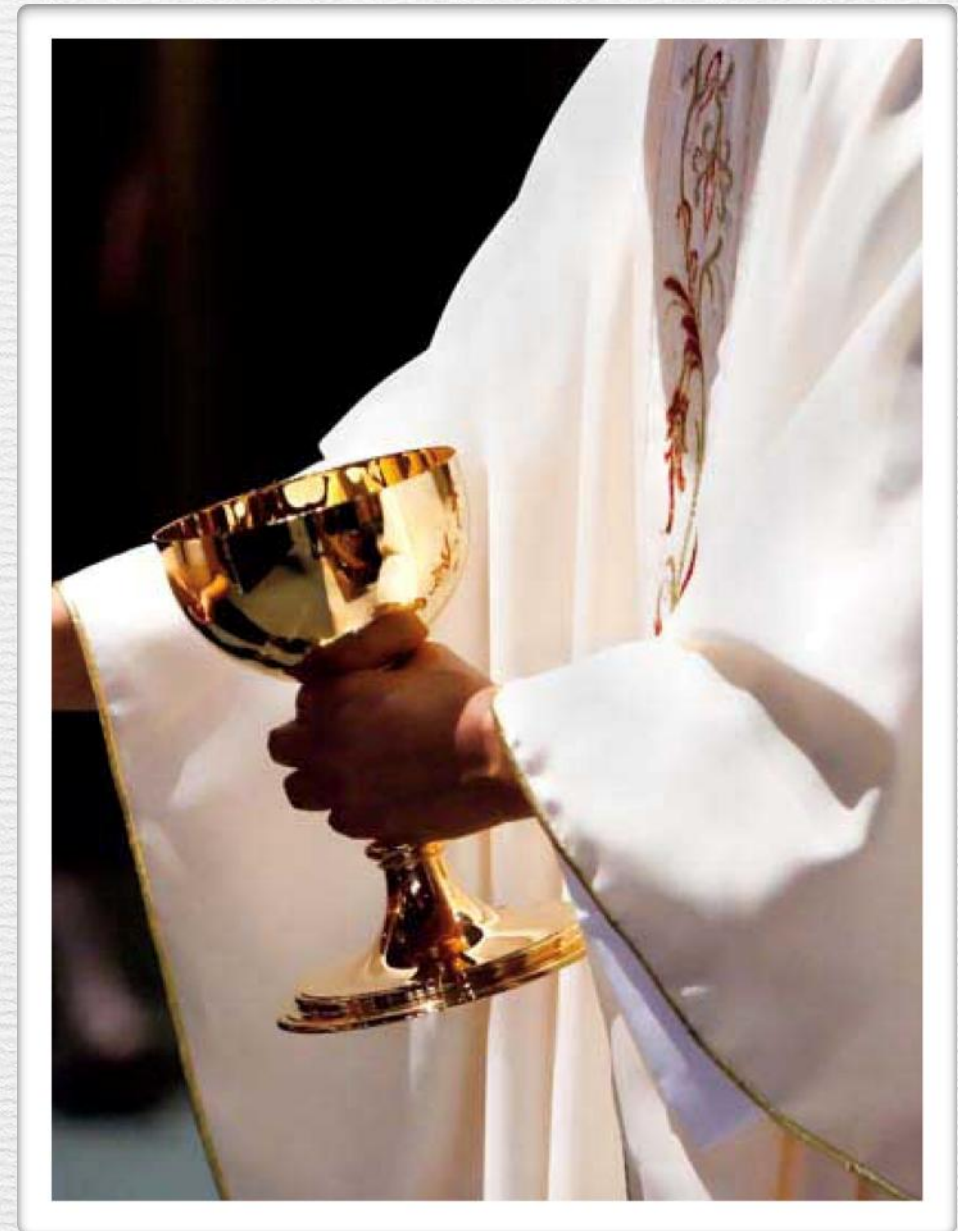
6. The Presence of Christ at Mass

- “in the very assembly of the faithful, gathered together in his name”
- “in his word, with the reading and explanation of Scripture in the church”
- “in the person of the minister”
- “above all, in the eucharistic elements”



6. The Presence of Christ at Mass

“In a way that is completely unique, the whole and entire Christ, God and man, is substantially and permanently present in the sacrament. This presence of Christ under the appearance of bread and wine ‘is called real, not to exclude the other kinds of presence as though they were not real, but because it is real par excellence.’”



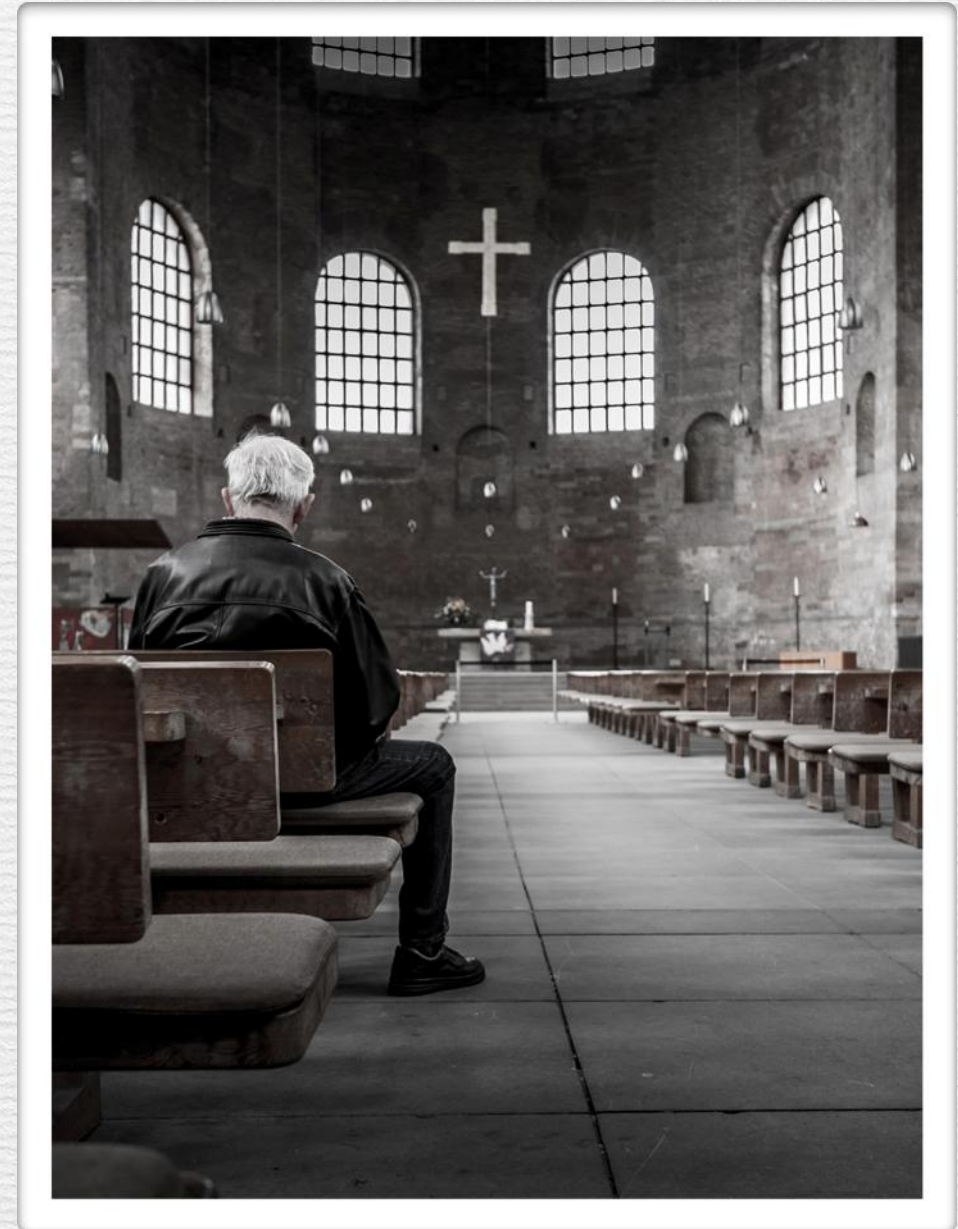
7. Hosts

- “The consecrated hosts are to be frequently renewed and reserved in a ciborium or other vessel in a number sufficient for the communion of the sick and of others outside Mass.”



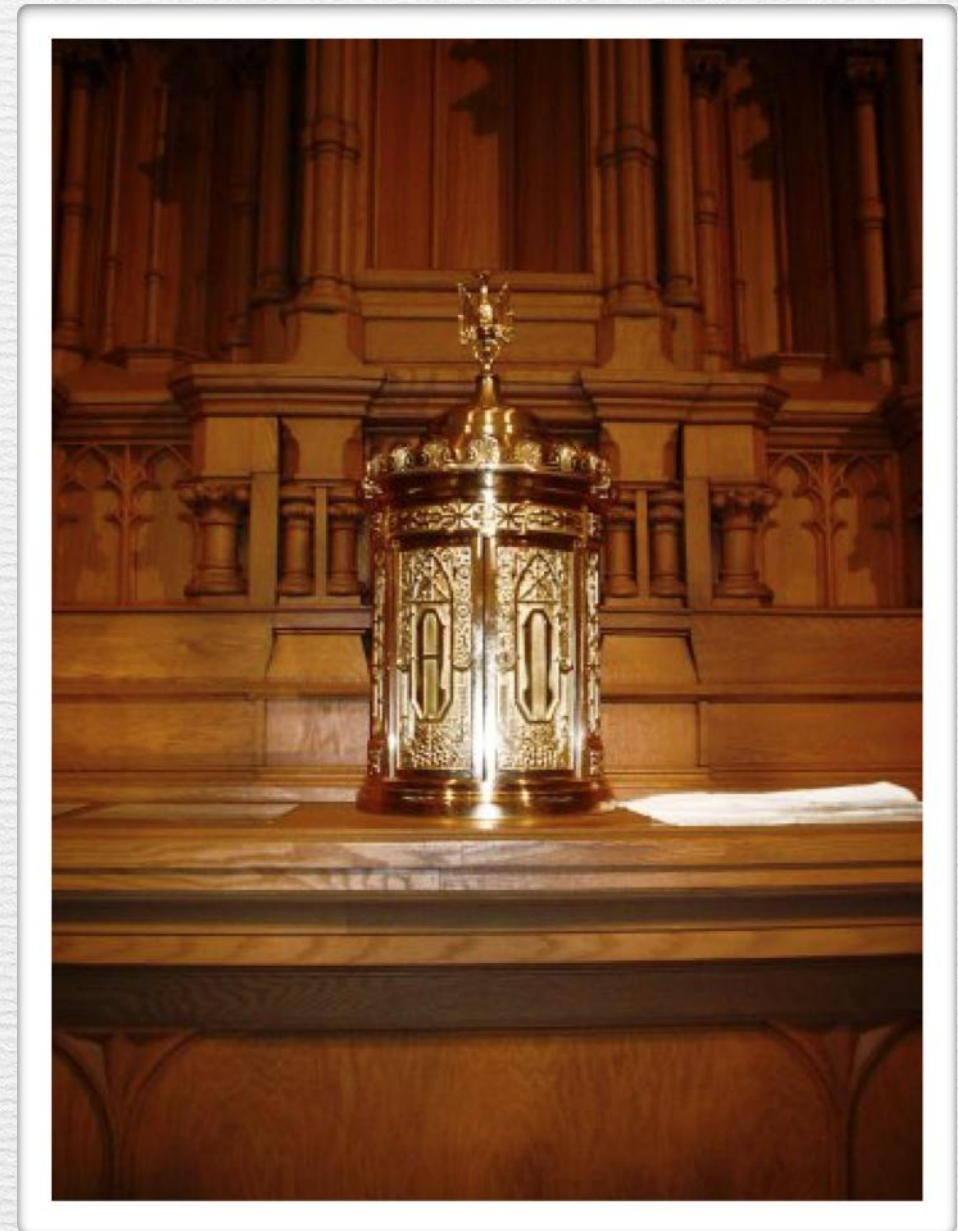
8. Praying

- Pastors should see that churches “are open every day for at least several hours at a convenient time, so that the faithful may easily pray in the presence of the blessed sacrament.”



10. Tabernacle

- “The holy eucharist is to be reserved in an immovable and solid tabernacle. It must be opaque and locked in such a way as to provide every possible security against the danger of desecration. Ordinarily there should be only one tabernacle in a church.”



10. Tabernacle

- “The one in charge of the church or oratory is to see to it that the key to the tabernacle where the eucharist is reserved is safeguarded most carefully.”



Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass: 15. Still Sharing the Banquet

- When the faithful “receive communion outside Mass, they are closely united with the sacrifice that perpetuates the sacrifice of the cross. They are sharers in the sacred banquet.”





Communion to the sick or homebound

Minister Training: Diocese of Kansas City - St. Joseph

HOW DO WE USE THE BOOKLET FOR COMMUNION TO THE SICK?

Service	Recipient	Minister
Visiting the Sick	Any sick person	Anyone
Communion	Any sick person eligible and capable	Communion minister
Anointing	Reality or possibility of serious illness	Priest
Reconciliation	Any eligible sick person	Priest
Viaticum	One who is dying	Communion minister
Apostolic Pardon	One who is dying	Priest
Prayers for the dying	One who is dying	Anyone
Prayers for the dead	One who has died	Anyone

Preparations

Bring appropriate materials: ritual book, parish bulletin

“Those who are with the sick should be asked to prepare a table covered with a linen cloth upon which the Blessed Sacrament will be placed. Lighted candles are prepared and, where it is customary, a vessel of holy water” PCS 74

Traveling with the Blessed Sacrament in your car



Occasion

- Ideally, from Sunday mass to the home, bringing communion consecrated at that mass
- Ministering on Holy Thursday after the Mass of the Lord's Supper



USCCB: Introduction to the Order of Mass

- 21: When Holy Communion is being taken from Mass to the sick or those unable to leave their homes, the priest gives the pyx containing the Holy Eucharist to the deacons, acolytes, or extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion immediately after Communion has been distributed. Alternatively, they may depart immediately after receiving Communion themselves, or even as part of the concluding procession of ministers.

Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass: 14. The Sick and Elderly

The sick and the elderly should “be given the opportunity even if they are not gravely ill or in imminent danger of death, to receive the eucharist often, even daily, especially during the Easter season. It is lawful to minister communion under the form of wine to those who cannot receive the consecrated bread.”



Redemptionis Sacramentum 132:

No one may carry the Most Holy Eucharist to his or her home, or to any other place contrary to the norm of law.

Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass

20. The Pyx

- Outside a church, carry communion “in a pyx or other covered vessel”
- Vesture and manner of carrying the eucharist should be “appropriate and in accord with local circumstances”



PCS 74

Sick people who are unable to receive Communion under the form of bread may receive it under the form of wine alone.



PCS 74

If the wine is consecrated at a Mass not celebrated in the presence of the sick person, the Blood of the Lord is kept in a properly covered vessel and is placed in the tabernacle after Communion. The Precious Blood should be carried to the sick in a vessel which is closed in such a way as to eliminate all danger of spilling.



Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass

19. Preparations

- In a church or oratory, “a corporal is to be placed on the altar, which is already covered with a cloth, and there are to be two lighted candles.... A communion plate is to be used.”
- In other places, a suitable table with a cloth, candles



Canon 919

The elderly, the infirm,
and those who care for
them can receive the
Most Holy Eucharist even
if they have eaten
something within the
preceding hour.



Practical questions

- What if the sick person declines communion?
- What if the sick person is gluten intolerant?
- What if the sick person is alcohol intolerant?
- What if the sick person spits out the host?
- May a non-Catholic receive communion?



After the visit

- Leftover hosts
 - May be returned to church immediately
 - May be consumed by those present, including the minister
- Maintain confidentiality, but communicate essentials with your pastor



Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass

22. Cleansing

- “Fragments remaining after communion are to be gathered and placed in a ciborium or in a vessel with water.”
- “[a] chalice or other vessel is to be washed with water.”
- “The water... may be drunk or poured out in a suitable place.”



PCS 74

If some of the Precious Blood remains, it should be consumed by the minister, who should also see to it that the vessel is properly purified afterward.





Viaticum

Minister Training: Diocese of Kansas City - St. Joseph

Code of Canon Law

921 §1. The Christian faithful who are in danger of death from any cause are to be nourished by holy communion in the form of Viaticum.

§2. Even if they have been nourished by holy communion on the same day, however, those in danger of death are strongly urged to receive communion again.



Code of Canon Law

§3. While the danger of death lasts, it is recommended that holy communion be administered often, but on separate days.

922 Holy Viaticum for the sick is not to be delayed too long; those who have the care of souls are to be zealous and vigilant that the sick are nourished by Viaticum while fully conscious.



Enchiridion on Indulgences 28: The Moment of Death

To the faithful in danger of death, who cannot be assisted by a priest to bring them the sacraments and impart the Apostolic Blessing with its plenary indulgence (see can. 468, 2 of Code of Canon Law), Holy Mother Church nevertheless grants a plenary indulgence to be acquired at the point of death, provided they are properly disposed and have been in the habit of reciting some prayers during their lifetime. The use of a crucifix or a cross to gain this indulgence is praiseworthy.

The condition: provided they have been in the habit of reciting some prayers during their lifetime supplies in such cases for the three usual conditions required for the gaining of a plenary indulgence.

After the reading:

Minister: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth?

Response: I do.

Minister: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, was crucified, died, and was buried, rose from the dead, and is now seated at the right hand of the Father?

Response: I do.

Minister: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

Response: I do.

After the Lord's Prayer:

Minister: The body of Christ (**or:** The blood of Christ).

Response: Amen.

Minister: May the Lord Jesus Christ protect you and lead you to eternal life.

Response: Amen.

Other Prayers

- ❖ Commendation of the Dying
- ❖ Prayers for the Dead

