



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER  
MISSOULA'S JESUIT PARISH

## Eucharistic Minister Guidelines

### Weekend Masses:

- For the 5pm, 8am and 6pm Masses, there needs to be eight Eucharistic Ministers. The 10am Mass needs nine when the choir is singing. These numbers include the priests/deacons who are presiding.
- Approach the altar (bow from first step) during the Lamb of God. One minister will bring the consecrated Eucharist from the tabernacle to the altar. One minister will bring the wine glasses to the altar.
- All Eucharistic Ministers should spread out behind the altar. Since the Body and Blood of Christ are present on the altar, keep your attention there.
- Receive the host but wait to consume it until the presider has done so. After you have received wine, tend to the others in the sanctuary who need to receive (altar servers, musicians).
- Ministers need to be aware of people who are unable to approach the altar (handicapped, elderly).
- Take your place to distribute communion. The priest and one other minister will stand front and center and distribute bread, two other ministers with bread will stand on the post-it notes taped in front of the first pew. Two ministers of wine will stand on the post-it notes close to the side doors, with the other two about halfway between the doors and the center aisle.
- If you are a minister of the cup, please unfold the purificator as you cleanse the lip of the glass. This gives more clean surface area for cleansing each time.
- After communion, one minister of the bread must place any remaining consecrated hosts, as well as their crumbs, into the ciborium, or a bowl if necessary. Place these in the tabernacle and shut the door. Leave the key in until after Mass.
- Wine ministers return to the credence table and consume any of the remaining wine, unless there is too much to consume at that time. If this is the case, leave the wine until after Mass. Place the cups on the table and cover them with the refolded purificators.
- All ministers remain on the altar until the sacred bread has been put in the tabernacle. When the priest sits down, all ministers bow to the altar together and return to their seats. (you do not bow again from the first step)
- After Mass, a minister needs to return to the tabernacle, get the key and put it in the sacristy. The vessels for bread and wine need to be washed and dried. If there is wine remaining in any of the cups, please consume it or find someone who will do so reverently.
- After the 5pm and 6pm Masses, the vessels should be returned to the cabinets in the sacristy. The purificators should be placed in the basket under the sink.
- PLEASE HELP WASH DISHES IN THE SACRISTY AFTER MASS.