# COMMUNION IN A HOSPITAL OR INSTITUTION

### INTRODUCTORY RITE

#### ANTIPHON

92 The rite may begin in the church, the hospital chapel, or the first root where the minister says one of the following antiphons:

# A

How holy this feast in which Christ is our food: his passion is recalled; grace fills our hearts; and we receive a pledge of the glory to come.

В

How gracious you are, Lord: your gift of bread from heaven reveals a Father's love and brings us perfect joy. You fill the hungry with good things and send the rich away empty.

C

I am the living bread come down from heaven. If you eat this bread you will live for ever. The bread I will give is my flesh for the life of the world.

If it is customary, the minister may be accompanied by a person carrying candle.

76 Communion in a Hospital or Institution

#### LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION

#### GREETING

93 On entering each room, the minister may use one of the following greetings:

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R. And also with you.

В

(E

(E)

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

R. And also with you.

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

If there is time and it seems desirable, the minister may proclaim a Scripture reading from those found on pages 66-67 or those appearing in Part 111.

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

94 When circumstances permit (for example, when there are not many rooms to visit), the minister is encouraged to lead the sick in the Lord's Prayer. The minister introduces the Lord's Prayer in these or similar words:

Jesus taught us to call God our Father, and so we have the courage to say:

В

Now let us pray as Christ the Lord has taught us:

All say:

Our Father . . .

75

# Liturgy of Holy Communion

### COMMUNION

95 The minister shows the eucharistic bread to those present, s

This is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who hunger and thirst, for they shall be satisfied.

# B

This is the bread of life. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The sick person and all who are to receive communion say: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

The minister goes to the sick person and, showing the blessed sac says:

# The body of Christ.

The sick person answers: "Amen," and receives communion.

Then the minister says:

### The blood of Christ.

The sick person answers: "Amen," and receives communion.

Others present who wish to receive communion then do so in the Way.

## **Concluding Rite**

### CONCLUDING PRAYER

96 The concluding prayer may be said either in the last room visited, in the church, or chapel. One of the following may be used.

### Let us pray.

Pause for silent prayer.

God our Father,

you have called us to share the one bread and one cup and so become one in Christ.

Help us to live in him that we may bear fruit, rejoicing that he has redeemed the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

B

All-powerful and ever-living God. may the body and blood of Christ your Son be for our brothers and sisters a lasting remedy for body and soul. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

C

All-powerful God. we thank you for the nourishment you give us through your holy gift.

Pour out your Spirit upon us and in the strength of this food from heaven keep us single-minded in your service.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

R. Amen.

# A BLESSING OF THE SICK (FOR ADULTS)

[A lay minister traces the sign of the cross on the forehead of each sick person and says the following prayer of blessing]

Lord, our God,

Who watch over your creatures with unfailing care,

keep us in the safe embrace of your love.

Minister to them and heal their illnesses, so that they may have from you the help they long for.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

# **PRAYER OF A MINISTER OF COMMUNION**

Gracious God, I am in your Sacred Presence about to take the Bread of Life to those who are unable to participate in the parish celebration of the Eucharist. Thank you for the honor to carry Christ to them. Bless my hands that they may be fitting instruments of this Holy Visitation. Bless my heart, that I may prayerfully carry the Bread of Life to those in need. May my attitude, my reverence and my concern for others be of Your divine heart. I ask this in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, who lives with You and the Holy Spirit now and forever.

Amen.

<u>Prayer 1</u> Almighty God, we ask your intercession for your child, our friend's health. May Your healing hand rest on him/her and may Your love give them peace and comfort. Amen.

# **Prayer for the Sick and Suffering**

Lord, we lift up to you those who are sick, suffering, lonely, and experiencing despair. We ask that you would bring them healing, relief and peace. May they feel your presence with them, and may they be comforted by your love. We pray that you will strengthen them in body, mind, and spirit. Amen.

# **Prayer for Strength and Healing**

Lord, we pray for those who are sick and in need of healing. We ask that you would give them the strength to endure their suffering, and that you would bring them healing and restoration. May they feel your presence with them, and may they be comforted by your love. We pray that you will grant them peace and rest, and relief of suffering. Amen.

#### THE ORDINARY RITE OF COMMUNION OF THE SICK

\*\*Before beginning, be sure TV or radio is turned off, so there is a reverent silence.\*\*

GREETING...

(Greet all present. Place the host (still in pyx) on a nearby table. Then enter into prayer beginning with the Sign of the Cross.)

Minister: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

PENITENTIAL RITE...

Minister: Let us turn with confidence to the Lord and ask for the forgiveness of all our sins.

A11:

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, That I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God

Minister: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

(Here you might read one reading from Sunday's Liturgy)

#### Can use for group or individual

THE LORD'S PRAYER...

Minister: Now let us pray as Christ the Lord has taught us:

All: Our Father...

COMMUNION...

(the minister opens pyx and elevates one of the hosts while saying the following)

Minister: Behold the Lamb of God,

Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: Lord, I am not worthy

That you should enter under my roof,

But only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Minister: The Body of Christ.

SILENT PRAYER...(a period of silence is observed)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION...

Minister: Let us pray.

All powerful God, we thank you for the nourishment

You give us through Your holy gift.

Pour out Your Spirit upon us and in the strength

of this food from heaven.

Keep us single minded in Your service. Amen.

BLESSING...

Minister: May the Lord bless us, and protect us from all evil,

and bring us to everlasting life. Amen.

# PRAYER OF A MINISTER OF COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Gracious God,

I am in your Sacred Presence
about to take the Bread of Life to those who
are unable to participate in the parish
celebration of the Eucharist.

Thank you for the honor to carry Christ to them.

Bless my hands that they may be

fitting instruments of this Holy Visitation.

Bless my heart, that I may prayerfully carry

the Bread of Life to those in need.

May my attitude, my reverence and

my concern for others be of Your divine heart.

I ask this in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ,

who lives with You and the Holy Spirit

now and forever.

### Amen.

# Directions:

- Get large pyx and about 40 hosts from side of tabernacle (may break hosts if running low)
- 2. Take small zip bag in case host drops and not consumed to be place in dish and reg water for disposing down dedicated drain.
- 3. Get list at front desk from attendant to use on 3 floors.
- 4. Return unused hosts to tabernacle dedicated ciborium or container

.....

# PRAYER OF A MINISTER OF COMMUNION TO THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND

Gracious God,

I am in your Sacred Presence
about to take the Bread of Life to those who
are unable to participate in the parish
celebration of the Eucharist.

Thank you for the honor to carry Christ to them.

Bless my hands that they may be

fitting instruments of this Holy Visitation.

Bless my heart, that I may prayerfully carry

the Bread of Life to those in need.

May my attitude, my reverence and

my concern for others be of Your divine heart.

I ask this in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ,

who lives with You and the Holy Spirit

now and forever.

#### Amen.

# A BLESSING OF THE SICK (FOR ADULTS)

[A lay minister traces the sign of the cross on the forehead of each sick person and says the following prayer of blessing]

Lord, our God,

Who watch over your creatures with unfailing care,

keep us in the safe embrace of your love.

With your strong right hand raise up your servants

(N. and N.)

and give them the strength of your own power.

Minister to them and heal their illnesses,

so that they may have from you the help they long for.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

# A BLESSING OF THE SICK (FOR CHILDREN)

[A lay minister traces the sign of the cross on the forehead of each sick child and says the following prayer of blessing]

Lord, our God,

your Son Jesus Christ welcomed little children and blessed them.

Stretch out your right hand over these little children,

N. and N., who are sick.

Grant that, made well again,

they may return to their parents

and to the community of your holy Church

and give you thanks and praise.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

# TAKING HOLY COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

It is of great spiritual benefit for those who are not able to come to Mass to be able to receive Holy Communion. Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion help make this practically possible by assisting priests and deacons in this ministry.

Those taking Holy Communion to the homebound should be properly commissioned extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion and should have the permission of the pastor. In the Diocese of Jefferson City, extraordinary ministers must be commissioned every five years.

The role of extraordinary minister of Holy Communion may only be filled by those eligible and able to carry it out. This includes being eighteen years old, fully initiated through Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist, believing fully and entirely the Catholic faith, and living in accord with Church teaching (e.g., if married, in a marriage recognized by the Church; not

publicly holding a job, role, or membership contrary to Catholic teaching or practice).

When taking Holy Communion to the homebound, only a clean, properly blessed pyx should be used to hold the Blessed Sacrament.

The approved ceremony for distributing Holy Communion found in the proper ritual book (reproduced in this booklet) should be followed.<sup>1</sup>

The Blessed Sacrament should be taken directly from the church to the place or places where it will be distributed. No other errands or business should be carried out while distributing Holy Communion.<sup>2</sup>

A table with a clean white cloth should be prepared in the home of the person receiving Holy Communion. Ideally, a candle should be lit. This is the table on which the pyx may be set for a brief period of silent adoration.

<sup>1</sup> Redemptionis Sacramentum (2004), 133.

<sup>2</sup> Redemptionis Sacramentum (2004), 133.

# TAKING HOLY COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

The Blessed Sacrament should never be kept in private homes or left unattended (e.g., in a car or on a nightstand). It should be carried in a reverent manner (e.g., in a burse hung around the neck or in a front shirt pocket) on one's person (e.g., not in a glove compartment). Any Hosts that remain after distributing Communion should be returned to the tabernacle immediately.

Christ is present, whole and entire, under the smallest recognizable particle of the Host. Thus, a pyx that has been used to carry the Host must be purified afterwards. The extraordinary minister does this by filling the pyx with clean water, then pouring that water into a glass and drinking it, taking care so that all particles are consumed.<sup>3</sup>

Extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion cannot delegate their role to others, e.g., relatives or friends, unless these are also properly commissioned extraordinary ministers who have the pastor's permission.<sup>4</sup>

2

The elderly, the sick, and those who care for them are not required to fast from food and drink prior to receiving Holy Communion.<sup>5</sup>

Those who have difficulty swallowing may need to receive only a small fragment of a Host or may need to drink water immediately after receiving.

If someone spits out or vomits part of the Eucharist, this should be gathered into a container as best as possible and brought to the church. The priest should be informed at once.

<sup>3</sup> De sacra Communione et de cultu mysterii eucharistici extra Missam (1973), n. 62.

<sup>4</sup> Redemptionis Sacramentum (2004), 159.

# GLOSSARY OF TERMS

**Ablution Cup:** A small bowl of water, usually next to the tabernacle, that is used to purify the fingers after touching the Host.

**Chalice:** A sacred vessel that holds the Precious Blood of Christ.

Ciborium: A covered container for Hosts.

Corporal: A square cloth upon which the Blessed Sacrament is placed upon the altar. It is folded so as to catch any particles of the Host that may fall.

*Monstrance:* An ornate vessel used to display a Host solemnly for adoration.

**Pall:** A stiff, square cloth which covers the chalice during Mass.

**Paten:** A plate or bowl that is used to hold Hosts during Mass.

**Purificator:** A cloth that is used for wiping the chalice and for the purification of the sacred vessels.

**Pyx:** A small container used to carry Hosts when bringing them to the homebound.

**Sacrarium:** A special sink in the sacristy which drains directly into the ground. It is used for reverently disposing of holy water, blessed ashes, etc.

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