

From the Pastor's Desk

RECEPTION OF THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF THE LORD

Three Sundays ago, we celebrated the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ. The Church in the United States continue to foster devotional and formational activity in our multiyear National Eucharistic Revival. And on the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, our Bishop gave us the **approval in offering once again the Precious Blood of Christ** for reception by the faithful.

Before we resume receiving the Precious Blood at Holy Communion, I would like first to offer some catechesis and reminders for the faithful. It has been almost three years since we have received both species in Holy Communion. Even though we are now in the endemic stage, there will be people who will be afraid of receiving the Precious Blood from one cup.

The following reminder is for us all.

- **In each Eucharistic species, the Consecrated Hosts and the Precious Blood, the Lord Jesus offers himself completely to the faithful. The Lord Jesus is present body and blood, soul and divinity under the appearance of bread and wine.**
- **Receiving Holy Communion under both species is a fuller sign of participation in the Sacred Mysteries of the Lord's death and resurrection. This fuller sign is a response to the Lord's commands to "take and eat" and "take and drink".**
- **Members of the faithful with pre-existing health concerns or flu-like symptoms should refrain from receiving Holy Communion from the chalice. Those with flu-like symptoms should remain home as a preventive measure.**
- **The faithful are encouraged to continue the practice of frequent handwashing. The faithful are encouraged to sanitize their hands before receiving Holy Communion.**

For our parish to begin the reception of the Precious Blood sometime in July, an adequate number of Communion ministers must be first available. If you would like to be an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion kindly submit your name and email address on a piece of paper to the parish office.

In the words of Bishop Cantu, "may we continue to hear the Lord beckoning us to the Eucharistic table, that we may be nourished by his Word and Sacrament."

+ Fr. Jeff