

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF CARE

To serve as an Extraordinary Minister of Care (EMOC) is a special privilege to which one is called. They participate in the Church's ministry of care and healing when they bring Holy communion to those who are sick and homebound or in a hospital or nursing facility. To serve in this way is a sacred opportunity to bring Christ in the Eucharist to those in our community who have been separated from us by illness or infirmity and to be Christ for these brothers and sisters by extending the compassionate care of the Church through our own hands and hearts as an Extraordinary Minister of Care. We take great care in administering the most precious Body and Blood of Christ to the faithful. We are always Presence we carry, and the sacred duty we fulfill.

The EMOC receives a pyx after the distribution of Holy Communion and are sent forth to take Holy Communion to the homebound.

Being an EMOC requires a little extra time – one or two hours per week – depending on the needs of our parishioners. We serve the facilities in the Village of Oak Creek at Sedona Winds and The Haven as well as make home visits as requested.

Sometimes we serve people struggling with difficulties in their lives that they bring to the table of Christ; sometimes we serve people on a temporary basis as they recover from surgery or illness; and sometimes we help people prepare for their final journey by bringing them the sacrament of Holy Communion and the prayers and love of their community.

Whether you bring Holy Communion to those who are sick and homebound or serve at a local institution, your service is counted on, and people are depending upon you. The personal rewards for serving as an Extraordinary Minister are great. One minister said she could see the love of God shining in the eyes of the communicants as they received the Eucharist. Another was touched by the gratitude expressed by both the communicants and their families when taking Holy Communion to the homebound.

AN INVITATION TO SERVE

In 1 John 2:10, it is written "Whoever loves his brother abides in the light and in him there is no cause for stumbling". God guides our steps and shows us the way when we are willing to serve Him by

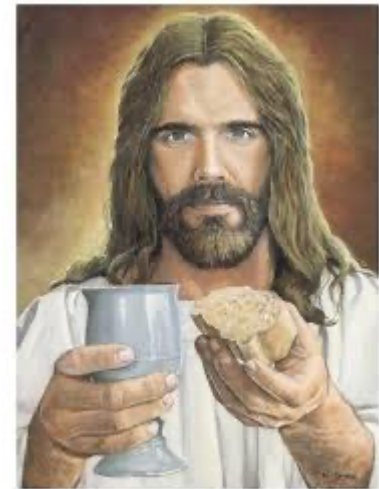
serving by serving our brothers and sisters in Christ.

We invite you to join us in this important and rewarding ministry. Having a sufficient number of ministers available to serve is a vital dimension to effectively attend to the spiritual needs of our Parish.

Thank you and may God's blessings be with each of you.



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