

PAGELLA OF FACULTIES

IV. Issues concerning Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

In the Diocese of Crookston, as in all Latin Rite dioceses of the United States, the ***Norms for the Distribution and Reception of Holy Communion under Both Kinds in the Dioceses of the United States of America*** (NDR) and the ***General Instruction of the Roman Missal including adaptations for the Dioceses of the United States of America*** (GIRM) are to be observed.

▸ After Communion, the deacon (if present) returns to the altar with the priest and collects and consumes any fragments remaining on the corporal or in the sacred vessels. The consecrated bread that remains is to be reserved in the tabernacle by the priest, deacon, instituted acolyte, or an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion. (cf. GIRM 2002 #'s 163,182,183,247,279.)

▸ Care must be taken that any remainder of the Blood of Christ is consumed immediately and completely by the priest, deacon, instituted acolyte, or an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion. **"When there are extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, they may consume what remains of the Precious Blood from their chalice of distribution with permission of the diocesan bishop."** (NDR 52) They may be assisted, if necessary, by other ordinary or extraordinary ministers.

- This includes the provision for a priest who suffers from alcohol intolerance as mentioned in the Letter from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith of July 24, 2003 (Prot. 89/78-174 98) which states: **"If a priest is able to take wine, but only a very small amount, when he is the sole celebrant, the remaining species of wine may be consumed by a layperson participating in that celebration of the Eucharist."** See *Diocesan Policy Book* top of page 33b.

▸ The permission of the diocesan bishop is hereby given habitually for extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion to consume what remains of the Precious Blood in the chalice(s). This permission is understood to be granted for as long as the extraordinary minister is commissioned.

▸ Finally, the Sacred Vessels are purified by the priest, the deacon, or an instituted acolyte after Communion or after Mass, insofar as possible at the credence table. The paten is usually wiped clean with the purificator. The purification of the chalice is done with water alone or with wine and water which is then drunk by whoever does the purification. The prayer, ***Lord, may I receive these gifts in purity of heart. May they bring me healing and strength now and forever,*** is prayed during the purification. The purification of the vessels should be performed with reverence, though briefly and inconspicuously. Especially if there are several vessels, their purification is preferably left until after Mass. It is permitted to place the vessels that need to be purified, suitably covered with purificator(s), at the credence table on a corporal and to purify them immediately after Mass following the dismissal of the people.