

A Pastor's Perspective

August 17, 2025 Bulletin



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

This past week, the parish hosted two training workshops that focused on the new diocesan norms for those individuals who distribute Holy Communion. These men and women have been appointed by the diocesan bishop to serve our fellow parishioners for a five-year term (renewable once). As fully initiated Catholics, they exercise this legitimate ministry on behalf of our Christian community, either at Mass or in homes, hospitals, and other residential facilities. We are grateful for their generous service to our brothers and sisters who cannot attend Mass because of age or infirmity. Although confined to their home or an institution, these fellow parishioners long for human contact and companionship; they yearn to be connected to our community of faith and experience communion. What a blessing to be Catholic because our Eucharistic Lord – through his Church, through his Blessed Sacrament, and through his ministers – fulfills their hearts' desires!

When we share in the Eucharist, it isn't only the bread and wine that are transformed into the Body and Blood of Christ, but so are we! Through our sharing in this mystery, we become what we eat. But the mystery doesn't end there. As we leave Mass, we are asked to go forth and transform the world, each in our own way, according to our particular vocation and calling in life. Our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion do this, in part, by bringing the Real Presence of the Lord to our fellow parishioners in various ways: (1) preeminently, in the "Blessed Sacrament" which is our spiritual food for the journey of life; (2) in the person of the minister himself or herself, who is a member of the "Body of Christ" (as all Christians are); and (3) in a "Holy Communion" that bonds these parishioners to the larger community, reminding them that they remain one with us, that they are respected and loved, and that they are always remembered (never forgotten). Many thanks to all our Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion for sharing the Real Presence of the Lord with others.

*Peace and blessings,
Mgr. Andrew Dubois*