

PASTOR

RITE OF

COMMISSIONING

EXTRAORDINARY

MINISTER(S)

OF HOLY COMMUNION

WITHIN

MASS

(Special Preparations checklist:

- Substitute page two of this document with a list of names of the candidates*
- Place enough Eucharistic Minister medals on a side table near the altar.*
- Place new cups, any new linens, new pyxes and burses, that need to be blessed for use on side table, if necessary.*

After the homily, the celebrant addresses the congregation in these or similar words...)

CELEBRANT: Dear Friends in Christ,

I wish to announce to you that some of our parishioners,

by special permission of our diocesan bishop,

have been given the task of distributing the Eucharist at the celebration of Mass and/or of carrying it to the infirm and aged.

We now call them forward as we commission them in this important ministry.

(The celebrant calls each candidate forward by name, listed below and presents him/her to the assembly.)

CELEBRANT:

(The celebrant then addresses the extraordinary ministers in these or similar words...)

CELEBRANT: My brothers and sisters, you have been chosen for an important ministry in the Church.

You must now strive more earnestly than ever to live the Catholic faith.

You must try to be examples of Christian living and by your life of faith and service.

You must witness your deep love for the Eucharist.

Be devoted to this mystery which beautifully symbolizes and wonderfully achieves unity in the Church.

As ministers of the Eucharist, be especially mindful of the Lord's commandment to love.

Remember that when He gave Himself as food to His disciples, He said to them: "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you."

Jesus loved all who were sick and He stretched out His healing hand to all who sought Him.

He showed the disciples a wonderful example of service when He knelt down to wash their feet and told His disciples to do the same, to care for one another with gentleness and compassion.

When you go forth to the sick of this parish, strive with all your hearts to practice that charity which the Lord Himself commanded.

Let your Christian service and your life of faith give encouragement to those who are ill.

(See Order For The Blessing Of A Chalice And Paten, 1989 Book of Blessings, page 581...)

(The servers bring all of the items to be blessed and place them on the altar with the Holy Water bucket.)

CELEBRANT: Let us pray.

(All pray in silence for a brief period. The celebrant continues:)

**Lord,
with joy we place on your altar these
medals, [cups,] [linens,] [pyxes,] [purses,]
[vessels] with which we celebrate
the sacrifice of Christ's new covenant.**

**May they be sanctified, for in them the body and blood of
Christ will be offered, consecrated, and received.**

**Lord,
when we celebrate Christ's faultless sacrifice on earth,
may we be renewed in strength
and filled with your Spirit,
until we join with your saints
at your table in heaven.**

Glory and honor be yours for ever and ever.

ALL: Blessed be God for ever.

(The candidates then kneel before the celebrant who says...)

CELEBRANT: My friends:

Are you resolved to undertake this ministry of giving the Body and Blood of Christ to your sisters and brothers for the service and growth of the Church?

Candidate(s): I AM.

CELEBRANT: Are you resolved to administer the Holy Eucharist with reverence and care?

Candidate(s): I AM.

CELEBRANT: Are you resolved to strive earnestly to grow in your own love for the Lord, present in the Eucharist, and in your love for all the human family?

Candidate(s): I AM.

(The celebrant then addresses the congregation:)

CELEBRANT: My friends:

You have heard these men and women express their intention to perform the ministry entrusted to them.

Let us now pray to the Father, asking that He bestow His blessings on these chosen ministers.

(Pause and pray in silence)

CELEBRANT: Merciful Father, source of all blessing and grace,

Bless **+** these, our brothers and sisters, who have been
chosen to administer the Body and Blood of your Son.

May they faithfully distribute the Holy Eucharist to your
holy people.

May they be strengthened and comforted by their service,
and may they one day be found worthy to share in the
everlasting banquet of heaven.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: AMEN!

(A Eucharistic Minister Medal [pyx, purse, etc.] is given to the new minister!)