

Administration of Communion to the Sick by a Special Minister

COMMUNION IN ORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES

INTRODUCTORY RITES

GREETING

The minister greets the sick person and the others present. One of the following may be used.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: And also with you.

Or:

Peace be with you (this house) and with all who live here.

Or:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Or:

The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

The minister then places the blessed sacrament on the table and all join in adoration.

PENITENTIAL RITE

The minister invites the sick person and all present to join in the penitential rite, using these or similar words:

My brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves for this celebration, let us call to mind our sins.

Or:

My brothers and sisters, let us turn with confidence to the Lord and ask his forgiveness for all our sins.

After a brief period of silence, the penitential rite continues, using one of the following:

Lord Jesus, you have healed the sick:

Lord, have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you forgave sinners:

Christ, have mercy.

People: Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you give us yourself to heal us and bring us strength:
People: Lord, have mercy.

Or all say:

I confess to almighty God,
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned through my own fault
They strike their breast.
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done,
and in what I have failed to do;
and I asked blessed Mary, ever virgin,
all the angels and saints,
and you my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

The minister concludes the penitential rite with the following:

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

People: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

READING

The word of God is proclaimed by one of those present or by the minister. A reading assigned for the day in the *Lectionary for Mass* or one of the following readings may be used:

John 6:51

Jesus says:

“I am the living bread that came down from heaven;
whoever eats this bread will live forever;
and the bread that I will give is my Flesh
for the life of the world.”

John 6:54-58

Jesus says:

“Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood has eternal life,
and I will raise him on the last day.
For my Flesh is true food, and my Blood is true drink.
Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood
remains in me and I in him.
Just as the living Father sent me
And I have life because of the Father,

So also the one who feeds on me will have
Life because of me.
This is the bread that came down from heaven.
Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died,
Whoever eats this bread will live forever."

John 14:6

Jesus says, "I am the way and the truth and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 15:5

Jesus says:
"I am the vine, you are the branches.
Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear
Much fruit,
Because without me you can do nothing."

1 John 4:16

We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us.
God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him.

See Pastoral Care of the Sick: Rites of Anointing and Viaticum or the Lectionary for Mass for a further selection of texts.

RESPONSE

A brief period of silence may be observed after the reading of the word of God. The minister may then give a brief explanation of the reading, applying it to the needs of the sick person and those who are looking after him or her.

GENERAL INTERCESSIONS

The general intercessions may be said. With a brief introduction the minister invites all those present to pray. After the intentions the minister says the concluding prayer. It is desirable that the intentions be announced by someone other than the minister.

LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The minister introduces the Lord's Prayer in these or similar words:
Now let us pray as Christ the Lord has taught us:

Or:

And now let us pray with confidence as Christ our Lord commanded:

All say:
Our Father ...

COMMUNION

The minister shows the eucharistic bread to those present, saying:
This is the bread of life. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Or:
This is the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

The sick person and all who are to receive communion say:
Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

The minister goes to the sick person and, showing the blessed sacrament says:
The body of Christ.

The sick person answers: "Amen," and receives communion.

Then the minister says: The blood of Christ.
The sick person answers: "Amen," and receives communion. Others present who wish to receive communion then do so in the usual way. After the conclusion of the rite, the minister cleanses the vessel as usual.

SILENT PRAYER

Then a period of silence may be observed.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The minister says a concluding prayer. One of the following may be used:

Let us pray.

Pause for silent prayer, if this has not preceded.

God our Father,
You have called us to share the one bread and one cup
And so become one in Christ.
Help us to live in him that we may bear fruit,
Rejoicing that he has redeemed the world.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
People: Amen

Or:
All-powerful God, we thank you for the nourishment you give us through your holy gift. Pour out your Spirit upon us and in the strength for this food from heaven. Keep us single-minded in your service. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

Or:

All-powerful and ever-living God, may the body and blood of Christ your Son be for our brother/sister N. a lasting remedy for body and soul. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

CONCLUDING RITE

BLESSING

The minister invokes God's blessing and makes the sign of the cross on himself or herself, while saying:

May the Lord bless us,
Protect us from all evil,
And bring us to everlasting life.

People: Amen

Or:

May the almighty and merciful God bless and protect us,
The Father, and Son, + and the Holy Spirit.