

OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS
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To all Homebound Eucharistic Ministers

RE: New instructions for homebound Eucharistic Ministers as they take the Pyx from the Church to homes and hospitals:

First, thank you very much and blessings upon you for your faithfulness in this special Ministry to our sick and homebound parishioners.

As usual, fill your Pyx with the number of wafers you need and place them on trays to be brought to the Altar by the servers.

What CHANGES is: After Communion, the Priest will call you up to stand at the foot of the Altar.

The Priest will distribute the Pyx to you.

He will then say: As you bring Our Lord in the Holy Eucharistic to our sick and homebound, please bring them our blessings and assurances of prayers. Go in peace.

He will then make the sign of the Cross over you and send you on your way.

This is your final Blessing from the Eucharistic. You are to leave and go to your cars immediately. We remind you there is to be no radio playing in the car and an atmosphere of silent reverence is always to be observed as you carry the Holy Eucharist from the Church until your final visit and Pyx is emptied.

Finally, we appreciate your cooperation with this! There is to be no bringing up the Pyx in the Communion line and instructing the EM to place consecrated hosts in the Pyx. IF this does happen, we ask the EMs to NOT place the host or hosts in the Pyx and ask the person to see the Priest after the Mass to receive the hosts in their Pyx. **WE MUST PROTECT THE EUCHARIST AT ALL TIMES!** In smaller towns and parishes where everyone knows everyone else, this is usually not an issue. But in larger parishes where we are not as familiar with each other, it is IMPORTANT to see that the person asking for a consecrated host is truly acquiring this for the appropriate reasons.

Understand, there are instances in the U.S. where people try to get the Eucharist to be carried out for other reasons, often bizarre and of the Occult. This COMMISSIONING comes from the Council of Bishops for appropriate carrying of the Eucharist for ministry to the sick and homebound. Your ministry is crucial for our Corporal Work of Mercy in visiting the sick.

God Bless you!
Gratefully,

Fr. John & Paul
Revised February 2022