

PREPARATION

All HBMs are required to complete the Diocese of Venice Safety Environment Training (SET), be fingerprinted and update these requirements when notified.

A copy of your Driver License and Proof of Insurance is required by the Diocese. Once completed, new HBMs meet with the Program Coordinator or the Priest to review the contents of this pamphlet and answer any questions they may have.

PROCEDURES

1) New HBMs are given a Pyx (a vessel which holds the Eucharist) and a pouch for transport.

2) When you arrive for Mass, please present your Pyx to the Sacristan with the number of Hosts you will need for your visit. After Mass, you will be called to the base of the Altar to retrieve your Pyx. Place it in the pouch which should be hanging around your neck and proceed to your visit. DO NOT place the Pyx in your pocket or purse; you are carrying the Body of Christ and should treat it with all reverence (fyi... Jesus doesn't go shopping).

3) After giving your Pyx to the Sacristan, record each visit to the sick in the notebook in the Ministry Room. You will have your own page to record the name and the date of the person(s) you visit. Ministers should sign in on Volgistic before leaving.

4) If the HBM cannot visit immediately after Mass, you must make arrangements with the Priest to pick up Host(s) outside of Mass times.

5) HBMs cannot self-communicate nor can they keep Hosts overnight. If you have leftover Hosts, they must be returned to the church again by contacting the Priest and making arrangements to return Hosts to the Pastor/priest asap.

6) Sacred Hosts can be broken in half or further divided if you run out of Host when visiting more than one person.

7) HBMs should dress appropriately when visiting the sick; you are carrying the precious Body of Christ and are an extension of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Church. Appropriate dress should be modest and communicate our respect for our mission.

8) In some situations, masks may be requested or required. We must honor these requests and abide by the rules and procedures.

9) You will be provided with a book entitled "Communion of the Sick" which contains prayers and guidance in conducting a Communion service when visiting the sick or aged. Please review the book and see the Coordinator with any questions you may have.

10) Please take hand sanitizer with you on your visits. Right before you remove the Eucharist from the Pyx, please use a small amount on your hands, before placing the Host in the person's hands or mouth.

11) To purify your Pyx, add a small amount of water and swish around. Consume the water. Wipe dry.

Again, thank you for your service. The Homebound Ministry Coordinator is available at any time to answer questions you may have.

WELCOME

Thank you for your answer to God's call to serve as a Homebound Minister (HBM) at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Church. May God, through the powerful intercession of Our Blessed Mother Mary, continue to richly bless you and your loved ones.

VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers are parishioners like yourself, 18 years of age or older who respond to extraordinary circumstances in a meaningful way. They give hope, acceptance, healing, and the love of Christ to those who are sick or suffering. Homebound Ministers offer empathetic support, practical assistance, a listening ear, prayer reflection, and the Eucharist to those who would otherwise be unable to participate in sharing of Christ's Body and Blood.

**“Your visit
brought joy and
comfort to my
heart. Thank you.”**



OUR LADY QUEEN OF MARTYRS

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**“I was sick and you took
care of me, I was in
prison and you came to
visit me”**

Mt 25: 36



**Homebound
MINISTRY**