

Instructions for the distribution of communion

Instructions for the distribution of communion should be clearly stated prior to the start of distribution by the presider.

For the health and safety of all, reception of Holy Communion is strongly encouraged in the hand to avoid contact with individual's saliva. Holy Communion on the tongue is strongly discouraged for the duration of the pandemic.

Communion Line

- For the distribution of communion, ushers and other volunteers who are masked and gloved will ensure six-foot distancing in the communion line.
- Floor markings shall be placed six feet apart in the aisles in which the congregation approaches the sanctuary for communion to facilitate proper social distancing.
- For the distribution of Holy Communion, a single file for each communion minister is necessary to maintain social distancing. Multiple communion ministers may be used as long as one-way traffic patterns are observed.

Communion Ministers / Sanitizing (both ordinary and extraordinary)

- All Ministers of Holy Communion should wear facemasks
- Communion ministers must be masked, wash and sanitize their hands immediately before and after distributing Communion and, when at all possible, to utilize a disinfectant wipe or purificator dipped in sanitizing solution (at least 60% ethanol or 70% isopropyl alcohol) to sanitize their fingers when incidental contact is made with the communicant.
- Sanitizing stations should be located nearby the communion stations

Distribution

- Distribution of the Precious Blood to lay liturgical ministers and to the assembly is suspended until further notice
- For those who are gluten intolerant, special arrangements are to be made with the pastor
- For the health and safety of all, reception of Holy Communion is strongly encouraged in the hand to avoid contact with individual's saliva*
- Presiders are encouraged to announce that all who wish to receive on the tongue should be last in the communion line to allow for proper sanitizing between each communicant.
- When approaching the Communion minister, the communicant is to pull their mask below the chin and present one hand resting on the palm of the other.
- After responding, "Amen," the communicant reverently places the Eucharist in his or her mouth and immediately replaces their mask.

****Please Note**** *If/when incidental contact is made with the communicant during the distribution, Communion ministers should utilize a disinfectant wipe or purificator dipped in sanitizing solution (at least 60% ethanol or 70% isopropyl alcohol) to sanitize their fingers before continuing the distribution.*