

July 2004

Dear Weekend Servers,

**Thanks to all** for the wonderful and faithful service that you offer to the Cathedral community. A special welcome goes to those who have joined our ranks recently. Everything is going very well with the celebration of the Eucharist and the implementation of the new GIRM. Thank you for your cooperation. Some updates:

1. The **Entrance Procession**. All the servers and lectors should approach the sanctuary, bow if appropriate, and then turn either left or right (depending upon which side your seat is on), walk around the pillars on the church floor, and enter the sanctuary by the side steps (behind the ambo and near the tabernacle). Then you take your place in front of your chair.
2. The **Bookbearer** is to approach the presider with the book open and resting upon the chest (**no arms extended**). The standing position is down one step on the level of the altar table. You should be facing the priest at an angle with your back facing the baptismal font
3. The **Communion Cups** will now be brought to the altar during the Preparation of the Altar. All of the wine to be used at the Mass will be included in the large flagon. Only the plate with bread and the flagon with wine will be in the procession of gifts. The cruet of water will remain on the credence table and brought to the altar for the preparation of the chalice after the gifts are received.
4. During the Lamb of God, the Servers and Lectors remain at their seats. Only the Ministers of Holy Communion **gather on the steps** of the sanctuary as we have all been doing. Once the Ministers of Communion have begun receiving Communion, the Lectors and Servers simply walk straight from their seats into the Communion line.
5. **The recessional**. The lectors and servers are all to exit the sanctuary using the side steps (behind the ambo and near the tabernacle). No longer will we walk through the sanctuary or gather near the altar. Once you have exited the sanctuary you are to walk around the sanctuary and meet at the center aisle and, if the choir is in procession, proceed up the center aisle with the choir following. Once the presider genuflects then the cross, candles, servers and lectors will turn and continue up the aisle with choir following.
6. It is **NOT** our practice to **refuse Holy Communion to anyone**. The rare case in which someone is confused or obviously not familiar with the Catholic Communion Rite is the exception. Always error on the side of charity and generosity.
7. **Taking Holy Communion to the homebound** is a kind and generous act of ministry. We would like to begin making Communion available to our homebound members on a weekly basis. If you know of someone who is away from Church and would like Communion please make this known also.

Again, everything is going very well. Please try to call for a replacement when you cannot serve. Remember that your professional, "Sunday best" attire and your careful performance of your ministry says so much to those who worship in the Eucharist. Please remind each other of this update (cause some people don't read everything). Thanks again. Please note that **January 8, 2005** will be our Ministry Appreciation Dinner.

*Fr. Estok and Staff*