

Bringing Eucharist to the Homebound

Our sick and homebound parishioners are important to us. At St. Dominic Catholic Parish, there is a specific Ministry to the Sick and Homebound, in which members are trained as pastoral visitors, including offering Eucharist when desired and requested by homebound parishioners, or those in nursing homes or hospitals. If you, a loved one, or another parishioner you know are unable to attend Mass and wish to receive the Eucharist, please contact me.



There are times when you may wish to bring Eucharist to someone who is ill and unable to attend Sunday Mass. To prepare for this ministry, please see the information and procedures below.

1. ***The Eucharist should always be carried in a pyx.*** A pyx is a small metal closed container. Never carry the Blessed Sacrament in envelopes, pockets, Kleenex, or other containers.
 - a. Pyxes are available in the chapel sacristy along with a short prayer service, if you do not have one.
 - b. Eucharistic Ministers can assist you in obtaining a pyx before any Mass.
 - c. A pyx may be purchased from me for ongoing, long-term use for bringing the Eucharist to homebound family members at a nominal cost. You may also purchase pyxes through Stempers, the Marian Center, or from other religious goods stores and websites.
 - d. Donations of pyxes are welcome if you have one you no longer need.
2. ***To obtain the Eucharist for a homebound person:***
 - a. Please approach the Eucharistic Minister while in line for Communion.
 - b. Have your pyx open.
 - c. Ask the Eucharistic Minister for one or more hosts.
 - d. You may also approach the priest, deacon or Eucharistic Minister after Mass as well.
 - e. If you are unable to attend Mass during the week and would like to obtain the Eucharist for a homebound person, please come to the office in the Parish Center, and a volunteer or I will assist you.
3. ***Place the Blessed Sacrament in a safe spot.*** Do not leave it unattended, and please be reverent in your carrying.
4. ***Bring the Eucharist to the homebound person(s) directly and immediately after Mass,*** or as soon as possible afterward.
5. ***Take Eucharistic hosts only for the specific people you will be visiting that day.*** The Eucharist should never be left in a pyx for an extended time.
6. ***Please return to church with any unconsumed consecrated hosts, or consume them.*** This is the Body of Our Lord Jesus, and must be handled with the absolute amount of respect and reverence.

When visiting, please also bring along our parish bulletin, and any other parish reading materials available (i.e. the quarterly parish newsletter, the Little Black Books, etc.).

If you would like further information, training as an Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister to the homebound, or have questions, please feel free to contact me anytime at 262.781.3480, or mary.lestina@stdominic.net.

Mary Lestina
Pastoral Associate for Human Concerns