

Community of the Blessed Sacrament

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist



July 23, 2010

Dear Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist,

Attached you will find our schedule for the next quarter starting July 31 and ending October 24, 2010. Also attached are updated contact lists for both primary and substitute EMs.

We have received several diverse comments from various sources over the course of this past quarter and thought we'd share some of these tidbits with you.

- We scheduled 442 EM slots for this schedule....and that's only for the weekend Masses. Now imagine attending weekend Masses without the service of these 442 ministers.....are you feeling the love? You and your service to the community are truly needed and appreciated. Please, please, please arrange for a substitute if you find you cannot meet a commitment.
- As the summertime heat continues to build, we are all feeling a bit more casual. That's OK as long as we remember that we are in God's house and dress appropriately.
- Did you know that it is perfectly acceptable to share consecrated hosts with another EM if they run short?.....not so with the Precious Blood that should never be transferred between cups.
- The Communion Rite starts with the Lord's Prayer and concludes with the Prayer after Communion. I know we all want to be polite and wait for all of the EM's to receive but the Communion Rite should flow seamlessly. Please proceed to the Altar to receive your vessel and then to your assigned station immediately after receiving the Precious Body and Blood.
- Surfers 'hang ten', EMs 'hang back'. (Just kidding) We've actually all been doing a great job of ascending the Altar and lining up in our assigned spots as soon as the 'Lamb of God' begins. Keep up the good work!
- Many of you serve in more than one ministry and we do our best to coordinate with MOW and EMOC schedules to avoid 'double-duties'. We have accommodated their schedules through August and they in turn will coordinate their schedules with ours for September and October.....at least that's the plan. You might consider dropping your MOW and EMOC coordinators a note to not schedule you on days that you serve as an EM if it is a concern.

Last but not least, we've attached an updated EM Manual for your reference.

Peace and thank you for serving in this beautiful Ministry,

Nan & Mike