

Liturgical Ministry Descriptions

Saint Margaret Mary Parish

Release 1.0 - 05/16/18

Ministry Title:	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion
Purpose:	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHCs) prayerfully serve the people of St. Margaret Mary Parish by distributing the Body and Blood of Christ during Eucharistic celebrations.
Responsibilities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assist the Presider in distributing Holy Communion at Mass• Arrive 15 minutes prior to your scheduled Mass• Gather with other EMHCs to confirm stations and to pray together before Mass begins• Prayerfully and reverently, look each communicant in the eye and say, “The Body of Christ” when distributing the host, and “The Blood of Christ” when presenting the Cup• Give a silent blessing for children and non-communicants in line• Review the quarterly schedule and show up when scheduled• Request a substitute if not able to serve as scheduled• Be willing to serve on Holy Days and other special feasts• Be willing to minister even when not scheduled if there is a shortage of ministers• Be dignified and respectful in dress and attitude when serving
Qualifications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Must be a fully initiated Catholic, having received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist• An understanding of the love and reverence required for taking in hand the vessels of the Body of Christ and the Blood of Christ and sharing them with the communicants
Time Required:	Approximately 1 ½ hours at each scheduled Mass. This involves arriving 15 – 20 minutes before the Mass begins. A quarterly schedule will be available on the Parish website and via the Ministry Scheduler Pro app. Ministers may request specific weekend Mass times.
Training:	Initial training session held in Church. After training, the new ministers will be invited to a special Mass where the ministers will be commissioned and receive certificates from the Diocese of Rockford. Occasionally a day of enrichment or renewal will be scheduled once or twice a year. This is an opportunity to be renewed and strengthened in your ministry.
Responsible To:	Director of Liturgy