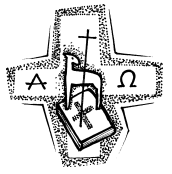


## EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY AT ST DUNSTAN'S, BOURNE END



All Eucharistic Ministers (EMs) to gather before the altar as soon as the "Lamb of God" commences.  
(N.B. The more promptly EMs arrive at the altar, the easier it is to ascertain if "substitutes" are required).  
(If there are 2 priests officiating, then only the 4 EMs for the chalice are required.)

Whilst facing the altar, the EM for the host should stand at the extreme left. When all EMs are at the altar, all should bow and then the EM for the host should go to the left of the sanctuary and wash their hands and then walk behind the altar to stand on the upper step.

Meanwhile, the 4 EMs for the chalice should go to the right of the sanctuary and stand on the upper step, allowing a space for the EM for the host to stand nearest the tabernacle.

The EM for the chalice should take the purificator from Father before taking the chalice.

When all EMs have received their vessels, the 2 EMs with the chalice nearest the sanctuary and the organ side should go to that side.

The EM with the host will usually give the host to the altar servers and both the EMs with the chalice on that side will give each of the altar servers the precious blood.

When members of the congregation wish for a blessing, the EM for the host should place the host back in the bowl (where necessary) and place their hand on the shoulder (or head for a child) and say a short blessing.

If the host is dropped, either the communicant may consume the host or the EM should. If the host becomes dirty, it would be best to place it on the altar to be dealt with later.

Encourage communicants to take the chalice in both hands, especially children. It is acceptable to gently guide anyone either verbally or physically with the chalice. If the precious blood becomes spilt, place the purificator over the spillage immediately so that it can be dealt with after the Mass.

If someone who is not a Catholic presents themselves at the altar for communion, they should not be refused.

If anyone starts to walk away from the altar with a host, they should be gently reminded to consume the host straight away.

If anyone is unable to receive communion at the altar, Father will take communion to them. They will be asked if they wish to receive the precious blood; therefore the EM with the chalice should only give them this if requested.

If there are a large number of people wishing to take communion and the EM with the host thinks that there will not be enough for everyone, they may need to divide the remaining hosts to provide enough for all.

If all the precious blood has been consumed from a chalice whilst communion is on-going, the EM with the empty chalice should stand back and then quietly place the empty chalice and purificator onto the side table. They should remain on the sanctuary behind the altar and return to their places with the others after communion as usual.

If, at the end of communion, there is some precious blood left in the chalice, the EM should consume it when at the side table. This allows another EM to help consume the precious blood if there is too much.

When communion is finished and to avoid a "scrum", the EMs on the organ side will place the chalice on the side table. The bowl for the host should be placed on the altar. These EMs should then return to their initial positions at the foot of the altar step, allowing space for the EMs from the non-organ side to place their chalices and purificators on the side table too.

When all EMs are standing facing the altar, all should bow and go back to their seats.

When Mass is ended, the 2 EMs who had been serving on the organ side of the church should promptly come and purify the bowls for the host and also the chalices, then take them to the sacristy with the purificators.