

## **Holy Communion to Sick, Hospitalized, Homebound, and In-Resident Assisted Care Facilities**

Since as early as 150 AD, following the Lord's Day Eucharistic celebration, ministers took Holy Communion from the Sunday gathered assembly, to those who were unable to be present. These included people who were in prison for living according to the gospel, and those otherwise unable to attend (e.g., the sick and the infirm, etc.).

When illness or infirmity keeps you or a loved one from the Sunday Mass, ministers of communion are available to bring the Word of Scripture and the Body of Christ to you. Please, contact the Parish Office, if you are hospitalized or sick at home and unable to attend the Sunday Mass—so that we can arrange for an EHMC to visit you.

### **To ALL EMHCs to the Homebound:**

In order to comply with the Church's established liturgical norms (including the General Instruction to the Roman Missal (GIRM)), I respectfully request your kind assistance in implementing the following, effective Sunday, July 19, 2015:

- (1) Currently mandated Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHCs), who have been specially trained for this unique and praiseworthy ministry, please:
  - (a) Utilize only the church-issued or approved pyx(es) to transport consecrated hosts to the sick, homebound, hospitalized, and those in assisted care facilities;
  - (b) Utilize only church-issued or approved liturgical books, which provide norms and suggested liturgy regarding the celebration of the Liturgy of the Word and the Rite of Communion, during each visit. If you need one, please contact the parish office;
  - (c) Visit, offer, and distribute Holy Communion to all Catholics (able to validly receive Holy Communion) in the home, hospital, or assisted care facilities. Selective distribution of Holy Communion to friends or family members is highly discouraged and not permitted. After all: We are all important parts of the Body of Christ; and
  - (d) Bring and leave a current parish bulletin with the person/family visited.
- (2) If you are scheduled to visit a sick person or facility and later find you are unable to fulfill this vital and important ministry, please find another qualified EMHC replacement. If you are unsuccessful in locating a replacement, please notify the parish office, as soon as possible.

Thank you very much for your continued ministry to those who, due to physical conditions or ailments, are unable to physically participate in the Eucharistic celebration in the Church. May God bless you abundantly in your good works!