



THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF
SAINT MONICA

**THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF SAINT MONICA
EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER OF HOLY COMMUNION
INTERVIEW FORM**

Name _____
Address _____
Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ e-mail _____
Age _____ Date of Birth _____ Sex: Male ___ Female ___

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION (Please circle)

Baptized? Yes No First Holy Communion? Yes No
First Reconciliation? Yes No Confirmation? Yes No

MARITAL INFORMATION

Are you presently: Single? _____ Engaged? _____ Married? _____
Widowed? _____ Separated? _____ Divorced? _____ Annulled? _____
If married or engaged, is this your first marriage? _____
If married or engaged, is this your spouse/fiancé's first marriage? _____
Were you married in the Catholic Church? _____

MINISTRY INFORMATION

Is your spouse or child(ren) involved in liturgical ministry? _____
If yes, in what capacity? _____ Do you serve in other ministries within the
parish? If yes, which ones? _____
Has anyone asked you to carry out this extra-ordinary ministry and why is this ministry a true necessity?

Do you believe that the Church intends that Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion be used at the Eucharist
for the sake of a fuller participation in the Mass by the lay faithful? _____

**I will do my best to fulfill my responsibilities by (a) serving only when in a state of grace; (b) making a Holy
Hour once a month; and (c) praying the Holy Rosary for an increase in vocations (for priests and deacons)
each week.**

I have read "Instruction on the Eucharist" paragraphs 151 – 160.

Your Signature _____ Date _____

Pastor's signature _____ Date _____

Parish Seal



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Prayer for Vocations

God, our Father, we turn to you in this time of great need. We trust in your loving kindness and ask you to hear the prayers we offer for Your Church. Through your grace, we seek men and women willing to generously offer their lives to You in the priesthood and religious life, for You inspire and bring to fulfillment every good intention.

Bless and guide those who are discerning Your call to holiness and service. Give them courage, steadfast love and a spirit of charity as they seek to respond faithfully to You.

We offer this prayer for the Archdiocese of Atlanta and for the whole Church in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, who is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

From the Office of Vocations, Archdiocese of Atlanta

From: *“Instruction on the Eucharist”*

Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments

[151.] Only out of true necessity is there to be recourse to the assistance of extraordinary ministers in the celebration of the Liturgy. Such recourse is not intended for the sake of a fuller participation of the laity but rather, by its very nature, is supplementary and provisional.[252] Furthermore, when recourse is had out of necessity to the functions of extraordinary ministers, special urgent prayers of intercession should be multiplied that the Lord may soon send a Priest for the service of the community and raise up an abundance of vocations to sacred Orders.[253]

[152.] These purely supplementary functions must not be an occasion for disfiguring the very ministry of Priests, in such a way that the latter neglect the celebration of Holy Mass for the people for whom they are responsible, or their personal care of the sick, or the baptism of children, or assistance at weddings or the celebration of Christian funerals, matters which pertain in the first place to Priests assisted by Deacons. It must therefore never be the case that in parishes Priests alternate indiscriminately in shifts of pastoral service with Deacons or laypersons, thus confusing what is specific to each.

[153.] Furthermore, it is never licit for laypersons to assume the role or the vesture of a Priest or a Deacon or other clothing similar to such vesture.

1. The Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion

[154.] As has already been recalled, “the only minister who can confect the Sacrament of the Eucharist *in persona Christi* is a validly ordained Priest”. [254] Hence the name “minister of the Eucharist” belongs properly to the Priest alone. Moreover, also by reason of their sacred Ordination, the ordinary ministers of Holy Communion are the Bishop, the Priest and the Deacon, [255] to whom it belongs therefore to administer Holy Communion to the lay members of Christ’s faithful during the celebration of Mass. In this way their ministerial office in the Church is fully and accurately brought to light, and the sign value of the Sacrament is made complete.

[155.] In addition to the ordinary ministers there is the formally instituted acolyte, who by virtue of his institution is an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion even outside the celebration of Mass. If, moreover, reasons of real necessity prompt it, another lay member of Christ’s faithful may also be delegated by the diocesan Bishop, in accordance with the norm of law, [256] for one occasion or for a specified time, and an appropriate formula of blessing may be used for the occasion. This act of appointment, however, does not necessarily take a liturgical form, nor, if it does take a liturgical form, should it resemble sacred Ordination in any way. Finally, in special cases of an unforeseen nature, permission can be given for a single occasion by the Priest who presides at the celebration of the Eucharist. [257]

[156.] This function is to be understood strictly according to the name by which it is known, that is to say, that of extraordinary minister of Holy Communion, and not “special minister of Holy Communion” nor “extraordinary minister of the Eucharist” nor “special minister of the Eucharist”, by which names the meaning of this function is unnecessarily and improperly broadened.

[157.] If there is usually present a sufficient number of sacred ministers for the distribution of Holy Communion, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion may not be appointed. Indeed, in such circumstances, those who may have already been appointed to this ministry should not exercise it. The practice of those Priests is reprobated who, even though present at the celebration, abstain from distributing Communion and hand this function over to laypersons.[258]

[158.] Indeed, the extraordinary minister of Holy Communion may administer Communion only when the Priest and Deacon are lacking, when the Priest is prevented by weakness or advanced age or some other genuine reason, or when the number of faithful coming to Communion is so great that the very celebration of Mass would be unduly prolonged.[259] This, however, is to be understood in such a way that a brief prolongation, considering the circumstances and culture of the place, is not at all a sufficient reason.

[159.] It is never allowed for the extraordinary minister of Holy Communion to delegate anyone else to administer the Eucharist, as for example a parent or spouse or child of the sick person who is the communicant.

[160.] Let the diocesan Bishop give renewed consideration to the practice in recent years regarding this matter, and if circumstances call for it, let him correct it or define it more precisely. Where such extraordinary ministers are appointed in a widespread manner out of true necessity, the diocesan Bishop should issue special norms by which he determines the manner in which this function is to be carried out in accordance with the law, bearing in mind the tradition of the Church.



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Pastor's Explanation of the Purpose of Letters of Good Standing

I often receive requests to sign a statement that a certain individual is a practicing Catholic and eligible to serve as a godparent, Confirmation sponsor, or RCIA sponsor. This is sometimes referred to as a **LETTER OF GOOD STANDING**. What I sometimes notice is that the person who requests my signature:

- a. Has not registered in the parish,
- b. Has no record of any involvement in the parish,
- c. Has no record of attending Mass,
- d. Has moved to another area or has just arrived from another area and has no record of being involved either here or there.

This makes it very difficult for me to sign my name to something that I am not sure is true. Therefore, please take note of the following guidelines for requests that you may make in this regard.

IF YOU WANT TO BE CONSIDERED A PARISHIONER of our parish and would like validation of this from the parish office, we need you to please:

1. Register as a parishioner.
2. Become involved in some parish activity or ministry, if you are not already involved.
3. Fulfill your obligation to participate at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation and either use your envelope or a check that allows us to track your attendance (this is not to see how much you give, but that you attend).
4. If you are an adult child of parents in the parish, register yourself here or wherever you attend Mass.
5. If you come from another parish and would like us to offer a **Letter of Good Standing** for you, please bring some statement from your previous parish that you are a practicing parishioner there.
6. Finally, if you move, notify us that you have moved and register in the parish of the new location.

THE PURPOSE OF a **LETTER OF GOOD STANDING** is to show that we value the example and commitment of godparents and sponsors, and it is hypocritical to stand up for someone when you either do not believe or practice what you profess. The letter assures the parish seeking it that the person recommended to it is serious about his or her Catholic faith and will share that faith with the one to be baptized or confirmed.

Finally, please note our parish registrations are to be used only by our parish and our diocese. In no way do we share the information you gave us with the government or any outside organization.

In Christ, Our Redeemer

Rev. John F. Durkin, Jr., Pastor