

Holy Communion and Viaticum for the Homebound from the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass

The pyx, containing the correct amount of unconsecrated hosts, is placed on the credence table before the celebration begins. Please note that they should be placed on the credence table, not the gift table as before. The same thing takes place in the Stone Church.

After Communion the pyx remains on the corporal.

After the final blessing but before the dismissal, the celebrant or deacon says: "Ministers of Holy Communion, please come forward and take the Blessed Sacrament, with our prayers and concern to those who are homebound."

The minister comes and takes the pyx and without bowing (they are carrying Jesus Himself) they should walk down the aisle and get into their cars and bring the Eucharist and possibly a bulletin to the homebound. The same thing takes place in the Stone Church.

They should NOT, stay around the church and be sociable. They should NOT stop anywhere along the way. If this can not be done, then they should get a priest or deacon to fill their pyx only when they are ready to leave (very iffy) or they may come to the rectory and use the chapel there.

The Blessed Sacrament should never be taken home and then brought to the sick later in the day.

Every time Holy Communion is brought to someone, including as Viaticum, it must be recorded in the Sick Book. There will be two books, one in the vesting sacristy and the other in the chapel in the rectory.

The situation in the homes will vary but there should be a cloth-covered place with a lighted candle. The minister may have to bring the cloth (in some rare circumstances) and once a year they should bring the candles blessed on the Feast of the Presentation (February 2).

As soon as you enter, you should place the pyx on the cloth, open the pyx and genuflect or make a profound bow. There should also be a glass of water so that the host will be easier to consume. Please refer to the hand-out that will give you the appropriate prayers and readings.

Once this is done, then it is appropriate to socialize with the homebound.