

All ministry volunteers are required to complete the Safe Environment Training (VIRTUS) every FIVE years per Archdiocese of Santa Fe policy. This comprehensive training that assists in creating a safe environment for children and vulnerable adults may be accessed on the Archdiocese website at [www.archdiosf.org](http://www.archdiosf.org) or through [www.smdlp.org](http://www.smdlp.org). Volunteers may also attend the training in person. Call the Archdiocese Safe Environment Office at (505) 831-8144 for training locations and dates.

For more ministry information contact:

**Brenda Weimer**

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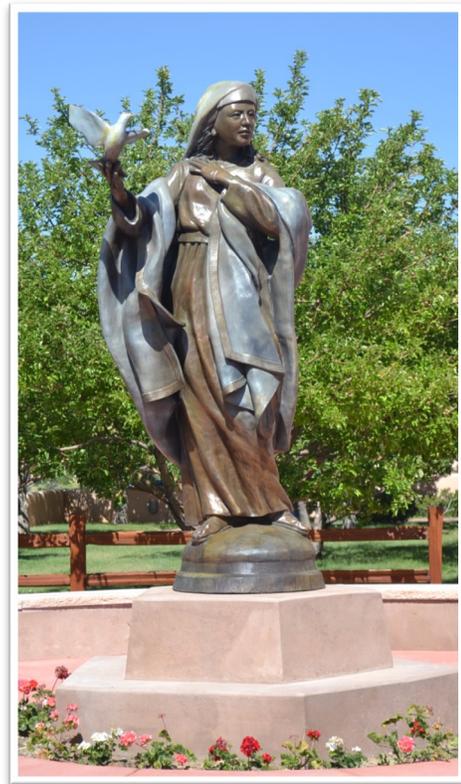


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Catholic Community

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## EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION





**EXTRAORDINARY  
MINISTERS OF HOLY  
COMMUNION** are the laity in  
the church who assist with the  
distribution of The Blessed  
Sacrament. The Presider  
(Father) and the Deacon are  
the Ordinary Ministers of the

Eucharist. This ministry is utilized at every Mass where the number of parishioners receiving Communion is more than Father and the Deacon can distribute in a timely manner.

Weekend Masses are where the most help is needed. Also, Extraordinary Ministers serve during special high volume Masses such as Holy Thursday, Christmas Eve, Our Lady of Guadalupe, etc. In addition, this Ministry participates in extra duties as directed. These duties may include carrying the Gifts for the Palm Sunday procession, etc. This Ministry is also responsible for inviting parishioners to assist with bringing the Gifts to the Altar before the Consecration. Youth volunteers are welcome and encouraged to participate.

**REQUIREMENTS\***

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion should:

- ◆ Be a Catholic living in harmony with the teachings of the Church, baptized and able to receive the Eucharist.
- ◆ Be of sufficient age and maturity to perform the duties at Mass or to the sick and homebound.

*The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, "The Eucharist is a sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Father, a blessing by which the Church expresses her gratitude to God for all his benefits, for all that he has accomplished through creation, redemption and sanctification". (CCC 1360)*

Catholics actively participate in the Eucharist as the source and summit of their Christian life. This active participation manifests itself by:

- ◆ Gathering with a community of believers each Sunday and holy day,
- ◆ Praying together at Mass in word, gesture and song,
- ◆ Listening together to God's word,
- ◆ Giving thanks and praise to God together for the gifts of creation, and in a special way, for the gift of Jesus Christ – his life, death and resurrection, and
- ◆ Sharing in and becoming the Body of Christ through reception of Holy Eucharist at Mass.

Catholics believe that through active participation in the Mass and in a special way, through the reception of Holy Communion at Mass, they are filled with the real presence of Christ, and are therefore sent to be Christ's presence in the world until he comes again in glory.

(\*Office of Worship and Christian Initiation, Archdiocese of Santa Fe; June, 2005)

**TRAINING**

Training is provided and required prior to participating in this Ministry. Training can be provided on an as needed basis.

**CONTACT:**

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