

APPENDIX C

Holy Communion Apart from Mass

(Adapted for weddings from the rite of distributing Holy Communion apart from Mass: 19, 28, 30-38).

83 When giving Holy Communion at a marriage apart from Mass, a corporal is spread on the altar on top of the altar cloth; two candles are lit as a sign of festivity and devotion. A deacon also uses this rite.

84 PENITENTIAL RITE

After the nuptial blessing (and the Minister's participation, nos. 56 or 75), the priest invites the people to recall their sins and repent of them, in these or similar words:

My Brothers and sisters,
to prepare ourselves to share in the sacrament of Christ's body and blood,
Let us call to mind our sins.

After a pause for silent reflection, all together say the **I confess**, or join in another penitential act as in the Missal. The priest concludes:

May almighty God have mercy on us
forgive us our sins
and bring us to everlasting life.

R. Amen.

(The liturgy of the word is omitted, as it has already been celebrated for the wedding)

85 HOLY COMMUNION

The priest goes to the tabernacle, takes the vessel containing the body of our Lord, places it on the altar and genuflects. He then introduces the **Lord's Prayer**, which all say together. He may also invite the people to exchange a **Sign of Peace**.

The priest genuflects. Taking the host, he raises it slightly over the vessel and, facing the people says:

This is the Lamb of God
who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.

The communicant's say once:

Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word and I shall be healed.

If the priest receives communion, he says quietly:

May the body of Christ bring me to everlasting life.

He reverently consumes the body of Christ.
Then he takes the vessel to the communicants. He takes a host for each one, raises it slightly and says:

The Body of Christ.

The communicant answers:

Amen.

and receives communion.

During the distribution, a hymn may be sung.

Afterwards, he puts any particle left on the plate into the vessel and may wash his hands. He returns any remaining hosts to the tabernacle and genuflects, then goes to his seat.

86 AFTER COMMUNION

A period of silence may now be observed, or a psalm or song of praise may be sung. Then the priest stands and says one of the following prayers, or another similar prayer.

Let us pray.

(a) (When more than the couple have received):

Lord,
we who have shared the food of your table
pray for our friends **N** and **N**,
whom you have joined together in marriage.
Keep them close to you always.
May their love for each other
proclaim to all the world
their faith in you.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

(b) Lord Jesus Christ,
you gave us the Eucharist
as the memorial of your suffering and death.
May our worship of this sacrament of your body and blood
help us to experience the salvation you won for us
and the peace of the kingdom,
where you live
with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

R. Amen.

(c) Lord, you have nourished us
with the one bread from heaven.
Fill us with your Spirit
and make us one in peace and love.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

(d) (Suitable for Lent)
Lord,
we give thanks for these holy mysteries
which bring to us here on earth
a share in the life to come,
through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

(e) (Paschaltide)
Almighty and ever-living God,
you restored us to life
by raising Christ from death.
Strengthen us by this Easter sacrament:
may we feel its saving power in our daily life
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

(f) All-powerful God,
you renew us with your sacraments.
Help us to thank you
by lives of faithful service.
(We ask this) through Christ our Lord.
R. Amen.

87 DOCUMENTS: if not already done, the documents are completed now, as noted before