

## RESPONSE

A brief period of silence may be observed after the reading of the word of God. The minister may then give a brief explanation of the reading, applying it to the needs of the sick person and those who are looking after him or her.

## PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

The general intercessions may be said. With a brief introduction, the priest invites all those present to pray. After the intentions the priest says the concluding prayer. It is desirable that the intentions be announced by someone other than the priest.

## LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION .

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Priest:**

At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching we dare to say:

**All:** Our Father...

### Communion

The minister genuflects, takes the host and, holding it slightly raised, while facing the people, say aloud:

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

The sick person and all who are to receive Communion say:

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

The minister goes to the sick person and, showing the blessed sacrament, says:

The Body of Christ

The sick person answers: **Amen.** and receives communion.

Others present who wish to receive Communion then do so in the usual way. After the conclusion of the rite, the minister cleanses the vessel as usual.

### Silent Prayer

Then a period of silence may be observed.

### Prayer after Communion

The minister says a concluding prayer.

**A.**

God our Father,  
you have called us to share the one bread and one cup  
and so become one in Christ.

Help us to live in him that we may bear fruit,  
rejoicing that he has redeemed the world.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

**B**

All-powerful and ever-living God  
may the body and blood of Christ your Son  
be for our brother/sister **N.**

a lasting remedy for body and soul.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

**R. Amen.**

**C.**

All-powerful God  
we thank you for the nourishment you give us  
through your holy gift.

Pour out your Spirit upon us  
and in the strength of this food from heaven  
keep us single-minded in your service.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

**R. Amen.**

### CONCLUDING RITE

#### BLESSING

The priest blesses the sick person and the others present, using one of the following blessings. If, however, any of the Blessed Sacrament remains, he may bless the sick person by making a sign of the cross with the blessed sacrament, in silence.

May the Lord be with you to protect you.

**R. Amen.**

May he guide you and give you strength.

**R. Amen.**

May he watch over you, keep you in his care, and bless you with his peace.

**R. Amen.**

May almighty God bless you,  
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

**R. Amen.**

A minister who is not a priest or deacon invokes God's blessing and makes the sign of the cross on himself or herself, while saying:

**A**

May the Lord bless us,  
protect us from all evil,  
and bring us to everlasting life.

**R. Amen.**

**B**

May the almighty and merciful God  
bless and protect us  
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

**R. Amen.**



ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF MANILA  
**MINISTRY ON HEALTH CARE**



# COMMUNION OF THE SICK IN ORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES

## INTRODUCTION

72. Priests with pastoral responsibilities should see to it that the sick or aged, even though not seriously ill or in danger of death, are given every opportunity to receive the Eucharist frequently, even daily, especially during the Easter season. They may receive communion at any hour.

Those who care for the sick may receive communion with them, in accord with the usual norms. To provide frequent communion for the sick, it may be necessary to ensure that the community has a sufficient number of ministers of communion. The communion minister should wear attire appropriate to this ministry.

The sick person and others may help to plan the celebration, for example, by choosing the prayers and readings. Those making these choices should keep in mind the condition of the sick person. The readings and the homily should help those present to reach a deeper understanding of the mystery of human suffering in relation to the paschal mystery of Christ.

73. The faithful who are ill are deprived of their rightful and accustomed place in the Eucharistic community. In bringing communion to them the minister of Communion represents Christ and manifests faith and charity on behalf of the whole community toward those who cannot be present at the Eucharist. For the sick the reception of communion is not only a privilege but also a sign of support and concern shown by the Christian community for its members who are ill.

The links between the community's Eucharistic celebration, especially on the Lord's Day, and the communion of the sick are intimate and manifold. Besides remembering the sick in the general intercessions at Mass, those present should be reminded occasionally of the significance of communion in the lives of those who are ill: union with Christ in his struggle with evil, his prayer for the world, and his love for the Father, and union with the community from which they are separated.

The obligation to visit and comfort those who cannot take part in the Eucharistic assembly may be clearly demonstrated by taking Communion to them from the community's Eucharistic celebration. This symbol of unity between the community and its sick members has the deepest significance on the Lord's Day, the special day of the Eucharistic assembly.

74. When the Eucharist is brought to the sick, it should be carried in a pyx or small closed container. Those who are with the sick should be asked to prepare a table covered with a linen cloth upon which the Blessed Sacrament will be placed. Lighted candles are prepared and, where it is customary, a vessel of holy water. Care should be taken to make the occasion special and joyful.

Sick people who are unable to receive under the form of bread may receive under the form of wine alone. If the wine is consecrated at a Mass not celebrated in the presence of the sick person, the Blood of the Lord is kept in a properly covered vessel and is placed in the tabernacle after Communion. The Precious Blood should be carried to the sick in a vessel which is closed in such a way as to eliminate all danger of spilling. If some of the Precious Blood remains, it should be consumed by the minister, who should also see to it that the vessel is properly purified.

75. If the sick wish to celebrate the sacrament of penance, it is preferable that the priest make himself available for this during a previous visit.

If it is necessary to celebrate the sacrament of penance during the rite of communion, it takes the place of the penitential rite.

### Communion in Ordinary Circumstances

77. If possible, provision should be made to celebrate Mass in the homes of the sick, with their families and friends gathered around them. The Ordinary determines the conditions and requirements for such celebrations.

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

The minister greets the sick person and the others present. One of the following greetings may be used:

### GREETING

A. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

B. Peace be with you (this house) and with all who live here

C. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

D. The grace and peace of God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**Response:** And with your spirit.

The minister then places the blessed sacrament on the table, and all join in adoration.

## SPRINKLING WITH HOLY WATER

If it seems desirable, the priest may sprinkle the sick person and those present with holy water. One of the following may be used:

### A

Let this water call to mind our baptism into Christ, who by his death and resurrection has redeemed us.

### B

Like a stream in parched land,  
may the grace of the Lord  
refresh our lives.

The minister invites the sick person and all present to join in the penitential rite, using these or similar words:

## PENITENTIAL RITES

**A.** My brothers and sisters, to prepare ourselves for this celebration, let us call to mind our sins.

**B.** My brothers and sisters, let us turn with confidence to the Lord and ask his forgiveness for all our sins.

After a brief period of silence, the penitential rite continues,

Lord Jesus, you healed the sick:

Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you forgave sinners:

Christ, have mercy.

**R. Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you give us yourself to heal us and bring us strength:

Lord, have mercy.

**R. Lord, have mercy.**

The minister concludes the penitential rite with the following:

May almighty God have mercy on us,

forgive us our sins,

and bring us to everlasting life.

**R. Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

John 6:51

A reading from the holy gospel according to John

Jesus says:

"I myself am the living bread  
come down from heaven.  
If anyone eats this bread,  
he shall live forever;  
the bread I will give  
is my flesh, for the life of the world."

### The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.