

APPLICATION

Extraordinary Minister  
Of  
Holy Communion

2008-2009 School Year

St. Pius X Catholic High School

Application Due:  
Monday, May 19, 2008

## **What is an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion?**

In short, an extraordinary minister of Holy Communion is a lay person or religious who has been deputed by the bishop for a period of time, or by a priest for a single occasion, to assist the priest and deacon in distributing Holy Communion to the faithful on those occasions where a shortage of ordained clergy makes it impossible for them to distribute Holy Communion to all the faithful in a reasonable way. It is thus a privilege to which the Church invites certain individuals under given circumstances, and not a right. The distribution of Holy Communion should be seen as a more complete exercise of the proper distinction given to the ordained priesthood, but which, of necessity, must be carried out by others. This highlights the *extraordinary* nature of this service, which, rather than being part of the structure of the Church, is instead tied to particular needs arising from the limited number of clergy. Pope John Paul II points this out in his instruction *Domenicae Cenaе*:

*To touch the sacred species and to distribute them with their own hands is a privilege of the ordained, one which indicates an active participation in the ministry of the Eucharist. It is obvious that the Church can grant this faculty to those who are neither priests nor deacons, as is the case with acolytes in the exercise of their ministry, especially if they are destined for future ordination, or with other lay people who are chosen for this to meet a just need, but always after an adequate preparation. (John Paul II, Domenicae Cenaе, 11)*

Thus the use of extraordinary ministers must be considered a sign of the shortage of priests and deacons, and should be an encouragement to pray for an increase in holy vocations to the priesthood and diaconate. Extraordinary ministers perform a very valuable service to the Church in supplying for this temporary need, but it is important to recognize that this service corresponds to an extraordinary situation in the life of the Church.

## **How Do I Apply?**

- Complete & return this application to Miss Ohrenberger in Campus Ministry by Monday, May 19, 2008.
- Submit the Parish Pastor Letter of Recommendation Form to your Pastor and ask him to return the form to St. Pius by Monday, May 19, 2008. Please note that this letter must come from your pastor and **NOT** a Youth Minister or DRE.
- Submit a faculty recommendation to 2 teachers of your choosing. Ask them to return them to Miss Ohrenberger by Monday, May 19, 2008.
- You will be contacted by the end of June by Miss Ohrenberger as to whether or not you have been chosen to serve as Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion for the 08-09 School Year.
- Please be reminded that submitting an application does not guarantee that you will be chosen as an Extraordinary Minister. Serving as an Extraordinary Minister is a sacred privilege.

### **\*\*\*\* REMEMBER \*\*\*\***

Failure of any of the following automatically disqualifies an applicant:

- Failure to submit any portion of your application including recommendations
- Late applications. The deadline is **May 19, 2008.**
- Failure to attend the Mandatory Training **Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>**  
(11 AM – 5PM)

**PLEASE PRINT ALL ANSWERS**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parish: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Sacraments (check all that apply):

\_\_\_\_\_ I have been baptized and the Catholic Church recognizes my baptism as valid.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have made my First Reconciliation/Confession.

\_\_\_\_\_ I have received First Holy Communion

\_\_\_\_\_ I have received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

**1. Why do you want to be an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion?**

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**2. What is your knowledge of the Doctrine of the Holy Eucharist?**

The Blessed Sacrament of the Eucharist, received at Holy Communion is (check one):

\_\_\_\_\_ bread and wine which symbolizes the spirit and teachings of Jesus by which your reception expresses your attachment to His Person and Words, OR

\_\_\_\_\_ bread and wine in which Jesus is truly present, OR

\_\_\_\_\_ bread and wine which becomes the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of the Lord Jesus only when you receive it and because of your faith, OR

\_\_\_\_\_ the real, true and substantial Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ under the appearances of bread and wine, OR

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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**3. How do you live out our Catholic belief in the Eucharist?**

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**4. Are you currently involved in any ministry in your parish? If so please list and explain.**

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# Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

## Pledge of Commitment

As an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, I am a faithful Catholic who sets a good example for others at St. Pius X Catholic High School and in the world. As an Extraordinary Minister, my actions are to reflect my faithfulness to Christ and to His Church. I strive to grow in my Faith and promote Eucharistic devotion in our community. I am also aware that as a fully initiated Catholic, I am called to reflect Christ in my words and actions in and outside of the school, especially in my speech, my purity, and my integrity. I understand that if my words and actions contradict Catholic values and beliefs I am causing grave scandal and can adversely affect the faith of others.

Therefore, if at any point, I am not being faithful to these responsibilities, I realize that my privilege of serving as an Extraordinary Minister can be immediately revoked.

I am also committing to attend the training session that will occur on Saturday, August 9, 2008 from 11 AM – 5PM as part of my formation as an Extraordinary Minister at St. Pius X Catholic High School. I understand that this training is mandatory.

**Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion  
Faculty Recommendation**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*This student is applying to be an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion for the 2008 -2009 School year. Students who are applying are expected to be exemplary Catholics at St. Pius X. They should promote and defend the Catholic faith and especially cultivate Eucharistic devotion in our community. Based on your experience with this student, would you please comment:*

1. In your opinion does this student strive to be responsible and consistent in all areas of their life in and out of school? (Are they virtuous and Christ-like or are their actions inconsistent?)? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Would you be confident in recommending this student as a good Catholic example in the school? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you have any HESITATION recommending this student as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion? \_\_\_\_\_  
If so, please explain (e.g. academics, discipline, character, etc)

\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed form to **Gayle Ohrenberger's mailbox by Friday May 16, 2008.**  
***THANK YOU!!!!!!***

**Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion  
Faculty Recommendation**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

*This student is applying to be an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion for the 2008 – 2009 School year. Students who are applying are expected to be exemplary Catholics at St. Pius X. They should promote and defend the Catholic faith and especially cultivate Eucharistic devotion in our community. Based on your experience with this student, would you please comment:*

1. In your opinion does this student strive to be responsible and consistent in all areas of their life in and out of school? (Are they virtuous and Christ-like or are their actions inconsistent?)? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Would you be confident in recommending this student as a good Catholic example in the school? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Do you have any HESITATION recommending this student as an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion? \_\_\_\_\_  
If so, please explain (e.g. academics, discipline, character, etc)

\_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please return completed form to **Gayle Ohrenberger's mailbox by Friday May 16, 2008.**  
***THANK YOU!!!!!!***

**Parish Pastor Recommendation  
For Applicants to be Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion  
St. Pius X Catholic High School**



**THIS FORM IS TO BE COMPLETED BY THE PASTOR OF YOUR PARISH, NOT A DRE, YOUTH MINISTER, ETC.**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Son / Daughter of: \_\_\_\_\_

Members of the Parish Since: \_\_\_\_\_

Student was Baptized at: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Received First Communion at: \_\_\_\_\_

Student was Confirmed at: \_\_\_\_\_

**This rising senior student of St. Pius X Catholic High School is applying to be an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion for the 2008-2009 school year at St. Pius X High School. As part of the application process, would you please fill out this brief form and return it to Gayle Ohrenberger, Director of Campus Ministry by Monday, May 19, 2008. Please mail the form to:**

St. Pius X Catholic High School  
Attn: Campus Ministry  
2674 Johnson Road NE  
Atlanta, GA 30345

**Please comment on the following: (Please use the back side of this sheet if necessary)**

1. Is the above applicant an active member of the parish? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Are there any qualities, especially pertaining to the spiritual life that stand out in your mind about this applicant?

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3. Do you have any reservations in recommending the above applicant for this privilege?

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Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for taking the time to help us in the application process.**

**Sincerely in Christ,**

Fr. John Shramko, Chaplain

Gayle Ohrenberger, Director of Campus Ministry

