

3/6/2020



Advice for Communion in the time of Covid-19

Be prudent but don't overreact. Covid-19 is the current concern, but remember that cold and flu viruses, and other scary germs, have been with us for many, many years. Yet the practice of taking communion from a common cup has not contributed significantly to the spread of disease or sickness of communicants.

Seek the guidance of your diocese , synod or district.

- Almy is not authoritative on the subject of the safest liturgical practice to follow. You should check with your bishop. Surveying internet posts by bishops' offices around the USA today:
  - Some bishops have recommended that use of the common cup should be suspended for the time being, and that offering communion in one kind (host) should be adopted.
  - Others, recognizing that use of the common cup poses little risk, are asking their priests and pastors to continue its use.
  - Almost everyone discourages the practice of intinction.
  - Everyone recommends frequent hand washing

Clean Eucharistic Vessels.

All vessels and appointments: chalices, patens, flagons, cruets, ciboria, host boxes, bread and wine trays:

- Wash after use with warm water and mild soap. Do not fully immerse articles as water could be trapped inside, just wash surfaces. Special antibacterial soaps are not necessary as they do not kill viruses. You may wipe surfaces of vessels with an alcohol-based sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol if you like as it may help with prevention and will not harm your vessels.
- Dry vessels with a clean cloth towel.