

Worship Customary

St. Francis in the Fields Episcopal Church

8:00 am

Chalice Bearer

Before Worship

1. Arrive at St. Francis twenty minutes prior to the scheduled start of the liturgy.
2. Vest in a black cassock and white surplice (the closets on the right-hand side of the Tyler room). Please do not add any ornamentation to the cassock and surplice (no necklaces, nametags, scarves, sweaters, etc).
3. Pray with the clergy in the Tyler Room before the service, then be seated in the Gospel side transept, right behind the Deacon and Preacher.

At the Offertory

1. Collect the offering plates from the Epistle side credence table and take them to the front of the altar to the Ushers.
2. As the priest approaches the altar to begin the celebration, go to the front of the altar and collect the plates from the Usher. Take them around the altar clockwise (no not hand them across the top of the altar) and hold them for the priest to bless. Then, take the plates to the Epistle-side credence table and return to your seat.

At the Invitation

1. After the invitation (“The gifts of God...”) come inside the altar rail and wait near the step to receive communion. The priest will give you bread first, and then give you wine. After you have communed, wipe the rim of the chalice carefully with the purificator.
2. Wait in place until the priests move to commune the people, then take your place near the rail.

During Communion

1. Once chalice bearer will one chalice bearer will follow each person distributing communion.
2. Commune the people using the words on pg. 338 of the prayerbook (either traditional or contemporary language).
3. When you offer the chalice to someone, they should take it and guide it to their lips (it is OK to encourage them to do so). Hold on to the base of the chalice for stability.
4. After each person drinks from the chalice, carefully wipe the edge of the chalice with the purificator. It helps to “pinch” the top of the chalice so that you are sure to wipe both sides. After you wipe the edge, rotate the chalice slightly for the next person.
5. If you run out of wine, return to the altar and refill your chalice. Set the chalice on top of the corporal for stability (don’t try and hold it over the altar) as you pour the wine.
6. If a communicant crosses their arms across their chest, or otherwise indicates that they do not wish to receive wine, simply stand in front of them, hold the chalice, and say the words of distribution as though they were drinking.
7. As soon as the last person has communed, take your chalice to the gospel side credence table, and cover it with the purificator.