

SHARING THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST and/or SHARING THE FLU?

Dear Parish Family,

None of us is worthy to receive the Body and Blood of Christ. God's love makes us worthy. Thanks to the Vatican II Council's renewal of the Sacred Liturgy we re-established communion under both species: (1) the form of bread and (2) the form of wine. Keep in mind some are burdened with slight or very serious allergy to gluten and their only way to take Holy Communion is under the form of the Wine.

With the flu season in early full swing, let me ask that the faithful be keenly mindful: if you have a cold, are not feeling well at the time of Communion, or feeling the slightest flu like symptoms, please REFRAIN from drinking the precious Blood of Christ from the cup. All are welcome to take the Body of Christ in the hand or on the tongue, however, again if you are ill, you might let the priest, deacon or Eucharistic minister place the bread in the palm of your cupped hand. Some attempt to "dunk" the bread in the cup! Please, I ask you not to do this. First, though it may be a practice in other parishes or churches, it is not here at Assumption for 3 good reasons: (1) the Church prohibits it in our guidelines, (2) even with the greatest care the precious blood is often dripped on the floor and (3) often times, the fingers (which carry more germs than our lips or mouth) get dipped into the precious blood and that is very unsanitary. Eucharistic Ministers are trained not to permit intincture (that is dunking). So, I thank you in advance for your continued reverent attentiveness to "supervising" yourselves.

Thank you, Fr. Tom