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25 May 2022

## AD CLERUM 1 / 2022

Dear Colleagues,

### **The Restoration of the Common Cup**

From Pentecost 2022, all celebrations of the Holy Communion may include offering the Common Cup for those who wish to drink from it at the time of the Communion of the People.

During COVID only the sacramental bread has been offered to the people at Holy Communion. We have fasted from the Common Cup during this time as an expression of our concern for the common good. At most celebrations only the priest or a designated lay person have received the Common Cup.

From Pentecost, the Common Cup may be offered to any who wish to receive it with the following restrictions:

1. While the Common Cup is available to all, no-one should feel coerced if they have hesitations about receiving from the Common Cup. It is perfectly legitimate to continue to abstain from the Common Cup if you have any anxiety or concern about contracting COVID or other illness through sharing in the Common Cup.
2. To receive one element of the Holy Communion is to receive all the graces and blessings of receiving in both kinds.
3. Intinction, or dipping the wafer in the wine of the Chalice, is not permitted under any circumstance. Accidentally dipping fingers into the wine is much more a COVID risk than a carefully administered sip using silver or gold vessels and wiping with a clean linen between each communicant.
4. Communicants are encouraged to minimize infection risk by limiting their touching of the Common Cup. If necessary, please touch the base of the Common Cup to guide it to your lips. Eucharistic Assistants, or Licensed Lay

Ministers should pay special attention to retaining reverence and good order at this time.

5. At the end of the Communion of the People, the priest usually consumes any remaining sacramental wine. Each priest will make their own decision about the ablutions. If a priest feels uncomfortable consuming the wine left in the Common Cup after Holy Communion, it is permitted to pour reverently the remaining sacramental wine into the earth immediately after the Service. This should not be something that attracts attention or comment.

It is very important that individual communicants make their own decisions about receiving the Common Cup. No-one is to feel pressured in any way in this matter.

If you have any uncertainties about this Ad Clerum, please do not hesitate to contact me.

I ask each priest to display this Ad Clerum in a prominent place in every congregation so that there is no confusion about this matter.

With all good wishes and blessings,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "+ Garry. Ballarat." The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'G'.

+ Garry. Ballarat