**Rite of Commissioning of New**

 **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion**

* *Takes place after the homily*

**Assisting Minister:**

* Some in our community have been called to service in the liturgy as extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. With gratitude and joy we commission them now and ask for God’s blessing upon them.
* Those of you who have been called to be extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, who have been entrusted with ministering the Eucharist and with taking Communion to the sick, please come forward and stand before the altar.

**Presider:**

* Dear friends in Christ, our brothers and sisters are to be entrusted with administering the Eucharist and taking Communion to the sick.
* *The celebrant pauses and then addresses the candidates:*
* In this ministry, you must be examples of Christian living in faith and conduct; you must strive to grow in holiness through this sacrament of unity and love.
* Remember that, though many, we are one body because we share the one bread and one cup.
* As Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion be, therefore, especially observant of the Lord’s command to love your neighbour, as when he said: “This is my commandment, that you should love one another as I have loved you.”
* And so,
* Are you resolved to undertake the office of giving the body and blood of the Lord to your brothers and sisters and so serve to build up the Church? **R. *I am.***
* Are you resolved to administer the Holy Eucharist with the utmost care and reverence? **R.** ***I am.***
* ***All are invited to stand while the candidates are invited to kneel***
* *The celebrant then invites the faithful to pray:*
* Dear friends in Christ

Let us pray with confidence to the Father:

Let us ask Him to bestow His blessings on our brothers and sisters,

chosen to be extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion.

* *Pause for silent prayer. The celebrant then continues:*
* Merciful Father,

Creator and guide of Your family,

bless + our brothers and sisters.

May they faithfully give the Bread of Life to Your people.

Strengthened by this Sacrament,

may they come at last to the banquet of heaven.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

* *Mass continues with the Creed*