

Purification Guidelines

All Sacred Vessels (chalices and patens) must be purified after Mass. There is a distinction between "purifying" the Sacred Vessels and "cleaning" them:

- The "purification" of the Sacred Vessels means adding water to the Sacred Vessels and then consuming the remains of the consecrated Body and Precious Blood.
- The "cleaning" of sacred vessels means washing the Sacred Vessels after they have been purified.

The following is the procedure to be used by the Extraordinary Ministers:

- Before Mass the Mass Coordinators should ensure that the small cruets on the Credence Tables contain enough water for Mass and for purification.
- After distribution of the Holy Eucharist, the Precious Blood must be reverently consumed by the EMs at the Credence Tables. An EM can ask for assistance from another EM if there is too much Precious Blood to be consumed by one person.
- After consumption of the Precious Blood, the purificators should be refolded and placed over the unpurified chalices so that the purificators hang over the sides of the chalices. The purificators should not be stuffed into the chalices.



After Mass:

- To purify the patens, a small amount of water should be placed in the patens and gently swirled around so that all particles are absorbed by the water. The water is then poured directly into the chalices to be consumed.
- To purify the chalices, water is added to the chalices and swirled around the sides so that the remaining Precious Blood gets combined with the water. The EM then consumes the water. The chalice should then be completely wiped dry with the purificator.
- After purifying the Sacred Vessels, the EMs will wash and dry them in preparation for the next Mass or for storage.
- The used purificators should be placed in the hamper. ***If a purificator should contain a large amount of the sacred blood it should be rinsed in the sacrarium and hung up to dry. **