

DIOCESE OF DALLAS

Celebration of Mass – Cleansing of Vessels

## **Liturgy Office Update Cleansing of Vessels**

Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI through the direction of Francis Cardinal Arinze, has asked that the indult given to the United States that allowed for the extraordinary minister of Holy Communion to cleanse the vessels following the distribution of the Holy Eucharist, be revoked.

This statement does not mean communion under both species is revoked, nor is it an attempt to discourage communion under both species. It simply means that now the priest, deacon or installed acolytes are required to purify the vessels GIRM #279.

- Vessels can be purified either at the altar or at the credence table. They also can be purified following the Mass. Following communion they should be covered with a large corporal or purificator until the “ordinary minister” is able to purify. Please remember that the Extraordinary Minister may still clean and handle the vessels of the mass before and after the celebration of the Mass, it only means that they cannot purify.
- The Extraordinary Ministers of Communion are able to consume what remains of the Precious Blood after communion.
- Intinction was given as an option however this is not a preference in the United States nor in the diocese of Dallas. The correct procedure for intinction is found in GIRM 285b and 287
- All Parishes and institutions of the Diocese of Dallas should begin implementation of this directive as soon as possible.

Seven Questions pertaining to the Distribution of Holy Communion Under Both Kinds may be found on the USCCB website. [usccb.org/liturgy/cleansingofvessels.pdf](http://usccb.org/liturgy/cleansingofvessels.pdf)

Please call the Liturgy Office if you have any questions. 214-379-2874