

CHALICISTS AT ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH
A CUSTOMARY (A.K.A. CHECKLIST)

Purpose

The role of Chalicist is a special and intimate ministry: helping to feed the people of God with the Body and Blood of Christ.

Checklist

- Arrive at least 15 minutes early and check in with the Verger.**
- After the celebrant says, “The gifts of God for the people of God,” come forward to the chancel area (the area around the altar) and join the altar party in a semicircle directly in front of the altar. If you are the chalicist for the intinction cup, stand next to the acolyte.
- Receive the bread and wine from the celebrant.
 - The celebrant gives bread to the nearest chalicist, saying “The body of Christ, the bread of heaven.” The chalicist then takes the paten and offers bread to the celebrant, saying the same words. The celebrant then takes back the paten and offers bread to the rest of the altar party.
 - The celebrant takes the common cup and offers wine to the other chalicist, saying, “The blood of Christ; the cup of salvation.” That chalicist then takes the common cup and offers wine to the celebrant, saying “The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.” The chalicist offers wine from the common cup to the rest of the altar party, beginning with the other chalicist.
 - The celebrant hands the intinction cup to the other chalicist, who administers it to the altar party.
- The celebrant and the two chalicists turn to face the people. The chalicist with the common cup stands to the celebrant’s left, and the chalicist with the intinction cup stands to the celebrant’s right.
- The people gather in a semicircle around the celebrant in front of the first row of chairs.
- The celebrant moves around the semicircle in a clockwise manner, administering the bread.
- The chalicist with the common cup follows immediately behind the celebrant offering wine to the people saying any one of the following sentences of administration: “The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.” Or “The blood of Christ, keep you in eternal life.” Or “The blood of Christ, the cup of freedom.” (Taken from Enriching Our Worship)
- After each person drinks from the common cup, use the purificator to wipe the spot from which the person drank, then rotate the cup slightly before offering it to the next person.
- The chalicist with the intinction cup follows immediately behind the chalicist offering the common cup, offering wine to the people saying any one of the above sentences. ***The chalicist with the intinction cup should never go ahead of the chalicist with the common cup. Otherwise, it will be impossible to tell who is still waiting for the common cup.***
- After each round, the chalicists walk clockwise around behind the altar, and then resume dispensing the wine.
- When the last round has received communion, the chalicists return their chalices to the altar, placing their open purificators over them. The deacon will then clear the table (or the celebrant, if no deacon is present).
- The chalicists then return to their seats via the side aisles.

Tips

- **How to tell who wants which cup:** Those who wish to drink from the common cup will signal their desire by consuming the bread; those who wish to intinct by holding up their bread in front of themselves. *This is why the chalicist with the intinction cup should never go ahead of the chalicist with the common cup. Otherwise, it is impossible to tell who is still waiting for the common cup.*
- **How to avoid spilling wine when administering the common cup:** When offering the common cup, stand slightly to the left of the person to whom you are administering the wine. This way you will be less likely to miss the mouth of the recipient. If the recipient takes the cup from you, make sure you take hold of it before the recipient lets go.
- **What to do if you run low on wine:** If you run low on wine, signal the acolyte, who will bring you the cruet containing the remaining consecrated wine and refill your cup.

CHALICISTS ARE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF OUR WORSHIP MINISTRY.
MANY THANKS FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO SERVE.