

# The Diocese of Virginia

## **Eucharistic Ministers**

A Eucharistic Minister is a lay person authorized to administer the consecrated elements at a celebration of Holy Eucharist when an adequate number of clergy is not present. A Eucharistic Minister acts under the direction of a Deacon, or under the Member of the Clergy who oversees the congregation or community of faith.

### **Qualifications**

- Confirmed communicant in good standing
- Faithful in worship and in stewardship
- Mature in faith
- Of good repute in the congregation

### **Training**

Completion of a course of training and study, under the supervision of the deacon or rector or other priest, to include a study of

- The various theological understandings of the Holy Eucharist in the Anglican tradition
- Methods and practice of the administration of the elements (use of the purificator, rotation of the chalice, use of intinction, consumption of remaining elements).

### **General Information for clergy seeking Eucharistic Minister licenses for lay people in their congregations:**

1. Clergy requesting licenses should ensure that those licensed in the congregation represent the diversity of the Church, and include women, men, young people (16 years or older) and older persons, as well as persons of different racial and ethnic backgrounds.
2. Licensed lay ministers who are functioning liturgically may vest in either alb and cincture or surplice and cassock, according to parish custom.
3. Licenses are issued for three years.
4. Those who are in a formal formation programs for the priesthood or vocational diaconate in the Diocese of Virginia are deemed to be licensed under these guidelines.

# The Diocese of Virginia

## Application for License as a Eucharistic Minister

TO THE BISHOP OF VIRGINIA:

I recommend and request that \_\_\_\_\_, an adult, confirmed, communicant in good standing, be licensed as a Eucharistic Minister.

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I certify this person is qualified and trained in accordance with the Canons and the Diocesan Guidelines. I will provide continuing supervision and training.

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Signature of Member of Clergy

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Church

I agree to conform to the Canons, the Diocesan Guidelines, and the direction of the Bishop and the Member of the Clergy in charge of the congregation where I am to serve, in the exercise of the ministry of a Eucharistic Minister.

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Signature of Person for whom this License is requested

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Date of Application

Send to: Bishop of the Diocese of Virginia, 110 West Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23220