



## **SACRAMENTS & FUNERALS**

### **Baptism**

1. Baptism should be administered in the parish church unless just cause suggests otherwise.
  - a. Baptism in private homes is forbidden unless express permission is granted in writing by the Ordinary.
  - b. Baptism should not be administered in a hospital except in the case of danger of death.
  - c. The ministers of Baptism for children as well as for adults are bishops, priests, or deacons.
  - d. The sponsors for Baptism must be at least sixteen years of age unless it seems to the pastor or minister that an exception is to be made for a just cause. (c. 874, 1,2)
  - e. The other canonical requirements for sponsors must be followed. (c. 874, 1, 2)
  - f. When a priest or deacon is absent or impeded, the local ordinary may depute a qualified lay person to confer the sacrament of baptism. In an emergency anyone with the right intention may baptize. (c. 861)
2. Records are to be kept in the parish. Name, date, parents, sponsors, and celebrant should be recorded.

### **Reconciliation**

1. General absolution is not permitted in the Diocese of Owensboro.
2. The existing faculties in the diocese have the force of law as they have been promulgated.

### **Holy Eucharist**

1. All priests have permission to celebrate the Eucharist twice daily and three times on Sundays and Holy Days.
2. Lay persons may function in the Diocese of Owensboro:
  - a. as ministers of the Word (c. 230,3)
  - b. as presiders of prayer (c. 230,3)
  - c. to distribute Holy Communion (cc. 230,3 and 910,2)

Such persons are to be properly formed and should have the necessary information to adequately minister to the faithful.

Each parish and institution should encourage both men and women to fulfill these ministries. Women are permitted by Canon Law to be lectors, distributors of communion, song leaders, etc. There should be a balance between the women and men in these areas of service.

3. The Eucharist may be reserved in convents and chapels in institutions such as hospitals and schools. The place of reposition is to be appropriate and dignified and canons 938 and 940 are to be observed. Mass should be celebrated in these chapels at least twice a month if possible (c. 934,2). Priests may erect a Blessed Sacrament chapel in a rectory with permission of the bishop.
4. The Eucharist is to be kept on the person of the minister only while traveling to the place of the person intending to receive. Under no circumstance is anyone to do unnecessary traveling or visiting with the Eucharist on their person.
5. Anyone authorized as a minister of the Eucharist also has permission to expose and repose the Blessed Sacrament without benediction (c. 943).
6. **Communion under Both Forms:** Communion under both forms is permitted by the Church, and the use of this permission as often as you deem it reasonable is encouraged. Please consult the Diocesan Office for Worship if you have questions.

## Funerals

1. Baptized children are to be given an ecclesiastical burial according to Canon 1183, #2.
2. Permission is granted to conduct ecclesiastical funerals for members of other churches according to conditions in Canon 1183, #3.
3. Please consult the local ordinary when doubtful about the right of a person to an ecclesiastical funeral. (c. 1184, 2)