

Brief Instructions for Eucharistic Ministers (EMs)

Please note:

1. Currently, we are not required to wear a mask when on the altar or while singing, unless unvaccinated. However, feel free to wear a mask if you prefer.
2. EM1 is now positioned on the **Gospel side** (next to the tabernacle) and EM2, on the **Epistle side**.

Please arrive at least 15 minutes prior to the service so there is sufficient time to vest and attend to the other responsibilities listed below.

In addition to **leading the Psalm and the Prayers of the People** the **responsibilities for EM1 include:**

Setting the missal and placing it on the altar, if necessary. For guidance on how to set the missal, the instructions have been placed in the front of the missal. (These instructions are set out in Appendix 2 (page 8) of the Eucharistic Ministry Instructions on the St. John's website. [https://stjohnslarchmont.org/worship/serving/.](https://stjohnslarchmont.org/worship/serving/))

Checking that there is soap and hand sanitizer under the altar.

Lighting the candles First light the Epistle candle and then the Gospel candle. Remember the rule: "The Gospel never stand alone." If the Paschal candle is present, first light the Paschal candle, then the Gospel candle and then the Epistle candle.

By 9:55, determine whether there will be a crucifer and who it will be. The lighter cross may be used.

During the Great Thanksgiving:

Receive the burse and veil from Rev. Lisa and place them on the top of the tabernacle.

Place the communion elements on the altar: a) place the cruets of wine and water on the altar; b) remove the lids from the pyxes (silver containers in the tabernacle) and place on the altar.

If there is an **EM2**, he/she will **assist with the handwashing**. Rev. Lisa will signal for you to take the lavabo bowl, the pitcher of water and towel. She will wash her hands with soap (which is under the altar) and advise when she is ready to rinse her hands. When completed, place the bowl, pitcher and towel on the Epistle Credence bracket. If there is no EM2, EM1 should assist with the handwashing.

While Rev. Lisa is distributing communion, **EM1 and EM2 clear the altar except for the missal, which should be left open and moved from the Epistle side to the Gospel side.**

After the final blessing, close the missal.

Recess when the signal is given.