



Holy Cross Church Catford



Rite of Commissioning Special Ministers of the Eucharist

Fr Antony: [after the Homily]:

Dear friends in Christ, our brothers and sisters, are to be entrusted with administering the eucharist, with taking communion to the sick and with giving it as viaticum to the dying.

The celebrant pauses and then addresses the candidates:

In this ministry, you must be examples of Christian living in faith and conduct; you must strive to grow in holiness through this sacrament of unity and love.

Remember that, though many, we are one body because we share the one bread and one cup.

As ministers of holy communion be, therefore, especially observant of the Lord's command to love your neighbour. For when he gave his body as food to his disciples, he said to them, "This is my commandment, that you should love one another as I have loved you."

Fr Antony: Are you resolved to undertake the office of giving the body and blood Of the Lord to your brothers and sisters and so serve to build up the Church?

Response: **I am.**

Fr Antony: Are you resolved to administer the holy eucharist with the utmost care and reverence?

Response: **I am.**

All stand. The candidates kneel and Fr Antony invites the faithful to pray:

Dear friends in Christ, let us pray with confidence to the Father; let us ask him to bestow his blessings on our brothers and sisters, chosen to be ministers of the eucharist.

Pause for silent prayer. The celebrant then continues:

Merciful Father, creator and guide of your family,
bless our brothers and sisters.
May they faithfully give the bread of life to your people.
Strengthened by this sacrament,
may they come at last to the banquet of heaven.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
All: Amen.