

COMMUNION IN THE HANDS or ON THE TONGUE

Why this subject?

Why this subject now?

What is the Church's answer?

Before we start, let every Parishioner answer this question: At the Last Supper, The Institution of the Holy Eucharist, did the Apostles receive Communion on the tongue?

WHY THIS SUBJECT?

Recently, more and more Parishioners who receive Communion on the tongue (not all of them) not only condemn those who receive Communion in their hands, but also pass judgement on them. Then, they go one step further and condemn "Priests who let them do it ". Ultimately, they always end up condemning the Second Vatican Council (as if it's the Second Vatican Council who created it).

WHY THIS SUBJECT NOW?

Because of the Feast Day of St Cyril of Jerusalem (March 18), who is the mystagogue (teacher) par excellence on matter of faith, catechesis, and RCIA. Bishop of Jerusalem (348), Father of the Church, Doctor of the Church and a Saint.

No one except him gave a better answer to the question.

WHAT IS THE CHURCH'S ANSWER?

In his Sermon of Easter 348 on the reception of Communion, St Cyril of Jerusalem said this: "When you go up to communion, you should not stretch your hand out flat nor spread your fingers. Rather, you should lay your left hand under the right, making at the time a throne to receive the King. Take the body of Christ up with your empty hand and answer, 'Amen'. Keep your eyes holy during contact with the holy Body and be careful to lose nothing thereof. If someone gave you grains of gold, would you not take the greatest care to lose none of them? Will you therefore not take still greater care that not even the smallest crumb falls away of that which is more precious than gold and jewels? "

(Cyril of Jerusalem, *Mystagogicae* 5,21 translated by Leo P. Mc Cauley Fot C64 Catholic University of America Press: Washington DC, 2000).

Another so great name to mention along with St Cyril of Jerusalem is Theodore of Mopsuestia (big name in Liturgy).

Among those who have talked about communion in hands are: Tertullian, Cyprian, Augustine, John Climacus, Basil the great, John Chrysostom, John Damascene, the Quinisext Council, Ephrem, Narsai, Cesarius of Arles, the Council of Auxerre, Bede the Venerable, Eusebius, Cornelius the bishop of Rome, etc... (for all the names here mentioned, see Fr. Arbo for the reference).

Now, when Intinction (dipping the Body in the chalice -Blood of Christ-) began, Communion became then mandatory on the tongue (simple logic).

But also, to prevent mishaps, Communion was on the tongue.

Communion on the tongue is much later in the West (The East has almost always practiced on the tongue because the use of a small spoon (makes sense too).

At the local Council of Rouen (City where St Jeanne d'Arc died), the decision for Communion in mouth was made in 879: " Let not the Eucharist be put in the hand of any man or woman, but only in the mouth ".

The ancient practice of Communion in the hands resumed in the Church around early 1970.

We cannot miss to mention that for sure there are more risks with Communion in hands because someone might take Communion and not consume it . We do witness that).

In conclusion: The Catechism of the Catholic Church and the USCCB (conference of catholic bishops) clearly state that, Communion is the "Source and Summit of the christian life "and Catholics are LAWFULLY allowed to receive Communion either in their hands or on the tongue.

Charity is key: Let's not judge someone who receives in hands or in the mouth.

WHO ARE WE RECEIVING?

JESUS CHRIST and JESUS CHRIST alone.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS / LECTORS SCHEDULE

March 16 & 17

Eucharistic Ministers

4 pm (OLA) Lisa Janoski, Carmel Williams
9:00am (SML) Danny Williams Jr.
11 am (SP) Maria Perez

Musicians

4 pm (OLA) Maria Fay
9:00am (SML) Danny Williams
11 am (SP) Maria Fay

Lectors

4 pm (OLA) Kathy Tumavitch
9:00am (SML) Nick Migliori
11 am (SP) Nicole & Greg

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Mar 12 – Legion of Mary at OLA, 9am
Mar 13 – Choir Practice at SML, 6:30pm
Mar 14– First Communion Class retreat at SP5pm
Mar 14 – Parish meeting at SML at 6:30pm
Mar 15 – Stations, Soup & Scripture at OLA, 6pm

ST PAT/OLA/SML CCD SCHEDULE

3/10/2024 – CCD – Fourth Sunday of Lent
3/17/24 – CCD- Fifth Sunday of Lent

SPRING SACRAMENT SCHEDULE

First Penance Sat. April 6, 2024, 3pm at OLA
First Holy Communion Sat May 4, 2024, 11am at SML
Confirmation Sun. May 19, 2024, 3pm at SML

SPRING SACRAMENT RETREAT SCHEDULE

Communion Class

Thu. March 14, 2024, at St Pat's, 5 to 7:30pm

Confirmation Class

Thur. March 21, 2024, at St. Pat's 5 to 7:30pm

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS

The Parish Pastoral Council met Tuesday to review the survey council members had been asked to complete. We looked for areas of need in each of the four pillars of a vibrant parish. They are Word, Worship, Community and Service. We also looked for how these needs fit into our Mission Statement goals of WELCOMING, ENGAGEMENT and COMMUNICATION. We will continue to develop our Pastoral Plan using the identified needs and next steps on MONDAY April 8th @ 6:30 in the OLA Hall.

SML PARISH MEETING

On Thursday March 14, there will be a Parish meeting in the Hall to discuss future fund raisers, activities & dreams. Please make every effort to attend to make your suggestions & hopes for our parish known. Your voice is important.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday (March 12) Lenten Weekday

8:00 am (OLA) Special Intention
By Angela Colombo

Wednesday (March 13) Lenten Weekday

8:00 am (SP) Health & Blessings for Fr. Arbo
By Marie Martz

Thursday (March 14) Lenten Weekday

8:00 am (SML) Bob Gaffney
By Maureen Gaffney

Saturday (March 16) The Vigil of The Fifth

Sunday of Lent

4:00 pm (OLA) Health & Blessings for the Cardena Family
By Becky Mozeleski

Sunday (March 17) The Fifth Sunday of Lent

9:00 am (SML) Michael Roland
By The Janoski Family
11:00 am (SP) Anna Mae Stracham
By The Debree Family

SP Weekly \$ 2,123.00 Loose \$ 153.00

OLA Weekly \$ 2,195.00 Loose \$ 22.00

SML Weekly \$ 1,515.00 Loose \$ 63.00

May the Lord reward your generosity.

SML FEBRUARY RAFFLE

Last winners of the Fabulous February Raffle:

2/27 \$25 Visa - Mary Ellen Shook
2/28 \$100 Weis card- Julia D'Antoni
2/29 \$200 Portrait package- Sean Noone

Thank you so very much for your generous donations of gift cards and cash in order to make this raffle the success it has been!

Thank you for your support with this fundraiser by helping to sell and the purchase of tickets, you made a \$2635 profit for our parish! Congratulations to our winners, enjoy your prizes! God bless! Lisa and Mary Lou

ST. PATRICK DAY HAM & CABBAGE CELEBRATION AT ST PAT'S HALL

Next Sunday March 17th we will once again celebrate St. Patrick after the 11am Mass. Thank you to the Stutzman family for running this celebration. On March 16, and March 17 starting at 9:30am volunteers are needed to help them setup and help them with the cooking.

SML EASTER CANDY SALE

Easter Candy is still being sold at SML church after Mass. On March 17th the Easter Candy will be sold at St, Pat's church.