

# **Eucharistic Visitor**

(previously a Home Lay Eucharistic Minister)

## **Description, Role and Authority**

The Eucharistic Visitor is authorized to take the Consecrated Elements in a timely manner following a Celebration of Holy Eucharist to members of the congregation who, by reason of illness or infirmity, were unable to be present at the Celebration. He or she should demonstrate an understanding of and respect for the Eucharistic practices of the church and be comfortable praying with others.

- The Eucharistic Visitor is a confirmed communicant in good standing who functions with the permission of the Bishop and should normally act under the direction of a Deacon, if any, or otherwise, the congregation's Rector.
- Once licensed, the Eucharistic Visitor functions solely at the discretion of the Rector and is licensed only in the congregation in which the Eucharistic Visitor is a member at the time of licensing.
- The Eucharistic Visitor, under the direction of the Rector, will pursue continuing education.

## **Training**

The applicant for Eucharistic Visitor will be trained and found competent to the Rector's satisfaction in the following areas of knowledge and practice:

- Eucharistic Theology, including the Reserved Sacrament
- Pastoral skills including being able to address issues related to the home-bound or nursing home-bound, the terminally ill, death and dying
- Understanding aging and family dynamics
- Understanding and competency of the liturgical services used in ministering to the sick and shut-in
- Understanding of mechanics of administration in various settings
- Willingness and competency to keep confidentiality
- Knowledge of when to notify clergy if changes have occurred in those visited
- Commitment to report regularly to the clergy on those visited
- Commitment to make visits on a regular basis

Training in the above areas will be met through a four-hour Diocesan workshop provided by Deacons throughout the diocese. Training schedules are available on the diocesan website. Also recommended: Choose one book to read and discuss from the category Introduction to Anglican Christianity (see Study Bibliography).

The applicant for Eucharistic Visitor is also required to complete successfully the following diocesan training:

- Safeguarding God's People

## **Application for a License**

- The Rector should send the Eucharistic Visitor Application to the Executive Assistant to the Canon to the Ordinary in the Office of the Bishop.
- Forms to request or to renew these licenses are available at [http://www.coloradiocese.org/04\\_ministrysupport/commissiononministry.html](http://www.coloradiocese.org/04_ministrysupport/commissiononministry.html) or by phoning the Office of the Bishop at 303-837-1173.
- The Rector shall request that the Eucharistic Visitor's license be renewed every three years.
- The license can be revoked by the Bishop upon request of the Rector.

## **Documentation**

The Rector will maintain a confidential personnel file for the Eucharistic Visitor which shall contain the following:

1. Documentation of training, examination and competency in the areas listed above in "Training"
2. Certification of the Eucharistic Visitor's completion of required diocesan training
3. A copy of the application sent to the Bishop by the Rector
4. A copy of the certificate from the Bishop licensing the person to be a Eucharistic Visitor



# Eucharistic Visitor

**To Bishop Robert O'Neill:**

As the Member of the Clergy or other leader exercising oversight of \_\_\_\_\_, I am requesting a  
Congregation \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

license for \_\_\_\_\_  
Title \_\_\_\_\_ Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

to serve in our congregation as an Eucharistic Visitor in order to take the Consecrated Elements to members of the congregation who were unable to attend the Celebration of Holy Eucharist.

He/She was confirmed/received into the Episcopal Church  
at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
Location \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

He/She attended the required training:

Eucharistic Visitor \_\_\_\_\_  
Please enclose a copy of the certificate. \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Safeguarding God's People \_\_\_\_\_  
Please enclose a copy of the certificate. \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

If this is a renewal, please provide a brief description of the continuing education.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this applicant is baptized, is a confirmed or received adult communicant in good standing, has been appropriately trained per diocesan policy, and is a fit and responsible person to be a Eucharistic Visitor in this congregation.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Licensee Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email

**Send this form to:**  
Executive Assistant to the Canon to the Ordinary  
The Office of the Bishop  
1300 Washington Street  
Denver CO 80203-2008

