

2-Kind Communion Discussed

By PATRICK RILEY

Vatican City — (NC) — "Before the faithful are to receive Communion under both kinds," warns the Holy See's latest, and apparently last set of regulations on bringing the chalice to the people, "they should be adequately instructed on the significance of the rite."

Father Annibale Bugnini, secretary of the Congregation for Divine Worship, told NC News that "Communion under both species recalls more fully and precisely the action of Christ at the Last Supper."

He cited Christ's words on taking up the cup: "All of you drink of this." And he emphasized the word "all."

Father Bugnini said also that Communion under both kinds "renders more obvious the significance of the Mass as a sacred banquet, in which one eats a sacred food and drinks a spiritual drink."

He stressed Christ's words, "My flesh is food indeed and My blood is drink indeed."

The sacrificial aspect of the Mass, the priest said, is brought into sharper relief by Communion under both forms "because breaking the bread-body signifies the death of Christ — body . . . offered in sacrifice for you — and drinking the blood recalls that it was spilled for you and for all in the remission of sin."

Father Bugnini was anxious to emphasize that the "adequate

instruction" called for in the Holy See's document must state the Church's integral doctrine—formulated by the Council of Trent and repeated frequently by the popes—that the consecrated bread by itself and the consecrated wine by itself each contains the entire Christ, body, blood, soul and divinity.

"So the Christian who receives Communion under the species of bread alone or under the species of wine alone receives Christ entire," Father Bugnini emphasized.

The instruction, he said, "might also illustrate the historical reasons why Communion under both kinds fell into disuse in the West, reasons that were substantially practical and reverential.

"Historians of the Eucharistic devotion and liturgists have noted how love of the Eucharist led to putting the chalice aside for fear of spilling the precious blood."

"Today, love for the Eucharist leads to Communion at the chalice, out of a desire to take part fully in the sacramental sign left by Christ.

"In the first case devotional motives prevailed. In the second, emphasis is put on biblical and liturgical reasons."

Father Bugnini also observed that Communion under both kinds has always been maintained in the Catholic Church, in its Eastern rites, and also by the Orthodox Church.

This document gives bishops' conferences power to decide "to what extent, for what motives and in what conditions Ordinaries (diocesan bishops and major Religious superiors) may concede Communion under both kinds."

In its commentary on the new instruction the Congregation for Divine Worship said that Communion under both kinds "should not be allowed indiscriminately, but that the cases should be fixed, either once by each Episcopal conference or on diocesan level by individual bishops."

Bishops' conferences may lay down the conditions, norms and limits whereby bishops for their own diocese may allow Communion under both kinds when they deem it to be of spiritual importance to the faithful or the religious Communities.

The congregation's commentary said that permission will in general not be given when the number to receive Communion from the chalice is very large.

But the instruction said that this method should be chosen only "when everything can be carried out in an orderly fashion and without any danger of irreverence."

It said that if there are other priests present, or deacons or acolytes, they should be asked to help by presenting the chalice to communicants. If such ministers are not available, it added, then the priest should distribute Communion first under the species of bread and afterwards under the species of wine.

"It does not seem that that manner of distribution should be approved in which the chalice is passed from one to another, or in which the communicants come up directly to take the chalice themselves," the instruction stated.

The congregation's commentary said that "in practice, in the case of a parish or similarly diversified assembly, Communion by intinction (in which the priest first dips the Eucharistic bread into the wine) is definitely to be preferred."

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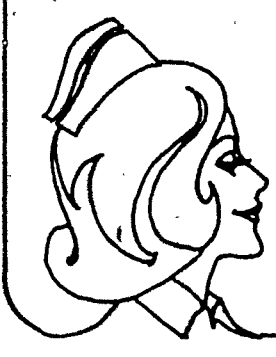
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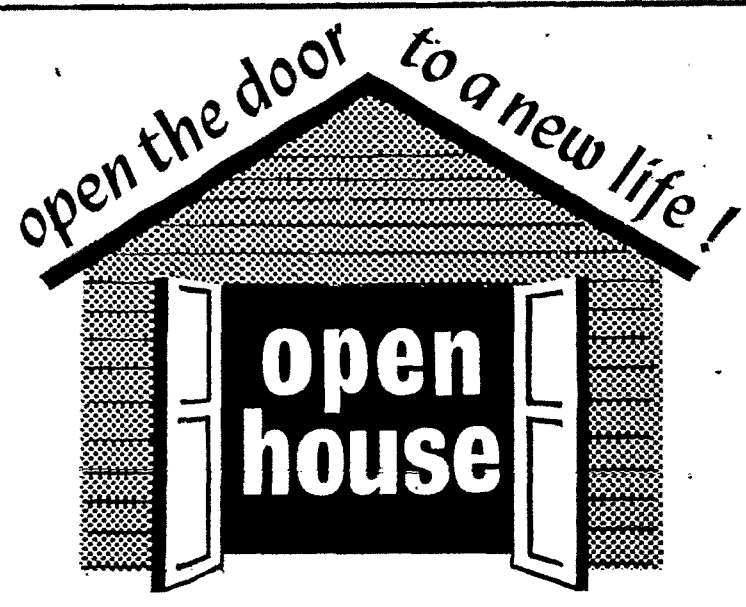


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| Refrigerator | Saucepan | Hair dryer | Towel dryer | Cradle rocker |
| Clothes washer | Sharpener | Hair curling set | Vacuum cleaner | Defroster (refrigerator) |
| Water heater | (knife and scissor) | Heat lamp | Water softener | De-icer |
| Baby food warmer | Shredder | Heat pad | Aquarium filter | Gutter |
| Blender | Skillet | Home heating | Aquarium heater | Pavement |
| Bottle warmer | Slicer | Humidifier | Barbecue spit turner | Door bell |
| Can opener | Snack grill | Illuminated dial telephone | Charcoal lighter | Door chimes |
| Broiler | Sterilizer | Insect exterminator | Kelebab Grill | Door chimes |
| Carving knife | Timer | Instant water heater and cooler | Knife sharpener | Door litter (garage) |
| Casserole | Toaster | Lighted mirror | Knife sharpener | Door number (illuminated) |
| Chafing dish | Vegetable peeler | Manicure set | Knife sharpener | Fire alarm |
| Coffee grinder | Waffle iron | Mattress (massaging) | Knife sharpener | Fireplace |
| Coffee maker | Warming tray | Oil burner | Knife sharpener | Flashlight (rechargeable) |
| Corn popper | Adjustable bed | Range hood | Knife sharpener | Foot warmer |
| Deep fat fryer | Air conditioner | Reducing belt | Knife sharpener | Fountain (ornamental) |
| Dutch oven | Air cooler | Sauna (dry heat bath) | Knife sharpener | Hedge trimmer |
| Egg cooker | Air purifier | Screen door insect exterminator | Knife sharpener | Intercommunication system |
| Fish scaler | Blanket | Shaver | Knife sharpener | Lawn edger |
| Food mixer | Carpet | Shower | Knife sharpener | Lawn mower |
| Food warmer | Cooler | Shower | Knife sharpener | Lighting |
| Griddle | Curling iron | Shower | Knife sharpener | General illumination |
| Hot dog roaster | Dehumidifier | Shower | Knife sharpener | Yard-outdoor |
| Hot plate | Deodorizer | Shower | Knife sharpener | Decorative |
| Ice cream freezer | Electrostatic air cleaner | Shower | Knife sharpener | Safety |
| Ice crusher | Exercise chair | Shower | Knife sharpener | Signal |
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