**Introductory Rites**

**Greeting**

Minister: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And with your spirit.

**Penitential Rite**

Minister: To prepare ourselves for this celebration, let us call to mind our sins: (pause)

Minister: Lord Jesus, you healed the sick: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Minister: Lord Jesus, you forgave sinners, Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Minister: Lord Jesus, you give us yourself to heal us and bring us strength, Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

**Liturgy of the Word**

A reading from the gospel of St. John

Jesus says:
“I myself am the living bread come down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread, they shall live forever; the bread I will give is my flesh, for the life of the world.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Liturgy of Holy Communion**

Minister: Now let us pray as Christ the Lord has taught us:

Our Father,...

Minister: Behold the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Minister: The Body of Christ. (Amen.)

**Prayer After Communion**

Minister: Let us pray.
All: Amen.

**Concluding Rite**

Minister: May the Lord bless us, protect us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

**Silent Prayer**
Guidelines

When taking Holy Communion to the sick, the following procedures should be observed.

1. The Blessed Sacrament should always be transported in a pyx.

2. Go immediately to the home or institution of the sick person(s). Be aware that you are transporting the Body of Christ. Do not stop to visit with others and refrain from playing the radio in your car. Maintain a prayerful attitude.

3. Plan on taking only the number of consecrated hosts you will need. If, however, you have any left after visiting the sick, they should be immediately returned to the Tabernacle.

4. Extraordinary ministers should never bring a pyx in the Communion procession and ask a priest or extraordinary minister to put hosts in the pyx. Arrange with the priest, before Mass, to leave the pyx on the altar so that he can place the host(s) in it during the Communion Rite.

5. If Holy Communion is sent to the sick after Mass, a brief ritual should be observed after Communion in which the priest gives the consecrated hosts to extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, who leave immediately after Mass to take the Sacrament to the sick person(s).

The following may be said when sending the extraordinary minister(s) with Holy Communion:

In the name of Christ and of the community of St. ________, I send you forth with the Holy Eucharist, so that those who cannot be present may still share with us this sacrament of His Body and Blood.