

## Informal Communion

Words to be said are in this style: **All:** say these words.

*Instructions are in italics.*

*This service may be taken by those in Minor Orders, and by Deacons. This service is not a Mass in the sense that it is not a re-creation of the sacrifice that Christ made as when a Priest would celebrate, but is a remembrance of the Last Supper as Christ shared with His friends in the upper room. If a Priest is available, the Short Mass should be used instead.*

*Ordinary bread is used, and a bread roll is ideal (a cracker or water biscuit can be used for those situations where unleavened bread is required). Red wine, or red grape juice if preferred is used. A communicant may dip their piece of bread into the wine if preferred. An ordinary small plate and a small wine glass will be used. A white cloth or paper serviette are placed ready on a suitable table.*

**Leader:** In the name of the Most High God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**All:** Amen.

**Leader:** May the Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the Love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

**All:** Amen.

*A Hymn may be sung*

**Leader:** As we prepare to celebrate the mystery of Christ's love, we confess that we are sinners and ask the Lord for pardon and strength.

*Silence may be kept for reflection and personal confession.*

**Leader:** Let us say together:

**All:** I confess to almighty God,  
and to you, my sisters and brothers,  
that I have sinned through my own fault  
in my thoughts and in my words, *(strike your breast at this point if appropriate)*  
in what I have done,  
and in what I have failed to do;  
and I ask blessed Mary, ever virgin,  
all the angels and saints,  
and you, my sisters and brothers,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

**Leader:** May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

*The people may cross themselves at this point*

**All:** Amen

*Prayers should be said, either by the leader, or by someone from the congregation.*

*The Epistle is read and someone from the congregation is to be preferred as reader.*

*The Gospel is read and it is preferable that the leader reads it.*

**Leader:** All stand for the Gospel.

*And once the reading is finished:*

**All:** Praise to Christ Our Lord.

*The people should be seated.*

*The Hail Mary may be said if desired.*

*The leader holds up the plate with the bread on it and says:*

**Leader:** Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,

that earth has given and human hands have made.

It will become for us the bread of life.

**All:** Blessed be God forever.

*The plate with the bread is replaced in the centre of the cloth.*

*A little wine is poured into the cup; and then a drop of water added to the wine and the leader says:*

**Leader:** By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ, who humbled himself to share in our humanity.

*Then raising the cup say:*

**Leader:** Blessed are you, God of all creation.

Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,

fruit of the vine and work of human hands.

It will become our spiritual drink.

**All:** Blessed be God for ever.

*The cup is placed back on the cloth, beside the plate and the leader bows slightly and says:*

**Leader:** With humble and contrite hearts, Heavenly God, we ask you to receive us and to be pleased with our praise this day.

**Leader:** Let us pray together and say:

**All:** At the Last Supper, as Jesus sat at table with the apostles,  
Jesus offered himself to you as the Lamb without blemish,  
the acceptable gift that gives you perfect praise.  
Jesus left this memorial of the passion  
to continue its saving power until the end of time.  
In this great sacrament you feed your people your own body and blood  
and strengthen them in holiness,  
so that the human family, which shares the same earth,  
may be enlightened by one faith  
and drawn together by one love.  
We come then to this sacramental table  
to be transformed by your grace  
into the likeness of the risen Christ.  
And, therefore, earth unites with heaven  
to sing a new song of praise;  
we too join with the hosts of angels  
as they proclaim your glory without end:  
Holy, Holy, Holy,  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory  
Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed are we who come in the name of the Lord  
Hosanna in the highest!

**Leader:** Let us share a sign of peace together...  
*All present share a sign of peace.*

*Then the plate with the bread is passed around; everyone taking a piece. The leader hands it to the first person saying:*

**Leader:** The Body of Our Lord Christ broken for you.  
*That person then passes it to the next person saying: The Body of Our Lord Christ broken for you. Each person eats the bread after a moments silent reflection.  
The glass with wine is passed around; everyone taking a sip. The leader hands it to the first person saying:*

**Leader:** The Blood of Our Lord Christ shed for you.  
*That person then passes it to the next person saying: The Blood of Our Lord Christ shed for you. Each person sips the wine after a moments silent reflection. Once everyone including the leader has shared the bread and wine, any unused elements are placed on the table and covered with the white cloth.  
All say together:*

**All:** Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share the one bread.

*The Lords prayer is said.*

**Leader:** Our Father...

**All:** *say the Lords Prayer together*

*A Hymn may be sung*

**Leader:** Let us all go out into the world to love and serve Our Lord.

**All:** Amen

**END of service**

*Please pray for yourselves and the Old Catholic Apostolic Church regularly.*