

Is it okay to leave Mass after Communion?

This is an interesting question because beneath the surface there seems to be an assumption that if it's okay, then why do we have to stay after we receive communion? The short answer is "no," but we definitely want to go a bit deeper as we consider why.

First, when we think about questions like this, we must consider this in adult terms. If there is something gravely important that we need to do, then we must attend to that. However, if it is a matter of convenience or preference, then we really have to stop and think again. First, while we always want to recognize the importance of sacramental communion in the Mass, we also need to understand how important the time of thanksgiving and prayer after communion is. This is summarized in the Prayer After Communion offered by the celebrant and then we are also commissioned to "Go forth" during the Dismissal of the Mass, reminding us that we have been entrusted with a gift — the Word of God and the Presence of Christ in the sacrament — and that we are to share that gift with others.

If we simply leave after we receive communion, we risk two things. First, there is the possibility that we will turn our reception of communion into a purely personal, individual experience that is separated from our common experience of worship — and communion in the fullest sense — and, second, we lose an opportunity for gratitude and serious reflection if we simply leave after communion. This time of thanksgiving, reflection, and, ultimately, missioning, are important and, in the end, an essential part of the celebration of the Mass.

©LPi

The Sisters of Providence

'Snackin' with the Alpacas' .

Children of all ages and their guardians are invited to join White Violet Center for Eco-Justice staffers and others this summer for the "Snackin' with the Alpacas: All Ages Summer Reading Program." The program will take place from noon-1:30 p.m., EDT, on Wednesday, August 26. Bring a sack lunch for a picnic while listening to fun alpaca stories and learning alpaca fun facts. All guests will also meet some of the alpacas and receive a take-home alpaca craft. There is no cost to attend, but donations for alpaca care are appreciated. No registration is required. For more information, visit events.SistersofProvidence.org or contact 812-535-2946 or wvc@spsmw.org

Sunday Humor

One Sunday, right after receiving Communion, a man picked up his bag and quietly slipped out of the Church.

A little boy sitting beside his mother whispered, "Mummy, where is he going? Didn't he just receive Jesus?"

The mother smiled sadly and replied, "He left the table early... just like Judas."

Don't be like Judas!

Saint Mary's Village Church
P.O. Box 155
St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN 47876
(812) 535—1261
www.saintmarysvillage.org



August 2, 2026

Parish Life Coordinator
Elizabeth Davis
elizabeth@sacredheart-stmarysvillage.org
(812) 240—5234
Hours: TH, F 9—4

Secretary
Connie Fitch
secretary@sacredheart-stmarysvillage.org
Hours: W, F 8:30—2:30

Musical Accompanist
Susie Ling

Sacramental Minister
Fr. Darvin Winters

Confessions—Saturdays from 4—4:20 pm
at Sacred Heart or by appointment.

The sacraments of Baptism and Matrimony
are arranged by calling the Parish
Office to schedule preparation.

MINISTRY
SCHEDULE

Date	August 2	August 9
Lector	Steve Norris	Carol Cummins
Server	Owen Ramsey	Vivian Serano
Ushers	TomMcKinney Scott Thralls	Owen Ramsey Jody Stafford
EMs	Bonnie Warn Lana Thralls	Kelly Stafford Krista Toney
Counters	Patty Curley Colleen Meyers	Analiza Brockmeier Rachel Marion
Cleaners	Sheila Stultz	

Mass Intentions

- 8/2 In Memory of Denise Dubois
- 8/9 In Memory of Dick Stultz



Finance Report

Description	July 26	Budgeted
Regular Collection	\$ 2377	\$ 2,308
Cemetery		
Galvin	\$ 45	\$ 115

Crackers for a Cause!

Providence Pantry needs us! Did you know that 8 cases of crackers are needed each week (32 per month) to serve the needs of our community? Every box helps. Please continue to bring your crackers in and leave them by the table at the front entrance of church.



Congratulations

Congratulations for the following students who will be confirmed today at St. Benedict Church.

Ameilia Vest	Brock Thralls
Henry Scully	Reagan Norton
Dexter Lozier	Kaitlin Wrin
Michael Chambers	

BIRTHDAYS

Edie Breneman	3
Hank Robertson	5
Evan Miller	5
Sheila Moore	8

Observances for the Week

- Sunday: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time**
- Monday:
- Tuesday: St. John Vianney, Priest
- Wednesday: The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major
- Thursday: The Transfiguration of the Lord
- Friday: St. Sixtus II, Pope, and Companions, Martyrs; St. Cajetan, Priest
- Saturday: St. Dominic, Priest
- Next Sunday: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

To learn more about these saints, go to:
www.catholic.org

Prayer Intention of
the Holy Father

Let us pray that in large cities often marked by anonymity and loneliness we find new ways to proclaim the Gospel, discovering creative paths to build community.



David Auterson	Barbara Hofman
Tony Dubois	Sarah Mahady
Flo Callahan	Lane Norton
Ray Edwards	Dave Sullivan
Jane Frazier	Brylee Switzer
Gary Garzolini	



Bob & Patty Curley	8/4/1984
Curt & Debbie DeBaun	8/20/1977
Raymond & Janice Edwards	8/1/1970
Corey & Sarah Fagg	8/27/2011
Logan & Michaela Farnham	8/31/2024
Steve & Pam Norris	8/3/2007
Easton & Jena Robertson	8/30/2014
Scott & Lana Thralls	8/24/1985