A Retreat for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

**Sharpen the Saw** means preserving and enhancing the greatest asset you have... **YOU**... It means having a balanced program for self-renewal in your life... Without this renewal, the body becomes weak, the mind mechanical, the emotions raw, the spirit insensitive, and the person selfish.

Stephen R. Covey

**Caring for Those Who Serve Christ to One Another**

It is not sufficient, however, simply to have a “warm body” filling a given role. Those engaged in liturgical roles need to be well prepared for those roles and to know how to carry them out with reverence, dignity, and understanding.

2010, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Those who are called to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion recognize Christ, present in the Eucharist. They offer their ministry for the assembly at Mass, and for individuals who are homebound or in a care facility. In the words of the song *Gather the People*, Eucharistic ministers know that “*here we become what we eat*”. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion offer their time and talent for the benefit of so many – yet who tends to their needs?

*Sustaining the Journey*, a retreat series endorsed by both the National Association of Pastoral Musicians and the American Guild of Organists, is an opportunity for all Liturgical Ministers to experience renewal and refreshment. With a combined 70+ years of liturgical ministry in the Diocese of Cleveland, presenters Bob Soeder and Mary Hrich bring with them a wealth of experience, knowledge, and music. Each retreat includes a light meal, time for fellowship and prayer, stories, singing, and a little learning along the way! Designed for all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, this *Sustaining the Journey* event will leave you with food for thought and a renewed enthusiasm for liturgical ministry. **Come for the food – stay for the nourishment!**

Content can be customized to meet your organization’s specific needs.

**For more information, contact Bob or Mary:**

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