

The Ministries at Mass Answer Key

1. The word *ministry* means service.
2. In the context of the Eucharist, *ministries* are all the official roles that different people play in the celebration of the Eucharist.
3. The assembly that gathers for the celebration of the Eucharist assembles as the Body of Christ in the world.
4. Every Eucharist is a celebration of a local church gathered around its bishop.
5. In every Eucharist, the priest stands in the place of Christ over the people.
6. In many celebrations of the Eucharist, the deacon will proclaim the Gospel, preach the Homily, assist in the distribution of Holy Communion, and offer the Sign of Peace, among other things.
7. Other important ministries at Mass are a variety of lay liturgical ministries. The need of each of these ministries is determined by the particular celebration:

Greeters or hospitality ministers: Welcome the assembly as it gathers, or greet people before Mass, hand out songbooks, etc.

Sacristan: Arranges all the liturgical books, vestments, chalices, and other elements for the celebration

Altar servers: Help the priest and deacon during the Mass. Altar servers must always be alert to the needs of the priest and deacon on the altar and assist in the liturgy in a dignified way.

Lectors: Train and prepare to read the Word of God. Lectors must first understand the assigned Scripture passage. Lectors are encouraged to practice their readings several times before reading them to the assembly.

Singers or choir (*schola cantorum*): Augment the Word of God with song. Musicians are vital to the celebration.

Eucharistic ministers: Help the priest and deacon distribute the Body and Blood of Christ during Communion. They also take Holy Communion to those who are sick or homebound and unable to participate in the Mass.

Ushers: Seat people in the assembly and collect the offerings

