

Eucharistic Assistants

What is a Eucharistic Assistant or Communion Assistant?

- They assist the presiding minister in administering the bread and wine at Holy Communion
- Not ordained, but selected by the parish and affirmed by the Bishop
- They should be both prayerful and pastorally sensitive
- The vicar and Parochial Church Council (PCC) agree who to put forward for this role
- A responsibility as well as a great privilege



Eucharistic Assistant or Communion Assistant? What's in a name?

- The Church of England has three names for the Communion Service
 - Holy Communion - which emphasises our **communion with God** and with each other.
 - The Eucharist - which is a Greek word for **Giving Thanks**.
 - The Lord's Supper - which reminds us that we **remember** what Jesus did.
- The gift of Holy Communion is too rich and wonderful to be understood in only one way.



What do they do?

- They "assist" or help...
 - ... the minister
 - with the practical task of administering Communion.
 - ... the congregation
 - help each person to encounter God as they receive the bread and wine.
 - ... the church
 - to be the worshipping people of God.



Holy Communion

The Structure of the Common Worship (Order 1) Service

