



Communion by Extension in the Diocese of Leicester

Communion by Extension allows for bread and wine, consecrated at a service of Holy Communion, to be shared at another service as an 'extension' of that prior celebration.

This additional service is a celebration of a 'Public Worship with Communion by Extension', which is an authorised service and can be led by a deacon or licensed lay minister (e.g. an Associate Minister, Reader or LLM) but should not be led by a member of the laity.

Due to the importance of the eucharistic sacrament, the Diocesan Bishop's permission must be sought, via the Bishop's Chaplain, and the authorised form of service must be used. Care should be taken to explain that it is not a celebration of Holy Communion, but a means by which a worshipping community can participate in Holy Communion 'by extension'.

Whilst Communion by Extension can be valuable in particular circumstances, it should not become the normal setting in which people receive the consecrated elements. It should not, for instance, be used as a means for avoiding necessary conversations about unsustainable service provision. Nor should it be used as a means of introducing a sacramental element into the life of home groups or other parish groups, whether on an occasional or a regular basis.

Communion by Extension is also not a provision for taking communion to the sick or housebound - the Common Worship liturgy *for the Distribution of Communion at home or in hospital* should be used for this purpose.

Before seeking permission to administer Communion by Extension, please consult the following sets of guidance:

- [The House of Bishops Guidelines for Public Worship with Communion by Extension](#)
- [The Authorized provision for Communion by Extension](#), using the Common Worship liturgical material for the Church of England
- [Rules for Regulating Authorized Forms of Service](#)

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