

HOLY COMMUNION

COME FORWARD WITH FAITH AND LOVE!

While the Church is a spiritual institution, it still must exist in a material world filled with contemporary problems. In recent years, concern over the spreading of the dreaded COVID virus has had a profound affect on one of the Church's most sacred of liturgical practices: the reception of Holy Communion. An alarming number of Orthodox Christians may question the "health risk" involved with the reception of the Eucharist. Others have called for changes in the method of distributing Holy Communion to the faithful, so that receiving the Sacrament will be 'safer.'

In examining this important issued, we must begin by stating our belief that the Holy Eucharist is the BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST. We cannot explain HOW bread and wine takes this form during the Divine Liturgy. We simply believe that it DOES. In His public ministry, our Lord often spoke of EATING THE FLESH and DRINKING THE BLOOD of the Son of Man. He was quick to point out to His followers that those who obeyed this command would find eternal life. He further taught that this was the means of being united with Him. 'HE WHO EATS MY FLESH AND DRINKS MY BLOOD ABIDES IN ME, AND I IN HIM.' (JOHN 6:56)

The reception of Holy Communion, therefore, is completely a MATTER OF FAITH. If we truly believe Christ's words, how could we thing for a moment that our Saviour would put us at risk by doing something so vital to our salvation? Do we not pray each time we approach that chalice that the partaking of this Mystery is for the HEALING OF OUR BODY AND SOUL?

No harm will EVER come to us from this most intimate contact with our Lord. Contine to COME FORWARD WITH FAITH AND LOVE!