

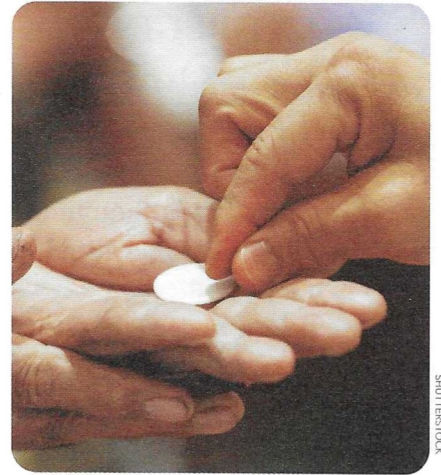
Dear Padre,

I am having a difficult time receiving Communion from a eucharistic minister who has been behaving in a manner that I don't consider moral. When I receive Communion from her, I feel like I am condoning her actions. Would it be wrong of me to go to a different person to receive Communion?

It seems unlikely that someone would assume you are condoning her actions by receiving Communion from her. We do not sin by receiving a sacrament from an unworthy person. What matters is how worthy we are to receive it. It might be wise to receive Communion from a different person if you are more concerned with this minister's behavior than you are with Jesus when you approach the sacrament.

It is not our task to expose and punish the sinner. If you look at the life of Jesus, you will see that he did everything possible not to condemn sinners but to save them. We should take that as the model for our own lives. Try to find ways to encourage her to live a good life. Perhaps friendship would serve her better than a boycott of her Communion line.

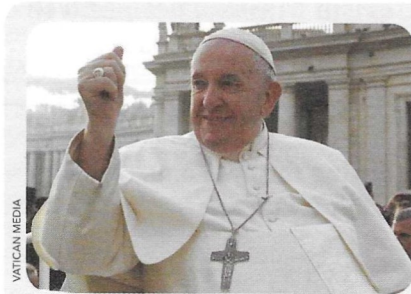
When Jesus was presented with the woman caught in adultery, he did not pretend that it was right. Neither did he rush to condemn her. He looked for his opportunity to forgive and tell her to avoid sin. Use that as your example about how to treat the woman at church.



SHUTTERSTOCK

The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
February 12 <i>Weekday</i>	February 13 <i>Weekday</i>	February 14 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	February 15 <i>Thursday after Ash Wednesday</i>	February 16 <i>Friday after Ash Wednesday</i>	February 17 <i>Saturday after Ash Wednesday</i>	February 18 <i>First Sunday of Lent</i>
Jas 1:1-11 Mk 8:11-13	Jas 1:12-18 Mk 8:14-21	Jl 2:12-18 2 Cor 5:20-6:2 Mt 6:1-6, 16-18	Dt 30:15-20 Lk 9:22-25	Is 58:1-9a Mt 9:14-15	Is 58:9b-14 Lk 5:27-32	Gn 9:8-15 1 Pt 3:18-22 Mk 1:12-15



VATICAN MEDIA

A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

Compassion means "to suffer-with-another." Jesus' heart manifests God's paternal compassion for (the leper), moving close to him and touching him. And this detail is very important. Jesus "stretched out his hand and touched him.... And immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean" (Mark 1:41-42). God's mercy overcomes every barrier....

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