

Even if some receive on the tongue, anyone can desecrate particles scattered by those who receive in the hand.

## Implications for the Faithful

1. Communicants must immediately and carefully inspect their hands for fragments and consume all that they find. "If a host or any particle should fall, it is to be picked up reverently" (General Instruction of the Roman Missal #280).
2. Practice Communion on the tongue as the most effective way to protect our Lord.
3. Catechists: Teach how to find and consume all particles of the Host if receiving in the hand.
4. Never receive Communion (on tongue or hand) without the communion-plate.
5. Avoid sitting in pews or walking where fragments could have fallen or been dispersed.
6. Make Spiritual Communions, rather than walk on the Lord in churches where fragments are on the floor through negligence.
7. When cleaning church floors and pews, remember that Christ isn't dirt, and cannot be thrown into the garbage. (cf. Can. 1382)

*"If you are aware of the fact that on the floor fragments of the consecrated hosts are scattered in churches where Communion in hand is given, then it would be for you justified not to go to Holy Communion in those churches where Communion in hand is distributed" (Bishop Athanasius Schneider).*

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*"The faithful regarded themselves as guilty, and rightly so as Origen recalls, if, after they had received the body of the Lord and kept it with all reverence and caution, some part of it were to fall to the ground through negligence" (Pope St. Paul VI).*

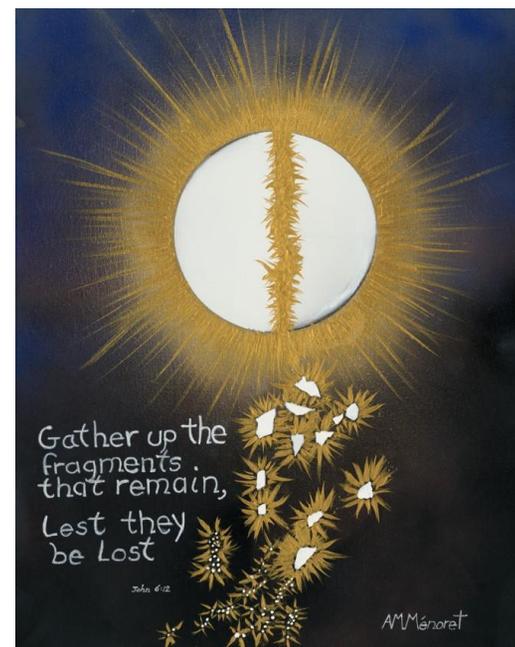
## Implications for the Clergy

1. Mandate that the faithful must immediately and carefully inspect their hands for fragments and consume all that they find, and that all clergy, concelebrants and lay ministers do the same in the sanctuary.
2. Use the Communion-plate, currently obligatory, regardless of distribution method. (cf. GIRM 118)
3. Mandate that the Host and all fragments be consumed before stepping away from the minister. (cf. Redemptionis Sacramentum, 92).
4. Faithfully teach the true presence of Jesus in the Eucharistic fragments.
5. Promote Communion on the tongue as the most effective way to protect the Lord.
6. Control the cleaning of churches, and the removal of Eucharistic fragments collected.

**Can. 1382 § 1.** One who throws away the consecrated species or, for a sacrilegious purpose, takes them away or keeps them, incurs a *latae sententiae excommunication* reserved to the Apostolic See; a cleric, moreover, may be punished with some other penalty, not excluding dismissal from the clerical state. (Code of Canon Law, December 8, 2021)

*"There can be no excess in our care for this mystery" (Pope St. John Paul II).*

# STOP COMMUNION ON THE FLOOR



*It is the Lord*  
(John 21:7)

*"The heart of the world"*  
(Pope St. John Paul II)

## Why is Jesus Allowed to Be Literally Trampled?

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Most Catholic priests do not mandate communicants to check for **Eucharistic fragments** when they receive in the hand. These fragments are dropped, and ultimately every person who walks in any cathedral, church, shrine or chapel, where communion is distributed in the hand, crushes our conscious and living Lord under their feet.

**The Eucharistic presence of Christ begins at the moment of the consecration and endures as long as the Eucharistic species subsist. Christ is present whole and entire in each of the species and whole and entire in each of their parts, in such a way that the breaking of the bread does not divide Christ (CCC 1377).**

Consequently, Catholics believe Jesus is mysteriously present, whole and entire (body, blood, soul, and divinity), not only in the whole Host, but also in a small particle of the Host and in a single drop of His Precious Blood.



*“Care must be taken not to allow particles of the eucharistic bread to fall or be scattered” (Pope St. Paul VI)*

*Reception of the Eucharist in the hand was permitted only with repeated warnings.*



**Figure 1.** *Countless visible fragments of unconsecrated hosts electrostatically sticking to the inside of the container.*

### A Double Standard:

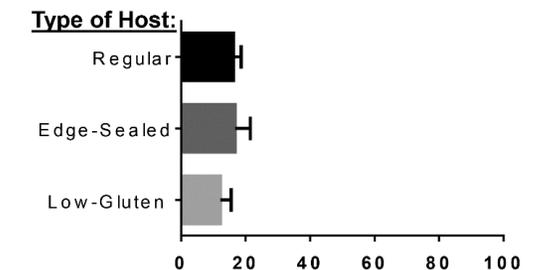
Fragments of the Host are visible even before the consecration (Fig.1). Hence, the Catholic priest is taught to be particularly careful with the small pieces of consecrated Hosts.

Whenever a fragment of the host adheres to his fingers, especially after the fraction or the Communion of the faithful, the priest is to wipe his fingers over the paten or, if necessary, wash them. Likewise, he should also gather any fragments that may have fallen outside the paten. **Sadly, a double standard takes place during Mass.** The great care that the priest is obligated to perform at the altar to prevent the loss of particles is not replicated by the faithful who receive in the hand. Lay communicants touching the Eucharist with their fingers never have this opportunity. The faithful then ignore Eucharistic fragments, lose them, and even those who receive on the tongue end up walking on fragments left behind by others.

**Three reasons why people are unaware of the presence of fragments of the Host:**

1. Fragments are most often the same color as the palm of the hand and fingers, hence mostly unnoticed.

2. Fragments are found in the hand at a low frequency. Testing (with un-consecrated hosts) showed the presence of fragments in the hand and fingers about 15-20% of the time, irrespectively of the type of host used (Fig. 2). Therefore a weekly communicant may receive a fragment only about once every two months, perhaps never noticing it. More importantly however, if fragments are present at an even more conservative rate, let's say only one tenth of the time, it stands to reason that at each Mass about 10% of the parishioners receive fragments with the host. **Therefore, at a Mass with 300 people, about 30 of them will receive fragments of Christ and scatter Him all over the building.**



**% of times fragments are found in the hand**

**Figure 2.** *Frequency of fragments found in the hand and on the fingers of the recipient upon reception. Fragments visible on the hand and fingers by the naked eye were counted and reported as percentage of all the trials +/- standard error of the mean.*

3. A chronic lack of teaching on the subject.

*It is unthinkable to consider that just a few occurrences of trampling on Jesus Christ are acceptable.*