

**ECUMENICAL PATRIARCHATE**  
Press Office and Communications

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Ecumenical Patriarchate, prompted by questions regarding whether or not it has “blessed” the use of multiple or disposable communion spoons during the distribution of Holy Communion to the faithful, reiterates that which is already stated in the Communiqué of the Chief Secretariat of the Holy and Sacred Synod of the 25th of this June:

“As to the mode of distributing the undefiled Mysteries to the faithful, the Church, respecting Holy Tradition, which is inextricably interwoven with Her daily ecclesiastical practice and kenotic experience, retains those things that are valid from time immemorial and unto the present day, as a guard and vigilant watchman of those traditions handed down by the Holy Fathers, and finds no need for a change of this mode, especially under pressure from external factors.”

Ecclesiastical *oikonomia* of whatever kind, then, is exercised only when the two sufficient and necessary circumstances coincide:

a) that there is some prohibition by the law of the state regarding the Divine Worship because of the pandemic, and b) only after the Mother Church of Constantinople has given Her concurring opinion and permission to this effect. In any case, this does not apply to the change of the mode of distribution, much less the use of multiple or disposable holy communion spoons.

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From the Press Office and Communications  
of the Ecumenical Patriarchate