



Distributors of Liturgical Altar Breads Since 1983

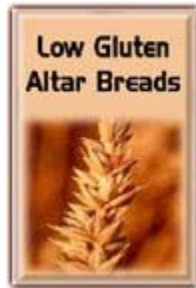
The Bellarmine Society

Corpus Domini

Oakville . ON . Canada

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About Low-Gluten Altar Breads



Low-gluten altar breads that contain less than 20 PPM gluten are now available to churches across Canada for use in the Catholic Liturgy and the reception of Holy Communion by those suffering from Celiac Disease.

These wafers are made from wheat starch with 99.99% of the gluten removed and conform to the requirements of The Holy See. The breads are approximately 1 3/8" diameter, plain white with no design. They are sealed in a plastic bag of 100 breads per bag and packaged in boxes of one bag per box. They have a shelf life of approximately 6 to 12 months under normal circumstances. The shelf life is highly dependent upon external factors once the breads are opened for use. Each box contains a "Certificate of Authenticity" attesting to their conformity to the Vatican's directives along with a summary of the "Norms" for their use.

All Catholics should be aware that The Vatican's Code of Canon Law requires the use of unleavened bread made only from pure wheat flour and water with the added stipulation that the breads may not contain any other additional non-wheat foreign substances.



The Vatican has made special provisions for those suffering from Celiac Disease. The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith has established "**Norms for the Use of Low-Gluten Altar Breads**" with the proviso that the breads must contain at least trace amounts of gluten (so as to conform to the requirements of Canon Law) and may not contain any non-wheat products. The **low-gluten** breads offered by The St. Robert Bellarmine Society conform to these requirements and have ecclesiastical approval.

It should be noted that these "Norms" also make a distinction between **gluten-free** and **low-gluten** breads. The "Norms" make it clear that **gluten-free breads constitute invalid matter** and may not be used in the Catholic Liturgy. Any attempt to use **gluten-free** breads is a serious matter and would invalidate the Consecration during Mass and would invalidate the reception of Holy Communion. Catholics who suffer from Celiac Disease may also avail themselves of the option of receiving Holy Communion from the chalice.

The St. Robert Bellarmine Society does not sell altar breads directly to individuals. Individuals who are interested in receiving Holy Communion using these low-gluten breads should contact their local parish office. The St. Robert Bellarmine Society is the exclusive distributor of these low-gluten altar breads in Canada. Information on the "Norms for the Use of Low-Gluten Altar Breads" is available from our web site located at www.rbellarmine.com.