

Alcohol Policy

The Alcohol Policy of the Episcopal Diocese of Hawai'i as Adopted by the Bishop and Standing Committee effective the First Sunday of Advent, November 29, 2015:

- The Church must provide a safe and welcoming environment for all people, including people in recovery.
- All applicable federal, state and local laws should be obeyed, including those governing the serving of alcoholic beverages to minors.
- No alcoholic beverages will be served at public events sponsored by the Diocese.
- Congregations may decide not to serve alcoholic beverages at events or gatherings. Congregations may decide to permit a limited use of beer and/or wine at church-sponsored events. No hard liquor will be served at congregational events in the Diocese of Hawai'i.
- When alcohol is served, it must be monitored and those showing signs of intoxication must not be served. Whenever alcohol is served, the rector, vicar, or priest-in-charge must appoint an adult to oversee its serving. That adult must not drink alcoholic beverages during the time of his or her execution of his or her responsibilities.
- Serving alcoholic beverages at congregational events where minors are present is strongly discouraged. If minors are present, alcohol must be served at a separate station that is monitored at all times to prevent underage drinking.
- Alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages must be clearly labeled as such. Food prepared with alcohol does not need to be labeled provided the alcohol is completely evaporated by the cooking process; however, it is recommended that even in this case the use of alcohol in cooking be noted on a label.
- Whenever alcohol is served, appealing non-alcoholic alternatives must always be offered with equal prominence and accessibility.
- The serving of alcoholic beverages at church events should not be publicized as an attraction of the event, e.g. "wine and cheese reception," "cocktail party" and "beer and wine tasting," or photos/drawings of bottles, wine glasses or beer steins.
- Ministries inside or outside of congregations will make certain that alcohol consumption is not the focus of the ministry and that drinking alcohol is not an

exclusively normative activity.

- Food must be served when alcohol is present.
- The groups or organizations sponsoring the activity or event at which alcoholic beverages are served must have permission from the clergy-in-charge and the vestry/bishop's committee. Such groups or organizations must also assume responsibility for those persons who might become intoxicated and must provide alternative transportation for anyone whose capacity to drive may be impaired. Such groups and organizations must provide proof liability insurance.
- Recognizing the effects of alcohol as a mood-altering drug, alcoholic beverages shall not be served when the business of the Church (annual meetings, vestry meetings, committee meetings, etc.) is being conducted.
- Clergy shall consecrate an appropriate amount of wine when celebrating the Eucharist and perform ablutions in a way that does not foster or model misuse.
- Clergy are urged to acknowledge and teach the efficacy of receiving the sacrament in one kind. They may also consider providing non-alcoholic wine (not grape juice) as an alternative at celebrations of the Holy Eucharist.