

## *Serving at Holy Mass*

The Alter Server should arrive 15 minutes prior to Holy Mass, dressed properly for Holy Mass. The Alter Server will put on the Alb, remembering to close the closet door. The Altar Server will get the Processional Cross and wait in the vestibule of the church. At the appropriate time, light the candles on the altar – 5 minutes before the beginning of Holy Mass. When Holy Mass is over the Alter Server will clear the Altar of the Sacred Vessels, bringing them into the Sacristy. It is good to say prayers before and after serving at Holy Mass

### *Servers Prayer Before Holy Mass*

Open my mouth, O Lord, to bless Your Holy Name.  
Cleanse my heart from all evil and distracting thoughts.

Enlighten my understanding, inflame my will, that I  
may serve worthily at Your holy altar.

O Mary, Mother of Christ, the High Priest,  
obtain for me the most important grace of  
knowing my vocation in life. Grant me a  
true spirit of faith and humble obedience so  
that I may ever behold the priest as a  
representative of GOD and willing follow  
him in the Way, the Truth and the Life of Christ.

*Amen*

### *Servers Prayer After Mass*

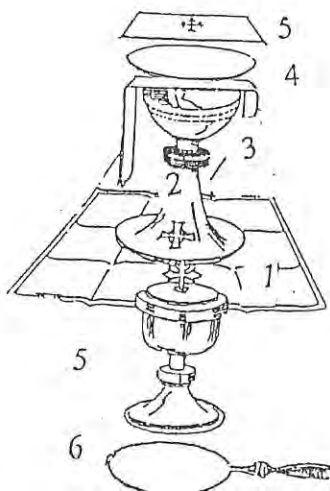
O' Lord, Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest, I thank You for the  
Privilege of having served at the holy altar of Your Sacrifice.

Now, as I put aside the garments of that service, I ask that I may at  
all time think of You. May I ever seek You and find You; may I  
always follow You; may Your priestly spirit be in my heart and Your  
Holy Name on my lips; and to Your praise and glory may every work  
of mine be done. Ever ready in Your service, may I always know  
and do Your Will in all things and, by Your grace, persevere unto  
the end.

*Amen*

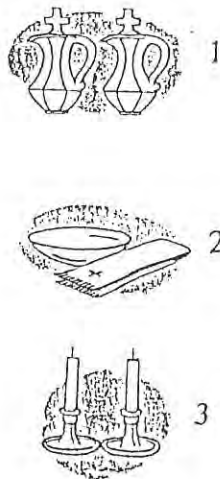
### Sacred Vessels

- 1 Corporal:
- 2 Chalice:
- 3 Purificator
- 4 Paten
- 5 Pall
- 5 Ciborium
- 6 Communion Paten



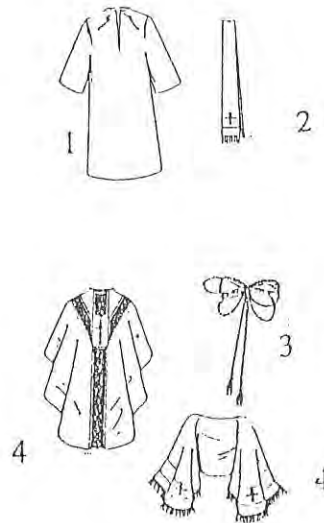
### Items used at Holy Mass

- 1 Cruetts
- 2 Basin & Finger Towel
- 3 Candles



### Vestments

- 1 Alb
- 2 Stole
- 3 Cincture
- 4 Chasuble
- 5 Humeral Veil



### Posture at Holy Mass

- 1 Hands
- 2 Kneeling
- 3 Genuflecting
- 4 Eyes watch the action
- 5 Standing: Straight no leaning



Altar Servers  
Serving At Holy Mass

*To begin, pray*

**LITURGY OF THE WORD**

- When the Priest is ready the Servers lead him to the Altar
- The first Altar Server carrying the Processional Cross.
- The second Altar Server follows with hands folded, followed by the Priest.
- Arriving at the Altar, the Servers separate with the Cross - Bearer to the right, the second server to the left allowing the Priest to approach the Altar between them.
- The Servers proceed up the Altar stairs. The Processional Cross is placed in the corner, on the right hand side of the Altar on the back wall.
- After the priest kisses the Altar, welcomes all, the Penitential Rite, the Gloria, the Opening Prayer is completed, the servers will be seated one on each side of the Priest when the Priest sits down.
- The Altar Servers focus their attention on the Lector for the readings.
- When the Alleluia begins the Altar Servers stand when the Priest stands and remain standing during the reading of the Gospel.
- The Altar Servers focus their attention on the Priest as he reads the Gospel. At the end of the Gospel the Altar Servers respond: ***"Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ."***
- The Altar Servers sit and focus their attention on the Priest as he gives the homily.
- The Profession of Faith is said
- The Prayer of the Faithful is said the Altar Servers respond ***"Lord Hear Our Prayer."***

**LITURGY OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST**

- During the collection the Altar Servers will take the Chalice, Paten, Ciborium to the Altar when the priest signals them to do so. The Altar Servers will move together, side by side.
- The Altar Servers will then get the Cruets with the wine and water in them and take them to the Priest, working/standing side by side - always moving **TOGETHER**. The handles of the Cruets will be facing the Priest.
- The Priest will first take the wine pouring some into the chalice, then the water pouring some into the Chalice. The Altar Servers will return the Cruets back to the side table moving together.
- The Altar Server will then take up the water pitcher, basin and towel to the Priest. Folding the towel over the Altar Servers left arm. The Altar Server will pour water over the priest's fingers and then offer the towel by moving the arm toward the priest. Return the finger bowl, towel back to the side table
- The Altar Server then proceeds down the steps and kneels after the Holy, Holy, Holy on the lowest step for the Consecration of the Hosts
- When the Priest holds his hands over the Chalice the Altar Server rings the bells
- When the Priest elevates the LARGE HOST - TO BECOME THE BODY OF CHRIST, the Altar Server rings the bells. *Elevate Chalice*
- At the beginning of the Our Father the Servers will go back up on the Altar.
- The Sign of Peace will take place
- The Altar Server will join in saying the **LAMB OF GOD AND LORD, I AM NOT WORTHY TO RECEIVE YOU, BUT ONLY SAY THE WORD AND I SHALL BE HEALED.**
- The Altar Server will get the Communion Paten, following the Priest standing on his right and holds the Communion Paten under each person's hands as they receive Holy Communion
- When distribution of Holy Communion is completed, the Altar Server will **HOLD THE COMMUNION PATEN FLAT UNTIL THE PRIEST ASKS FOR IT.** When the Priest has cleaned it he will hand it back to the Altar Server to be put away on the side table. - *Credence*
- The Altar Server will then take the Water Cruet to the Priest for the cleansing of the Sacred Vessels. When the Priest has finished, and sits down so may the Altar Servers.
- The Priest will then stand, the Altar Server also stands as the Prayer after Communion is said. The Priest will invite all to sit as he gives any announcements.
- The Priest will then give the Final Blessing.
- The Altar Server will then get the Processional Cross leading the Priest down the Altar steps, turn and face the Altar, when the Priest bows the Altar will also bow.
- The Altar Server with the Processional Cross will then lead the Priest down the aisle.
- The Priest will greet the people as they leave the church.
- The Altar Servers will during this time clear the Altar putting the Sacred Vessels in the Sacristy.

*To end, pray.*