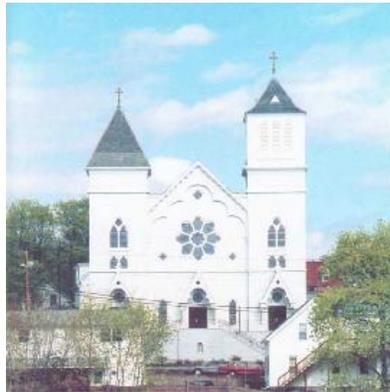


St. Michael's Parish

Hudson, MA

Altar Server Manual

(Feb 2012)



Thank you for your willingness to serve as an Altar Server. You are serving in an important way at the Mass. Serving at Mass will involve learning some new words and some very specific things to remember. It's important to realize that you are serving not only the Priest, but your family, the whole Church community at St. Michael's Parish, and you are serving God in helping with prayers and with the Eucharist.

This server's guide covers the main details of serving at Mass. This guide should help you grow more comfortable and refined in your role on the Altar. We ask that you keep this hand-out so that you can review the instructions later, when needed.

FUNDAMENTAL POINTS

As an Altar Server, you are involved in some of the holiest and most sacred events in our tradition of Catholic worship. Mass is a combination of Word and Sacrament. We hear God's Word spoken to us through the scriptures and in the homily, then we respond to that Word with our prayers and in receiving the body and blood of Our Lord, Jesus Christ. The Priest receives our sacrifice to God in the form of bread and wine and invoking the power of the Holy Spirit, these are transformed into His body and blood, to become nourishment for our souls, leading us closer to God's immense love and mercy and especially towards everlasting life with Him. It is a great mystery, but it lives at the core of our faith. All of our hope is placed in the saving power of God's word and presence, most especially in His presence that comes to us in the Eucharist. Through prayer and reflection, we all can appreciate the significance of what is actually happening at Mass. It is important to be sure that you, as an Altar Server, be attentive and sensitive to the presence of God during the Mass, and afterwards. God calls us to respond to his great love and mercy with a sense of reverence, wonderment and gratefulness. We must all help each other remember to show reverence to God at all times, but most especially when you're serving. Some ways you can do this is to:

- 1) Sit still, be calm and settle your nerves;
- 2) Only speak when necessary.
- 3) Respond with the congregation at the appropriate times;
- 4) Do your best to enter into the spirit of the celebration—sing with God's family;
- 5) Keep your movements smooth and slow (not sluggish though!).

POSTURE AND HAND MOVEMENTS

Believe it or not, what you do with your hands is very important! When you're standing or sitting and your hands are busy, or if you can't seem to sit or stand still, you will be a source for distraction for your friends and family in the pews, the other Altar Servers, and most surely, the Priest and Deacon. Your hands are to be "folded" during most parts of the Mass. What this means is to put your open hands together, palms facing each other, and fold your thumbs one over the other. Point your fingers up, not straight up, but at a slight angle that is comfortable. Also, you need not apply pressure on your palms and wrists. Just keep them together, comfortably. Placing your hands in this way is supposed to be a sign of prayer, not of tension. Remember, as Altar Servers, you are leading others to pray! Review of a few things that are NOT reverent (please avoid doing any of these!!)

- No leaning on the Altar table or the chairs
- No running anytime in Church, even when you're not serving.
- No chewing gum in church, even when you're not serving.
- No sitting in a slumped position. Always do your best to sit up straight and to stand straight.
- When seated, refrain from swinging your legs.
- If you need to sneeze, cough or yawn, please be sure to cover your mouth
- Remember, it is ok to SMILE, this is a joyous celebration!

Please remember any time that you pass in front of the Altar to stop, focus and make a slight bow. Please – no drive by nods! The only time you do need to bow is if you are carrying the cross or a candle.

GUIDE TO THE ITEMS USED IN THE MASS

VESTMENTS

- ◆ Alb: This long, white, dress-like vestment can be worn by all liturgical ministers. An Altar Server can assist the Priest or Deacon/seminarian by making sure that it hangs properly in the back.
- ◆ Chasuble: The chasuble is the sleeveless outer vestment, slipped over the head, hanging down from the shoulders and covering the stole (sometimes) and alb. It is the proper Mass vestment of the Priest and its color varies according to the feast or liturgical season.
- ◆ Cincture: This long cord is used for fastening some albs at the waist. It holds loose fitting albs in place and is used to adjust the proper length. The cincture is usually white.
- ◆ Cope: A cape-like vestment that is put on over the shoulders and hangs to the ankles, it is open at the front and clasped at the neck. The Priest wears this at Benediction and in certain processions. Copes can be of any liturgical color.
- ◆ Dalmatic: The dalmatic is a loose-fitting robe with open sides and wide sleeves worn by the Deacon. The color varies according to the liturgical feast or season of the liturgical year.
- ◆ Humeral Veil: This is a long, narrow, shawl-like vestment used at Benediction and in processions when the Blessed Sacrament is carried.
- ◆ Server's Alb: This is a vestment used by Altar Servers. It is similar to the Priest's alb, but sometimes has a cowl (hood). A cincture is often tied around the waist.
- ◆ Stole: A stole is a long cloth "scarf," often ornately decorated, of the same color and style of the chasuble. A Priest wears it around the neck, letting it hang down in the front. A Deacon wears it over his left shoulder and fastened at his right side, like a sash. Neither seminarians nor other lay-ministers wear stoles.

ALTAR VESSELS

- ◆ Aspergillum or Sprinkler: It is a perforated metal ball or tube on a handle that holds the holy water used by the Priest to sprinkle the faithful or articles to be blessed. It is often kept in a small metal bucket (with a handle) that holds the holy water.
- ◆ Basin and Pitcher: These are used by the Altar Servers when the Priest washes his hands during the preparation of the gifts.
- ◆ Boat: This is a small metal container that holds the incense to be put into the Thurible. It has a cover and comes with a small spoon. Frequently shaped like a boat, it is a symbol of the church.
- ◆ Candlelighter or Extinguisher: Used for lighting and extinguishing candles. It is a pole-like instrument with a tube at one side on the top with a retractable wick for lighting candles. The server using it should have enough wick exposed so that the flame will not go out until all candles are lit. Then the tab should be used to retract the wick to put the flame out (once the flame is out be sure to leave a little of the wick sticking out—the wick is made of wax and it will stick to the inside of the tube when it cools, if you don't leave it sticking out a little.) Often the server cannot see the top of the candle (especially the Easter candle), so patience and practice may be needed, or you may need to ask for someone to help you.

- ◆ Chalice: The large cup used at Mass to hold the wine that becomes the blood of Christ. Some can be very ornate.
- ◆ Ciborium: This is a cup- or bowl-like vessel with a lid. It contains hosts that will be used for communion. It is also used to reserve the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle.
- ◆ Corporal: A white linen cloth usually starched, on which are placed the vessels containing the bread and wine during Mass. It is also used at Adoration and Benediction.
- ◆ Finger Towel: A folded rectangular cloth resembling a Purificator, but much narrower, it is used by the Priest to dry his fingers after they have been washed during the preparation of the gifts. It is kept with the water cruet and finger bowl.
- ◆ Flagon or Decanter: This is a bottle or carafe-like vessel used to hold the wine that will be consecrated at Mass for the communion of the people. It is filled before Mass, taken to the rear of the church and is brought forward at the procession of the gifts.
- ◆ Lunette: A thin, circular receptacle, having a glass face that holds the Consecrated Host used for Adoration and Benediction. It slides into the monstrance on a little track.
- ◆ Monstrance: This is a large, ornate vessel used to hold the Blessed Sacrament for Adoration, Benediction and solemn Eucharistic processions.
- ◆ Pall: This is a stiff square white cover that is placed over the paten when it is on the chalice and over the chalice during Mass to protect its contents.
- ◆ Paten: This is a saucer-like dish that usually matches the chalice with which it is used. It holds the bread that becomes the body of Christ.
- ◆ Purificator: This is a triple folded white cloth used to cleanse the chalice and the celebrant's fingers after the last ablution (washing). In setting up the chalice, the Purificator is placed over the top of the chalice.
- ◆ Pyx: A case, about the size of a pocket watch, in which Communion is carried to those who are sick or unable to come to church.
- ◆ Small Chalice: Smaller cups used at Mass to hold the wine that becomes the blood of Christ. These are used at Communion time.
- ◆ Thurible or Censer: The metal container extended from a chain in which charcoal and incense are burned for liturgical ceremonies. It has a lid that can be raised. It is used at solemn Masses and a Benediction.

Vessels used at the Procession of the Gifts



Flagon and Paten

Credence Table



Basin and Pitcher

Chalice

Ciborium

Corporal

Finger Towel

Purificator

Small Chalice

Vessel Placement on the Altar



Chalice

Ciborium

Corporal

Flagon

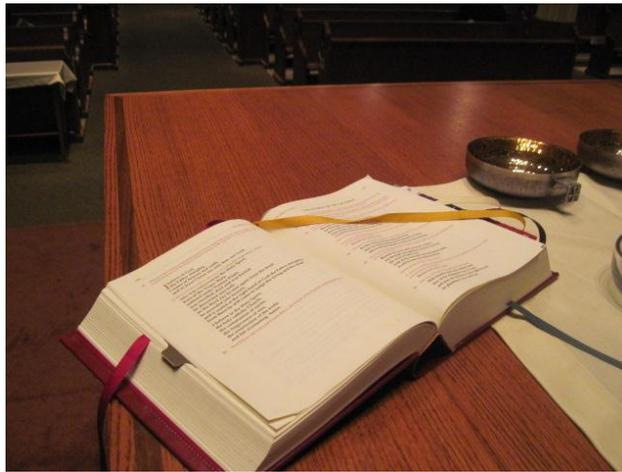
Paten

Purificator

Roman Missal

Small Chalices

Roman Missal



Open to Yellow Tab

THE ORDER OF THE MASS

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

The procession begins when the people begin to sing the entrance hymn. Walk up the aisle slowly, slower than you normally walk, but not at a snail's pace.

Altar Server (cross bearer) will lead the procession with the candle bearers following. When you arrive at the Altar, stand by the pillar to the right of the Altar (by the choir); the Altar Servers (candle bearers) will stand by the pillar in front of the ambo. Wait for the Priest and Deacon and ministers. The Priest and Deacon will either bow or genuflect. As they do so, you simply remain standing—do not bow at the waist; you may make a head bow. The rule is: if you're carrying something like candles or cross, then you do not genuflect or bow at the waist.

The Altar Server (cross bearer) will then return the cross to the sacristy and return to sit on the right hand side of the Altar (by the credence table). Altar Servers (candle bearers) will place the candles in the candle holders on each side of the Altar table. The Altar Server on the left will sit on the left by the ambo; the Altar Server on the right will join the Altar Server (cross bearer) on the right by the credence table. Generally speaking the Altar Server on the left will be the newest Altar Server who is observing and learning during the Mass.

The Priest begins with the sign of the cross (which you make too), greets everyone and introduces the Mass. The Deacon or Priest reads the Penitential Rite which ends "... Lord have Mercy." The Priest gives the absolution. "May almighty God have mercy on us..."

The Gloria concludes with the words, "...in the glory of God the Father, Amen." When the Priest says, "Let us pray," the Altar Server closest to the Priest walks to a point in front of the Priest and picks up the Roman Missal. Your hand should be placed on the bottom of the Missal so that it will be easier for the Priest to read the prayer.

NOTE: During Advent (period before Christmas) and Lent (period before Easter), the Gloria is not recited or sung. During those times of the year, the candle server will get the Roman Missal when the Priest gives the absolution, which ends with the words, "...and bring us to everlasting life. Amen."

LITURGY OF THE WORD

- First Reading, Responsorial Psalm & Second Reading - remain seated
- Alleluia (or Praise to you... during Lent) - Stand with hands folded
- Gospel - Stand with hands folded
- Homily - remain seated

PROFESSION OF FAITH

- Stand with hands folded

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

- Stand with hands folded

An Altar Server is expected to be respectful at all times during Mass. This includes being attentive during the Liturgy of the Word, participating in all the prayers and responses. This is not a time to play with your cross, fix your hair, tie your cincture or take a nap!

PREPARING THE ALTAR

When the prayer of the faithful is finished, the ushers will begin to take up the collection. This is your signal to prepare the Altar.

- ◆ Lay the corporal, correct side up (look for the cross) in the center of the Altar. You can use the front doors to assist you with lining up in the center. The Corporal should be even with the front edge of the Altar.
- ◆ Place the Chalice with the Purificator on top, on the left side of the corporal.
- ◆ Take the Roman Missal from the Priest's side table and place it on the left of the corporal on the Altar.

Once the Altar is set, the Altar Servers may return to their seats.

OFFERTORY

When the Priest stands up to receive the gifts, the two candle servers should stand to the left of the Priest and the cross bearer stand to the right. The congregation will bring up the ciborium and flagon of wine. The Priest may hand these to you to bring the Altar. The flagon of wine and the ciborium should be placed on the corporal.

One Altar Server will get the small cruet of water from the credence table and bring it to the Altar. Turn the cruet so that the handle faces the Priest. A second Altar Server should be getting ready the large pitcher and basin. When the server with cruet returns to the credence table, pick up the towel, place it on their right arm and go to the Priest for the washing of the hands. Return to your seats.

Remember this is an Altar Server's busiest time during the Mass. It is important to be attentive and responsive to the Priest's and/or Deacon's needs. Don't wait for the Deacon or Priest to give you a nod. There is nothing wrong with you standing ready, right beside the altar. Be sure to get close enough so that the Priest or Deacon doesn't have to reach. It's more important that you are right there waiting for him. Don't make him wait for you.

Each time you hand something to the Priest or he hands something to you, be sure to make a slight bow. Remember during the Mass, the Priest represents Christ – In Persona Christe!

PREFACE

- Stand with hands folded

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

- Stand with hands folded

CONSECRATION

- Kneel with hands folded

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

- Kneel with hands folded

ELEVATION OF HOST AND CHALICE S

- Kneel with hands folded. This is the highest point in the Mass. Of all moments in the Mass, this is the time to pay the most attention!

GREAT AMEN

- Kneel with hands folded

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- Stand with hands folded

THE SIGN OF PEACE

Altar Servers will extend the sign of peace to each other, the Priest, and Deacon. Return to the credence table and bring the two small chalices with Purificator and bring them to the Altar. The Priest will fill the chalices. When he is finished, return the flagon to the credence table.

Once those tasks are completed, move to the right side of the sanctuary facing the congregation. Once the Eucharistic Ministers are on the Altar, extend the sign of peace with them.

Note: the Eucharistic Ministers may be moving around the sanctuary to bring out additional ciboriums, etc. Be prepared to assist them if needed.

LAMB OF GOD

- ◆ Stand with hands folded

COMMUNION

After the Priest receives the Consecrated Host and the Precious Blood from the chalice, he will begin to distribute to other ministers. The servers stand and should be ready to receive communion. When the Priest says, "The Body of Christ," you reply "Amen." You have the option of receiving the Precious Blood from the chalice. After receiving communion, all servers will return to their seats and kneel and pray until the Priest returns to the Altar to clean the vessels.

AFTER COMMUNION

The Priest or Deacon may wish to clean the chalice and ciborium. One Altar Server brings the cruet of water and pours a small amount into the chalice and return the cruet to the credence table. Return to the side of the Altar, the Priest or Deacon will hand you the other vessels to be return to the table. Return the Roman missal to the Priest side table. Be sure the Altar is cleared and return to your seats.

CLOSING PRAYER

When the Priest says, "Let us pray", the Altar Server closest to the Priest walks to a point in front of the Priest and picks up the Roman Missal. Your hand should be placed on the bottom of the Missal so that it will be easier for the Priest to read the prayer.

The Priest says the closing prayer and gives the final blessing (May almighty God bless you...).

DISMISSAL AND RECESSION

When the Priest or Deacon says, "The Mass is ended, go in peace to love and serve the Lord", the Altar Server (cross bearer) returns to the sacristy in order to get the cross. The Altar Servers (candle bearers) remove the candles from the stand. They all line up in front of the Altar. When the Priest/Deacon leave their chairs to venerate (kiss) the Altar, all servers go to the front of the Altar and stand on each side, facing the Altar, just as you did at the beginning of Mass.

The Priest/Deacon will genuflect or bow, but you need not do so as you are, again, carrying something. Turn when the Priest and Deacon do (Candle Servers turning towards one another) and process out following the pattern used on the way in. Process out slowly to the main entrance. When you get to the back row of the Church, extinguish the candles. Slip back down the right side aisle, but be courteous to those coming out that way.

Return your alb to the closet and hang it up properly. Hang your cross and cincture on the hooks provided.
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SPECIAL MASSES

Holy Days of Obligation 2012

- ◆ January 1—Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God
- ◆ Thursday May 17—Ascension Thursday
- ◆ Wednesday August 15—Solemnity of the Assumption
- ◆ Thursday November 1—Solemnity of All Saints
- ◆ Sunday, December 8—Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
- ◆ Tuesday, December 25—Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord [Christmas]

Other Special Occasions at St. Michael's Parish

- ◆ Ash Wednesday
- ◆ Stations of the Cross
- ◆ Scout Sunday
- ◆ First Communion Masses
- ◆ Confirmation Masses*
- ◆ Parish Picnic Mass
- ◆ Remembrance Mass

*Confirmation Masses

When the Parish celebrates a Confirmation Mass, the bishop will be presiding over the Mass. He will have an assistant with him to help explain the special considerations. These may include holding the Bishop's crosier (staff) and his Mitre.

If your family has a special Mass such as a family member with a First Communion, Confirmation, or Wedding scheduled OR has requested a special Mass intention, and you would like to serve for that Mass, please let us know in advance and we will do our best to accommodate your request.

WEDDINGS

There are 2 types of weddings. A wedding can include a full Mass and in that case 2 Altar Servers will be required. The wedding is just like a regular Mass except for the exchange of the Marriage vows and rings.

A wedding service includes the Liturgy of the Word but does not include the Eucharist. Only one Altar Server is needed for this wedding.

Notes about weddings

Please arrive 30 minutes before the scheduled wedding time. The Priest or Deacon will review with you any special instructions prior to the wedding.

While an Altar Server should always look respectful when serving Mass, for weddings please be aware that this is a special day for this couple and their family and friends. You may even end up in some of the wedding pictures. So please be sure to dress appropriately.

A wedding has its own special procession and recessional. The Altar Server will enter and exit from the sacristy with the Priest or Deacon.

You may ring the bell at 15 minutes before the wedding is to start and again at 5 minutes before the start. You may also ring the bell after the bride and groom and attendants have processed down the aisle.

Mass in the Christ the King Chapel (downstairs @ 10:30 am)

- If you have not served a Mass in the Chapel, please be sure to allow yourself extra time to familiarize yourself with where everything is located
- The Cross is not stored in the sacristy; it is on the sanctuary on the left hand side of the Altar.
- The Altar Servers all sit behind the Priest.
- Please Note: Candles are **not** used in the procession for the Mass in the Chapel.

Holy Week

Palm Sunday

This day marks the beginning of Holy Week. During Palm Sunday Mass, the palms for the parish are blessed. If you are scheduled to serve on Palm Sunday, please check with the Priest about the blessing of the palms. You may need to be ready with the Aspergillum (or Sprinkler) and bucket. Otherwise, the Altar Server role is the same as other Masses.

Holy Thursday – need to be at church 30 minutes prior to Mass

(4 or 6 Altar Servers)

This Mass celebrates the Last Supper. There are several important roles for the Altar Servers during this Mass. There will be a rehearsal for this Mass for all the Altar Servers participating in this Mass.

Washing of the Feet—The Priest and Deacon will wash the feet of 12 members of the congregation as Jesus did during the Last Supper. 2 Altar Servers will assist the Priest and 2 will assist the Deacon. One server will carry a basket with clean towels and one server will carry a basket for the used towels. When you are through with the washing of the feet, place the baskets on the Altar in the spot designated by the Priest or Deacon.

At the end of Mass, the Altar is cleared except for the ciborium. The Altar Servers with the Cross and Candles will stand at the foot of the sanctuary. There will also be an Altar Server with the incense. An Altar Server will place the Humeral Veil on the Priest. The Cross bearer will lead the processing out of the church (down the center aisle turn right and up the side aisle and out the side door). The Altar Server with the incense will follow as will the Altar Servers with the candles. The congregation then follow and the Priest and Deacon are last to leave the upstairs church.

The Altar Servers will line up in front of the sanctuary in the downstairs chapel. They will stand there quietly and respectfully as the congregation process in. Then the Priest and Deacon will enter. The Priest will use the incense to adore the Blessed Sacrament. After a few moments of silent prayer, the Altar Servers will process out via the sacristy.

Please note: All decorations, must be removed from the sanctuary upstairs on Holy Thursday. Altar Servers should offer to assist moving the various items. Please be sure to ask before you move anything.

Good Friday — need to be at church 30 minutes prior to Mass

(4 or 6 Altar Servers)

There is no Mass on Good Friday but there is a very solemn service. There is no procession into the Church; the Altar Servers and the Priest will sit in the first pew on the right hand side of the church (next to the choir). The Deacon presides over this service. After the homily 2 Altar Servers will go into the sacristy and light 2 candles. They will then process with the Deacon to the back of the church. There the Deacon will carry a large cross in a procession up the center aisle. The Altar Servers with the candles will lead the procession. When the procession is complete, the Deacon will turn and face the congregation. At that time 2 Altar Servers will step forward to hold the cross while the congregation is invited to venerate at the cross. 2 other Altar Servers will stand next to the cross with Purificator and wipe the cross wherever it is touched by a parishioner (such as a kiss or a touch)

There is a communion service for Good Friday. The 2 Altar Server candle bearers will take the lighted candles and escort the Deacon to the sacristy where he will gather the ciborium. The candle bearers will then escort Deacon back to the sanctuary.

There is nothing required of the Altar Servers during the communion service.

At the end of the service, the Altar Servers and the Priest and Deacon will process out in silence to the sacristy.

Holy Saturday - – need to be at church 30 minutes prior to Mass

(4 or 6 Altar Servers)

The Cross bearer and the candle bearers as well as the Altar Server with the incense will begin outside with the Priest and Deacon and congregation at the bonfire. The Easter Candle is lit from the bonfire and there is a procession into the upstairs church. The Easter Candle is always the first to come into the darkened church. The candle bearers will light their candles from the Easter Candle. Then carefully the candle bearers will process up the center aisle stopping at each pew and lighting the first candle.

The candle bearers and the Altar server with the incense will escort the Deacon to the ambo for the reading of the gospel.

There may be baptisms or confirmations during this Mass but there is nothing special the Altar Servers need to do.

During Holy Saturday Mass we renew our baptism and the Priest will bless the congregation with the Holy Water. This means an Altar Server may need to be ready with the Aspergillum (or Sprinkler) and bucket.

Otherwise the Altar server role is the same as any other Mass.

Note: the Sundays between Easter Sunday and Pentecost Sunday will have 2 additional items for the Altar Servers to be aware of:

- You will need to light the Easter Candle. Do not be afraid to ask for assistance as it is tall and hard to light.
- We will renew our baptism at each Mass. This means an Altar Server may need to be ready with the Aspergillum (or Sprinkler) and bucket.

Instructions for lighting the incense

The incense should only be light about 10 minutes before it is needed. Therefore there may be an adult in the sacristy preparing this for you. If not, the Priest or the Deacon will indicate when you need to prepare the incense.

There are charcoal tablets that are placed in the boat. When it is time, the altar server brings the boat and the Thurible to the Priest or Deacon. They will spoon the incense ashes from the boat to the Thurible.

When not in use the Thurible has its own stand that is located by the credence table.

ALTAR SERVER PROGRAM

ARRIVAL FOR SERVICE

Be sure your parents know that you need to get to church early. When you are scheduled to serve, arrive at least 20 minutes before Mass. You'll need to get vested, get the cross and candles ready and ring the bells before beginning the procession. Please be sure you have a Missal at your seat to follow along with the prayers and songs.

When you attend a Mass that you are not scheduled for, and you notice that the Altar Servers have not arrived, please be sure to go to the Sacristy and ask if they need help.

MONTHLY SCHEDULE

Generally speaking you will be asked to server one or two Masses per month. Due to vacations, special Masses and other circumstances you may be asked to serve more than one Mass. We will try our best to accommodate your requested schedule but it may not be possible to always server at your preferred Mass. All servers are expected to take a turn serving the 7:30 am Sunday Mass.

Note: If your parent(s) also serve in a ministry at St. Michaels (such as Lector or Eucharistic Minister), please let us know and we will do our best to accommodate their schedule.

Schedules are email to the parents in advance, posted in the sacristy and in the closet where the Altar Server albs are hung. The Parish Center is also copied on the schedules.

If you are unable to serve when you are scheduled, please contact another server to fill-in for you as soon as possible (don't wait until the night before!). Use the schedule for Altar Servers. Look at the other Saturdays and Sundays on the schedule and see who else serves at Masses for the same time you're scheduled for. Try to work out a "swap." That is, be willing to switch your serving time for theirs. Switching is the fairest way to work out schedule problems. Remember, as soon as you receive your schedule; write your dates on your family's calendar.

Cancellations due to weather

Generally speaking Mass is not canceled except in extreme weather. You can call the parish center to see if Mass has been cancelled—978-562-2552. Just because religious education classes are cancelled, do not assume Mass is cancelled.

Dress Code

An Altar Server should always look clean and respectful. This includes:

- No Flip Flops
- No boots
- Make sure your shoes laces are tied
- Black pants, socks and shoes are desired
- No graphic T shirts that can be seen through the alb.
- Make sure any long hair is tied neatly (particularly if carrying the candles)
- No cell phones allowed

ADVANCEMENT

Altar Servers—must have received 1st Communion. They will need to complete Altar Server training. These servers are learning the role of an Altar Server and therefore work closely with more experienced servers. They will wear a xxxx cincture.

Junior Servers—These Altar Servers have served for a minimum of 1 year. They have completed Altar Server training. While they have a solid foundation of the Altar Server role they are working closely with more experienced servers on the special Masses such as during Holy Week. They will wear a xxxx cincture.

Senior Servers—These Altar Servers have served for multiple years. They are the role models and the mentors for the younger servers. They may be called upon to conduct training for new Altar Servers, serve at Holy Week Masses and other special occasions within the parish. They will wear a xxxx cincture.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For further information about the Altar Server Ministry please contact

Parish Center - 978-562-2552

- Deacon Dan Crimmins
- Pat Conte

Donna Dupre (Scheduling) - 978-562-5319

- St. Mike's Altar Schedule Email – St.mikes.Altar.schedule@hotmail.com

Did you know that being an Altar Server may count to community service hours requirements for school or Scouts? If you would like to have your service hour requirements document signed, please contact us and we will be happy to assist you.

A Server's Prayer

*Loving Father, creator of the universe,
you call your people to worship,
to be with you and with one another at Mass.
I thank you for having called me
to assist others in their prayer to you.
May I be worthy of the trust placed in me and
through my example and service bring others closer
to you.
I ask this in the name of Jesus Christ,
who is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.*