

St. Pius X Altar Server Ministry (6.2.2021)

Altar Server Cross Server Both Servers

During the Week

- Check your scheduled ministry times and request a substitute if you are not able to serve. Serving at the Eucharist is a big privilege, so please be a responsible steward of God's calling. Thank you!
- Pray to God. Ask yourself why you believe in Jesus. Count the many ways Jesus loves you.

Prior to Mass

- Arrive 20 minutes early (you will be replaced at 10 minutes before Mass). • Wash/sanitize your hands.
- Go to the vesting room (by the bathrooms & nursery) and put on the alb (white robe), sign of your baptism into the ministry of Jesus Christ, and cincture (belt cord) in the correct color for the day's celebration (ask Father or deacon if you don't know what color).
- The Cross server lights the candles (Easter candle too during Easter season).
- Servers gather by the processional cross prior to Mass to pray and be ready for the procession.

Opening Rites

- The Cross goes first, is carried down the center aisle, then to the North (left) of the Altar, then placed in the stand (proper orientation) before the memorial cross. Then this server stands on the north side of the Altar and waits for the priest and bows with the priest then is seated.
- The Altar server processes down the aisle after the Cross server is ½ way down (just past the font) and stands a few feet closer to the piano from the Cross server, bows with the priest then is seated.

Liturgy of the Word

For now the Altar servers participate with the assembly, and assist where needed if given special instructions before Mass Liturgy of the Eucharist

- The Altar server does the following as the music (preparation song) begins:
 - o The server sanitizes their hands, then places the Red Roman Missal on the Altar center.
 - o Then the server brings over the chalice & purificator, placing it to the left of the Missal.
 - o Then the server brings over the water, placing it on the corporal, bottom left.
- The Altar & Cross servers are ready in their pews after these items are placed on the Altar, and then come to either side of the priest when he stands to receive the gifts.
 - o The basket is placed before the Altar.
 - o The pre-consecrated wine & bread are brought behind the Altar and set on the corporal, the bread on the right of the Missal, the wine on the left.

- The servers prepare for the hand washing.
 - o The Altar server holds the crystal bowl and places the hand towel over their left forearm.
 - o The Cross server advances with the Altar server and takes the water to wash Father's hands.
 - o The two servers step forward together when Father puts down the chalice and bowl and turns toward the servers. They wash his hands (drip water over hands in the bowl).
 - o The Cross server removes both the water flagon and the empty wine flagon. All items are returned to the credence table tray. The servers return to their pew.
- At the sign of peace, the Altar Server removes the closed Roman Missal book and puts it on the lower shelf of the credence table.
 - The Cross server places the gold Ciborium on the Altar.
- The servers receive communion as normal, then clear the Altar.
 - o The chalice with purificator on top is brought to the credence table (if Fr. Greg does not do this).
 - o When the bowls have been emptied into the ciborium, servers take the communion bowls to the sacristy then return to their pew.

Sending Forth

- After the final dismissal when the sending song begins, the cross bearer takes the cross and processes to the North of the Altar without stopping and processes forward down the center aisle, replacing the cross in the stand.
- The other Altar server waits for the cross server to pass the side of the Altar, then steps up to the Altar, bows, and follows the cross out.
- Servers return to the vestry to hang up their albs and cinctures.
- The Cross Server extinguishes the candles with the candle extinguisher.
- The servers say a prayer of thanksgiving and share with their family:
 - o Where did you see Jesus at Mass today?
 - o How were you Jesus for others at Mass today?