



St. Michael's Altar Serving Rite

Before the Mass:

- Arrive 10 – 15 minutes before the liturgy.
- Get vested and do prayers of vesting.
- If the supplies are not out in the Cretans table, then take it out, but if it is already out leave it how it is.
- Candle must be on 5 minutes before the celebration of the Holy Mass.
- Before Mass starts, Father would start with a prayer.

Introductory Rite:

- Line up and get ready to start procession.
- When walking in procession DO NOT GO FAST, go slow. Make sure you keep a least 5 feet apart from the servers in front or behind you.
- When you approach the altar, you will bow (ONLY IF YOU ARE CARING SOMETHING) or you will genuflect (ONLY IF YOU ARE NOT CARRING NOTHING).
- You will go up to your sit and stand as Holy Mass begins.

NOTE: (If only 1 server, then he must sit with Father) (If only 2 servers, then one sits with Father and one sits in the other side)

- Make sure you are standing up straight, hands folder (pointing towards Heaven), head straight, and eyes cast down.
- When Father says "Let us Pray" you pick up the Roman Missal, when he is done with it you put it in the Missal Table.
- When Altar Server sitting next to Father sits down, everyone else sits down too (AT THE SAME TIME).

Liturgy of the Word:

- First Reading is read.
- Responsorial Psalm is said.
- Second Reading is read (ONLY ON SUNDAY'S OR SOLMNITY)
- For the Alleluia when Altar Server sitting with Father stands, everyone else stand too. Make sure your hands are folder (POINTING TO HEAVEN, AND HEAD STRIAHGT, AND BACK STRAIGHT).
- After Alleluia as soon as Altar Servers that sits next to Father sits, everyone else sits.
- When siting back straight, head straight, eyes cast down, and hands on both knees.
- Homily is said.
- When Altar Servers sitting next to Father stand for either the Apostle Creed or Intentions everyone else stands.

Liturgy of the Eucharist:

- Altar Servers sitting next to Father takes the Roman Missal to the Altar, and Altar Server sitting closest to the Credent's Table takes the Chalice to the Altar at the same time.
- If there is a Ciborium that must be taken after the chalice to the Altar.
- Next will be the wine and water, wine goes in the right, and water goes in the left. When Father lifts the Bread, start walking up to him with the Water and Wine.
- When Father gets the water or wine remember to bow your Head.
- Next will be the Lavabo, the person holding the Lavabo goes to the right, and the one holding the Finger Towel goes to the left.
- Bowl and Lavabo must be separates when there is water. (NO ONE CLEANS THEIR HANDS IN THE LAVABO EXCEPT THE PRIEST).
- After done with the Preparation of the Altar, stand in your chairs in an prayer position.
- When they start singing Holy Holy, you go down and kneel (DO NOT MOVE THE PILLOWS WHEN KNEELING, EVERY SERVER MUST KNEEL ON A PILLOW UNLESS THEY ARE KNEELING IN FRONT OF THE ALTAR).
- When kneeling you must kneel straight, head straight, hands folded, eyes cast down, and facing the wall. (NOTE: NO SERVER WILL BOW THEIR HEAD OR BUT THEIR HEAD ON THE GROUND DURING THE CONSECRATION) (ONLY TIME YOU CAN BOW IS WHEN THEY SAY OUR LORDS'S NAME, MARY'S NAME, OR THE SAINT OF THE DAY'S NAME)
- Everyone will stand at the same time before starting to pray the Our Father.
- When Father goes to gets our Lord from the Tabernacle and genuflects when opening the tabernacle door, we bow are heads at the same time. (WHEN FATHER GENUFLICTS TO GO TO THE TABERNACLE NO ONE GENUFLICTS EXECPT FOR THE PRIEST)
- Everyone will kneel after the "Lamb of God".
- When bells are ranged after the Priest has receive the Blood of Christ, all the servers stand at the same time.
- Then we will receive our Lord.
- After receiving Our Lord pattens go down, and the rest of the server go and kneel next to their seats.
- When pattens are done they must go directly to the Altar. After pattens are clean they go directly to the Cretans table.
- When Father goes up to the tabernacle to put Our Lord away all servers will stand and genuflect as soon as Father or Deacon genuflect.
- When Father or Deacons comes down, you must bring water so he may purify the chalice and ciborium.
- After taking the water back to the Cretans table, when Father or Deacon is done purifying pick up the supplies.
- After, Book bear and whoever bought the chalice, they go up at the same time, and pick up the chalice and Roman Missal from the altar.
- Then they may sit down.
- After, Father would say "Let us Pray" all stands.
- After Father is done with the Prayer after Communion the Roman Missal goes in the Missal Table.

Concluding Rite:

- Then Father will give the Blessing.
- After Father says, “Go in Peace, Glorify the Lord by your life” we will respond “Thanks be to God”. After we respond we go directly down to the front of the altar next to the first pew. (NO ONE WILL STAND AND WAIT UNTIL FATHER GOES DOWN, ALL WILL GO DOWN AS SOON AS RESPONDING).
- Father will start the St. Michael the Archangel Prayer.
- After, Father would either do long or short procession. (WALK SLOW NOT FAST)

After Mass:

- After procession Father will give the Blessing.
- After mass is done, ALL SERVERS will help bring stuff in. Then remove their surplice. It most go in the closet not in the coat hanger.
- If any server knows how to prepare the chalice etc. They will prepare for the next mass.

A MESSAGE FROM VICTOR:

Dear Altar Server,

I am very grateful for you work and service to our Parish! Altar Servers are “Soldiers of the Eucharist” the same way Soldiers train for battle is the same way we train for reference. Like I said several it is two HUGE DIFFERENCES from sitting in the pews watching servers serve, to actually serving and being in the sanctuary. I would like to let you know if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. Once again thank you for your service to our beloved Parish!

Friends in Christ,

Victor Salcido

(Head Altar Server of St. Michael’s Parish)

St. Michael’s Altar Servers Department

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