

# Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church



*Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be.  
My Father will honor the one who serves me.  
- John 12:26*

## **Altar Servers Ministry at Most Blessed Sacrament**

Being an altar server is neither a *right* nor a mode of giving people something to do in the Mass. Being an altar server is one of the privileged ways by which the Church allows the laity to fulfill their religious duty to assist the clergy in offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. All the faithful are required to participate and assist in the offering of the Mass, first and foremost through their material, vocal, and spiritual contribution from the pew. But due to the complexity of the liturgy some other roles are granted to the faithful in order to assist the clergy in fulfilling their responsibilities. One of the most ancient roles allowed to the laity is serving the priest at the altar.

## **Ministry Requirements**

- ❖ Currently enrolled in the third grade and up
- ❖ Have already received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion
- ❖ Attend Mass every Sunday and on Holy Days of Obligation
- ❖ Available on weekends & have parental support for attendance
- ❖ Parents' have access to receive schedule via email
- ❖ Attend an instructional session to learn the Mass and its parts, meanings, as well as the various objects used in the liturgy.

## **Attendance & Scheduling**

- ❖ Servers will be scheduled on a rotating basis. We will do our best to accommodate requests; however, the family members are responsible for ensuring the Mass is covered.
- ❖ Parents are responsible for checking the schedule and making note of when their server is scheduled.
- ❖ If a family has a special request to attend/not attend a certain weekend Mass, they must submit it in writing via email to Andrea at churchoffice@mbsbr.org. We will make every effort to honor those requests.
- ❖ Parents are responsible for getting the Altar Server to church at least fifteen minutes prior to the start of Mass. This time allows the Server time to dress, sign in and check with the priest/deacon for any special instructions.
- ❖ If Mass has already started, and you notice a server is missing, we invite you to slip out of your pew quietly, dress in the server's attire and walk along the right (choir) side of church to join those already serving.

## **Behavior**

- ❖ Fully participate in the Mass by praying aloud all of the congregational prayers and responses
- ❖ Join in singing hymns and other chants of the liturgy
- ❖ Maintain appropriate posture and reverential behavior (talking on the altar shall be limited to relaying necessary instructions)

## **Dress Code**

- ❖ Long pants for boys and dress pants or skirts for girls are required to be worn for all weekend Masses. Please refrain from wearing jeans. An exception is made when you arrive to Mass and we are in need of a sub.
- ❖ Athletic/tennis shoes, flip flops and Crocs are NOT permitted.
- ❖ SCHOOL MASSES: Students should follow the Dress Uniform Policy as outlined in the Parent/Student Handbook.

## **Arrival & Preparation**

- ❖ Please sign in each time you serve. The sign in sheet is on the bulletin board in the dressing room.
- ❖ In the case of substitution, draw one line through the person's name for whom you are subbing, then sign your name in the corresponding box.
- ❖ Please do not take someone's place who is already present to serve.
- ❖ Once dressed, please sit in the Narthex (entry area) prior to Mass.

## **Departure**

- ❖ Each server is to neatly hang up their uniform in the right place.
- ❖ Check the room before leaving to make sure that it is left in an orderly manner and none of your belongings are left.

## **Thank you, Parents!**

Thank you for allowing your child to serve Christ at His altar. By serving, they will be assisting the priests, deacons, and the whole community in offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. We ask that you commit to assisting them in understanding and fulfilling the great responsibility and privilege of this role.

**Most Blessed Sacrament Altar Server Packet**  
**Please Fill out these forms and return them to the church office**

Altar Server name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parents' name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Email: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade level: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Mass time(s):  Saturday 4:30PM     Sunday 8AM     Sunday 9:45AM  
 Sunday 11:30AM     School Mass (MBS School Students)

Any special considerations: (ex. schedule with sibling, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

**ALTAR SERVER and FAMILY COMMITMENT**

I give my son/daughter, \_\_\_\_\_, permission to commit himself/herself to the Altar Server Ministry.

As an altar server, I commit to:

- ❖ attend one scheduled training session
- ❖ serve assigned Masses as scheduled OR find a replacement if a conflict arises
- ❖ dress appropriately per the dress code

**FAMILY COMMITMENT**

My family and I commit to the Altar Server Ministry of Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church.

As parents, we will work together with other parents of the ministry to ensure Mass coverage is met. We will be flexible and understanding during the scheduling of altar servers. We will work together to ensure our child is present when scheduled.

As an Altar Server, I will carry out my duties well and with appropriate reverence. I will work together with the other ministers to ensure our responsibilities are fulfilled.

Together, we have read and agree to meet the Responsibilities and Guidelines of the Altar Server Ministry of Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent or Guardian                      Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Altar Server    Date