

# Serving Mass

## Before Mass

Servers put on their albs in the back of Church

Candles should be lit about 10 minutes before mass starts (the candle lighters are kept in the sacristy)

## Entrance Procession

Cross bearer leads the procession from in front of the baptismal font to the center aisle and up to the altar. The Cross bearer always goes first and never bows when carrying the cross.

The second server follows immediately behind the cross bearer

The cross bearer goes directly to the sacristy and places the cross in the stand – **YOU NO LONGER WAIT FOR THE PRIEST TO BOW** – once the cross is in place the server goes directly to their seat down on the side.

The second server bows at the altar – **YOU NO LONGER WAIT FOR THE PRIEST TO BOW** – and goes directly to their seat down on the side.

The Lector/Deacon and priest stop together in front of the altar (without the servers) and the priest bows and they go up to the altar.

## Opening Prayer

As soon as the Priest says: “Let us pray”, the server assigned to hold the book comes forward and holds the book directly in front of the priest.

When the prayer is concluded the priest takes the book from the server.

## Preparing the Altar

After the petitions, the priest or deacon takes the book to the altar. **As soon as he does that**, the servers should go to the sacristy and bring the following items to the altar:

- All of the cups (including Father Paul’s)
- The cruet of water

Remain standing behind the altar on each side

When the priest/deacon then comes down to the center aisle to receive the gifts, both servers take their place beside him – one on each side.

The priest/deacon will hand one server the plate with the bread and the other server the wine

Bring those up to the altar and let the priest or deacon take them from you.

**If the wine is brought up in the pitcher, one server waits for the priest/deacon to pour the wine into the cups. He will then give the server the empty pitcher to take back to the sacristy.**

Both the servers then bring the glass bowl and towel from the sacristy for the hand washing.

One Server should hold the glass bowl with the towel draped over their arm. The other server should take the cruet of water from the altar. The priest places his hands over the bowl and the server with the water pours it over the priest's hands as the priest quietly says a prayer. The priest will then take the towel, dry his hands and give it back to one of the servers.

**Servers can then take the towel, bowl and water cruet back to the sacristy and leave it on the counter**

Servers may then return to their seat

#### **At the 'Sign of Peace'**

One server may bring the extra communion bowls from the sacristy and place them on the side of the altar

#### **During Communion**

The servers should stay down with the community and receive communion in the communion line with the people. Once they have received one server should come back and take the priest's empty chalice from the altar and return it to the sacristy

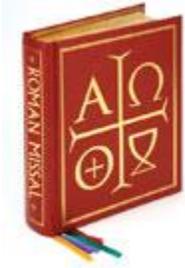
#### **After Communion**

When the priest stands and says, "Let us pray" the server holding the missal should come forward to hold the book **and at the same time** the other server should come to the Sacristy door to get the processional cross

The cross bearer waits there with the cross **behind the wall** until the priest says '**Go in Peace**'. When that happens the cross bearer comes down in front of the altar and the other server joins them from their seat. They wait for the priest to come down to the center aisle.

When the priest joins you in the center aisle, wait for him to bow and then turn to process out. **CROSS BEARER DOES NOT BOW**

Once the priest bows and turns, the cross bearer should immediately lead the procession out, followed by the second server and then the priest (and deacon).



Roman Missal – or Liturgical Binders

Book containing prayers for the Mass



Processional Cross



Bowl [Ciborium] (Used for distributing the hosts during communion)

Also referred to as a Paten or Plate or mass vessels



Cup [Chalice]

Also referred to as mass vessels



Chalice Pall

(square cloth covered board that lays on top of the Chalice)



Purificator

(Folded cloth used to wipe the Chalice)



Flagon

Pitcher used to contain wine for mass



Cruets

Small glass containers for water and (sometimes wine)

Used for washing of the hands & purifying the vessels



Bowl [Lavabo]

Used for washing priest's hands at mass



Hand towel

Used for washing priest's hands at mass

Holy Water Container



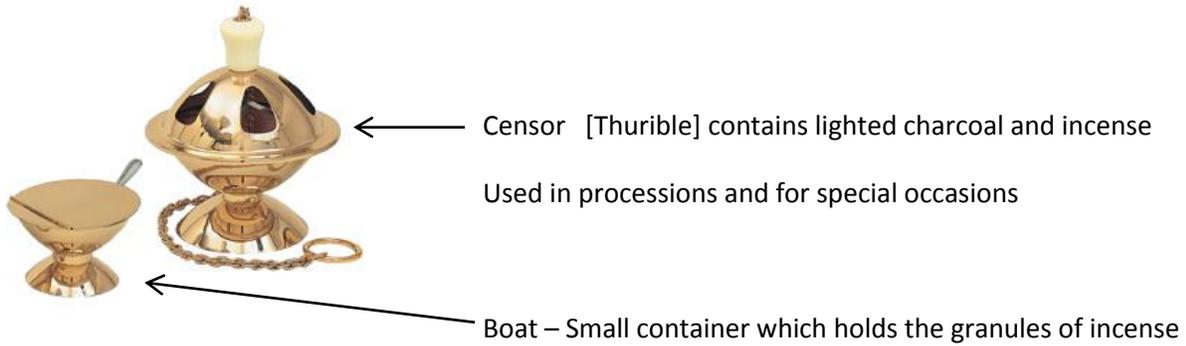
Sprinkler or Aspergillum

An aspergillum is a liturgical implement used to sprinkle holy water.



Funeral Pall

Large white cloth that is draped over casket at the beginning of the Funeral Mass



Thurifer:

Refers to a server or acolyte whose responsibility is to carry the Censur in procession as well as provide the censur to the priest or deacon when needed.



Incense – small pieces of material that produce a fragrant smoke when placed on the lit charcoal



Charcoal – small round disc about 1 ½ " in diameter

Placed in the bottom of the Censur and lit a few minutes ahead of time to burn the incense