### Altar Servers

**Ministry Title:** Altar Servers

**Purpose:**
To assist priests and deacons during the celebration of the Holy Mass.

**Responsibilities:**
Altar Servers help priests, deacons, and the congregation throughout the Mass
- Process with candles or the crucifix
- Hold the prayer book
- Reverently bear candles during the Liturgy of the Word
- Prepare the altar for the Liturgy of the Eucharist
- Lead the gift bearers
- Assist in washing of hands
- Ring the bells
- Help with incense and Holy Water during special times of the year and special Masses
- May be called upon to serve at weddings and funerals, Stations of the Cross during Lent, and Benediction

**Qualifications:**
- Be a boy or girl in at least the 5th grade
- Have received the Sacraments of Baptism and First Communion
- Have a reverent and humble demeanor
- Have a desire to serve others diligently, knowing that when we serve others we serve Christ

**Time Required:**
- Arrive at Church 15 - 20 minutes before Mass begins when scheduled to serve in order to prepare the altar
- Scheduled approximately 1 – 2 times a month
- Available for monthly meeting, 3rd Tuesday of the month

**Training:**
Initial training is available periodically throughout the year. Monthly trainings are available on 3rd Tuesday of the month from 6:00 to 7:15 PM in the church. Finally, a member of elite altar servers is available at most masses to guide and mentor newer altar servers.

**Responsible To:**
Director of Liturgy