

March 6, 2018

Dear Altar Servers,

Celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation for 8th Grade Religious Education students and students from the Cardinal Joseph Bernardin School will take place on Sunday **April 29th at 3:00pm**. We have nine Altar Servers for Confirmation who are siblings or family members of the 8th grade students. **First Communion** is at **10:00am on Saturday, April 14th**. We have two Altar Servers who are related to those students celebrating First Communion. **Enclosed is the list of Altar Servers for both Confirmation and First Communion. If your name is on the list and you are unable to serve for Confirmation or for First Communion, please let me know by calling the church office at 708-403-0101 x102.**

We invite each one of you to sign up for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday, the Easter Vigil, or Easter Sunday Mass. The sign-up sheets are on the cabinet in the Narthex. If you signed-up for Holy Thursday, Good Friday, or the Easter Vigil, you may know that these services are very sacred and beautiful. Although the Holy Week Services are not difficult, they are a little different. Therefore, we will have practice on the following days:

Holy Thursday Altar Servers:

Please come on **Wednesday, March 28th** from **5:00pm - 5:30pm**

Good Friday Altar Servers:

Please come on **Wednesday, March 28th** from **5:30pm – 6:00pm**

7:30 PM- Easter Vigil Altar Servers:

Please come on **Holy Saturday, March 31st** from **1:15pm until 2:15pm**

Please call our office at 708-403-0101 to confirm your attendance for the Holy Thursday, Good Friday, or Easter Vigil practice.

Thank you to all the New Servers and welcome.

A few reminders:

- We ask that you try to be at Mass at least 15 minutes beforehand.
 - a. Please remember to kneel on the kneelers behind your chairs during the Eucharistic Prayer.

If you are **unable** to serve the Mass you are scheduled for, **please find a substitute**. Look at your schedule and call another person either someone you know or a person who is scheduled to serve the following week at the same Mass time you were scheduled for and switch with them. If you can not find a replacement for a weekend Mass, please call our office at 708-403-0101, or email me, and let us know. We will look for a substitute for you.
 - b. Many of you already do this but, please feel free to check in to see whether a server is needed at the Masses where you are **not assigned**.
 - c. If you see that Mass has started with only two servers, you may go back to the sacristy and vest and then go up the side aisle to join them at the chairs.
 - d. ***Please dress appropriately; remember no tennis shoes and no jeans.***

We also have 8th Grade Altar Servers who are invited to continue to serve after graduation as long as they would like. As graduating 8th Graders, please know that you can always volunteer to carry the “ProceSSIONAL Cross” at our weekend Masses. The ProceSSIONAL Cross is heavy and many of our new servers are unable to carry it. Let us know if you wish to continue to serve.

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Note for Weddings

Because weddings are a very formal occasion, we ask that you wear dress shoes (not gym shoes or sandals), and slacks (no blue jeans). Sometimes weddings include a Mass; sometimes just the ceremony. Don't worry about how to serve – the priest will give you a quick instruction that day. Therefore, try to arrive about 15-20 minutes early.

In May we will send a letter to all the eighth graders concerning a special day in June at which we will publicly thank them for serving and present them with our special gift.

I will send another email out to all of you around March 23rd. Please check your family schedules and sign-up in the Narthex for one of the Easter Liturgies.

In the meantime, I hope you and your family will have a happy Easter and enjoyable holiday.

Claudia Nolan