

ST. ISIDORE CATHOLIC CHURCH

222Clark Avenue, Yuba City, CA 95991

ACOLYTE SERVER INSTRUCTION HANDBOOK

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

Be sure to arrive at least twenty minutes before the Mass or Liturgical service. This will give you time to select your vestment - Alb and Cincture.

When serving, it is recommended that the servers wear proper attire. (Avoid wearing shorts and flowery shirts.) Make sure your alb is the proper length.

Don't worry about making mistakes, it's part of what makes serving fun. When mistakes do happen, just continue with the service. Everyone makes them.

If it is your first time to serve, don't worry, you have an experienced server working with you. Do not be afraid to ask the Priest or Deacon for some help. They have a pretty good idea of what you are going through. They will guide you.

**AVOID CROSSING YOUR LEGS AND ARMS. DON'T KEEP
LOOKING AROUND OR TALKING. REMAIN ALERT AT ALL
TIMES. "DON'T MAKE THE PRIEST WAIT FOR YOU."**

PROCESSION

THINGS USED FOR THE PROCESSION

Procession Cross
Processional Candles

INSTRUCTIONS

It is preferred that in every liturgical celebration, there be three (3) servers. **Acolyte #1** will be the cross bearer. **Acolyte #2 and 3** will be the candle bearers.

Additional Acolytes will follow candle bearers. (Exception, special celebrations: Christmas Midnight Mass and Easter Vigil.)

ENTRANCE PROCESSION

Always maintain ample distance to each other. This is to avoid crowding towards one another.

ALTAR

ACOLYTE #1

ACOLYTE #2

ACOLYTE #3

ADDITIONAL ACOLYTES

EUCCHARIST MINISTERS

LECTORS

DEACON

PRIEST

ENTRANCE OF THE CHURCH

OPENING PRAYER AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**PRESIDER'S
CHAIR**

PRIEST

ACOLYTE #1

When carrying the Sacramentary, carry it in such a way that the top part of the book is level with your shoulders. This will prevent the Priest from looking too far down in order to read the prayers.

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

If there is not a Deacon present, then **Acolyte #1** will take charge of setting up the Altar. Since he/she is in charge of the Sacramentary, he/she will take charge of taking it to the Altar.

Acolyte #2 will bring the priest's Chalice, Corporal to the Altar. If no Deacon is there, **Acolyte #1** will take over from this point and finish setting the Altar. Then return to your place on the side.

During the presentation of the gifts from the people, **Acolyte #1** will prepare the small cruet of water at the Credence table, to be mixed with the wine. When the parish has brought up the gifts, bring this cruet over to the Priest or Deacon with the handle facing out. Please wait to return it to the Credence table.

Acolyte #2 and 3 will bring the larger cruet of water and bowl and finger towel to the Priest for the washing of the hands.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

After the “Holy, Holy, Holy” is sung all will kneel.

After the “Great Amen” everyone stand up.

During the “Our Father” move to either side of the Priest and hold hands. This however will depend on what the Priest is doing. Acolytes also should set the example of the gestures during the Mass since he/she are visible to the rest of the people in Church.

COMMUNION

Greet each other with a hand shake during the “Sign of Peace,” along with the Priest and Deacon. Acolytes 1 and 2 and 3, will help bring the four(4) Communion Cups and Ciboriums to the Altar.

All acolytes will then proceed towards the Main Altar in front of the Tabernacle area to receive Communion.

TABERNACLE

STEPS

STEPS

ACOLYTE ACOLYTE ACOLYTE

DURING COMMUNION

Acolyte #1 will take the Sacramentary back to his/her seat and set it up for the Prayer After Communion. It is usually on the same page as the Opening Prayer.

If no Eucharist Acolyte, Acolyte #2 will bring the tray with the Pyx and place in the center of the Altar.

Acolyte #3 will bring the Chalice, Paten back to the sink in the back. Leave the small Ciboria and Corporal open on the Altar. All return to your seats.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

After the Priest has time to reflect on the gift of Communion he has just received, **Acolyte #1** will bring the Sacramentary to the Priest for the Prayer After Communion. After the Prayer return the Sacramentary to its place, and prepare for the Recessional.

RECESSIONAL

After the Prayer After Communion, prepare for the Recessional. If there are some announcements, remain seated at your place.

When the Final Blessing is being given, **Acolyte #1** will get the cross. **Acolyte #2 and #3** will get and light the candles. As soon as the Priest starts moving towards the back of the Altar, start walking towards the center aisle of the Church to process out.

ALTAR

DEACON PRIEST

ACOLYTE #3 ACOLYTE #2

ACOLYTE 1

CHURCH ENTRANCE

At first pew, turn and face the Altar. When the Priest and Deacon bow to the Altar and turn around, the Acolytes will turn around and start walking towards the Church entrance.

ACOLYTES SERVICING IS FUN AND ALSO A SPECIAL POSSESSION WITHING THE CATHOLIC CHURCH. IT ALSO GIVES EACH OF YOU A VERY SPECIAL GRACE THAT ONLY YOU (A SERVANT FOR JESUS CHRIST) WILL RECEIVE.