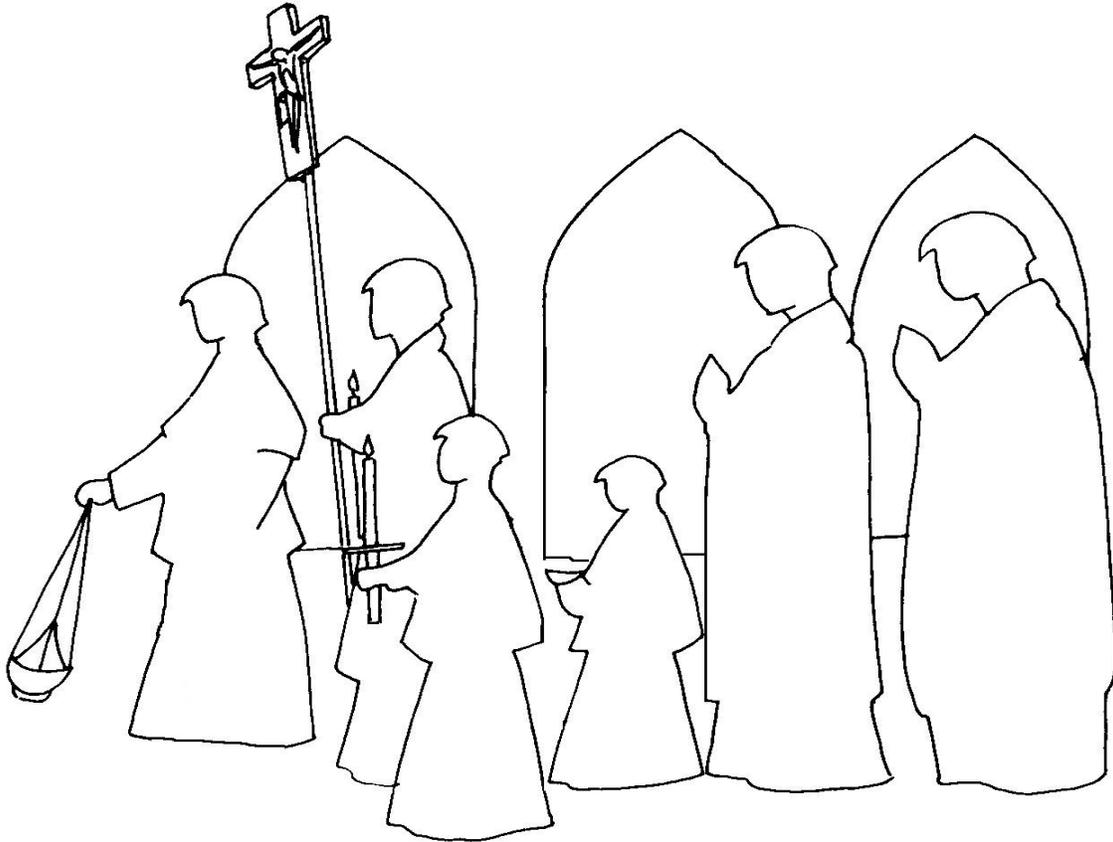


Altar Server's Dictionary



Church of the Holy Spirit

3345 Lexington Road

Louisville, KY 40206

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Vestments



Alb—the white, linen robe worn for all liturgical functions by ministers of the altar.

Cincture—A belt made of rope. This is either white or the color of the day. The color may match the color of the priest's chasuble.



Chasuble—The large, colored garment that the priest wears over his other vestments. The color of the chasuble denotes either the liturgical season or the feast of the day.

Cope—A large cape worn by the priest or deacon for Benediction or occasions marked by a solemn prayer service, but not Mass.



Deacon's Stole— The strip of cloth worn around the deacon's shoulder as a sign of his office.

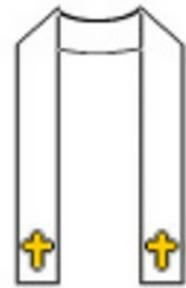
Dalmatic— a long, wide-sleeved tunic. It is the deacon's outer vestment and will match the liturgical color of the





Humeral Veil—a decorated scarf, usually white and ornamented in the middle, worn over the shoulders by a priest during Benediction.

Priest's Stole—consists of a band of cloth worn around the priest's neck. The color of the stole denotes either the liturgical season or the feast of the day.



Bishop's Vestments and Objects

Crosier— the shepherd's staff that the bishop carries.



Miter—The bishop's tall pointed hat.

Pectoral Cross— a cross worn by the pope, cardinals and bishops.



Vimpa—A long, broad, white silk veil worn over the shoulders, arms and hands of the altar servers who carry the bishop's miter and crosier.

Zucchetto— A skullcap covering the head, worn under the miter.



Fixtures



Altar—The large table on which the sacrifice of Mass is offered.

Ambo—Place from which the Scriptures are read and the sermons or homilies are delivered.



Ambry—the cabinet that holds the holy oils listed below:

Chrism - the holy oil used to anoint people in Baptism, Confirmation and Holy orders.

Oil of the Infirm—used for anointing the sick

Oil of the Catechumen -used in the ceremonies of baptism, from which its name is derived, the catechumen being the person about to receive the sacrament.

Credence table - the small table that holds the chalices, patens, purificators and sometimes the Missal when they are not being used.



Font—A large vessel or pool of holy water used in Baptism.

Gifts' Table—The table that holds the bread and wine before it is presented at the altar. In our church it is located at the split of the pews.



Tabernacle—The large enclosure that holds the ciborium with the consecrated hosts, the Body of Christ.

Roles and Postures of Altar Servers

Candle bearer—the altar server responsible for lighting and extinguishing the candles on the altar and for carrying candles when being used in the procession .



Crucifer—the person that carries the cross in the procession.

Thurifer—the altar server in charge of the thurible.



Genuflect—Servers should genuflect whenever entering a church pew, the sanctuary or when crossing in front of the tabernacle when Mass is not being celebrated. During Mass, altar servers carrying things like crosses, sacred vessels, books or candles do not genuflect.

Vessels and Objects



Aspersorium - the bucket used to carry holy water.

Aspergillum—the metal stick that is used to sprinkle holy water.

Thurible or Censer—the pot that holds the charcoal on which incense is burned.

Boat—The container that holds the incense before it is burned. It has a spoon.



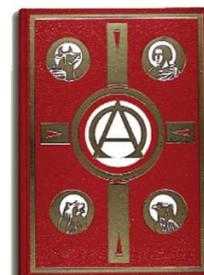
Chalice—The cup that holds the wine that is to be consecrated into the Blood of Christ.

Ciborium—A vessel with a lid that holds the unconsecrated hosts or the consecrated hosts that were not consumed at a previous Mass.



Cruet— a vessel that holds water or wine.

Evangelary or Book of the Gospels—The book that has only the Gospel readings in it.



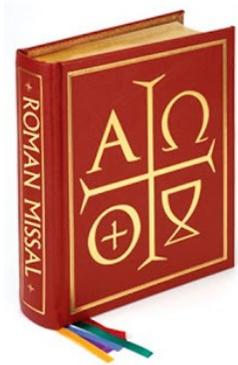
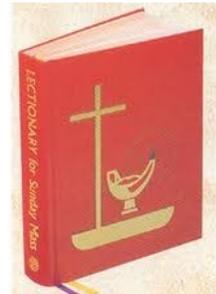
Flagon—A large vessel used to hold the wine before it is poured into the chalices.



Lavabo bowl—The bowl used to wash the presider’s hands. A cruet of water and the linen towel are also used at this time.

Lavabo Towel— A linen cloth used to dry the presider’s hands.

Lectionary—The book of scripture readings . This should be placed on the ambo and opened and marked to the first reading for the day.



Missal— the book containing the prayers used at Mass. The Missal is only used by the priest. It is used either at the presider’s chair or at the altar.

Monstrance—a gold or silver vessel, often in a sunburst shape, with a clear glass area called a “luna” for viewing the Sacrament. The monstrance is used during Benediction.



Pascal Candle—Large candle that is blessed during the Easter vigil and used during baptisms, funerals and during the Easter season.



Paten—The plate or shallow bowl that holds the gift of bread that becomes the body of Christ. A paten has no lid.

Pyx—a small vessel to hold the sacred bread of the Eucharist when taken out of church to the sick.



Stick—used to light or extinguish candles.

Linens



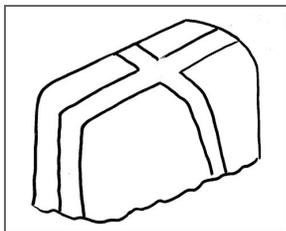
Burse— A ten inch square container used to hold the corporal. The burse goes over the chalice veil before Mass, with the opening of the burse facing the priest.

Chalice Veil—small silk cloth used to cover the chalice. Usually is the same color of the priest's vestments.



Corporal—A linen cloth that is put on the altar, over the altar cloth. It goes under the gifts of bread and wine and the sacred vessels. It is most often square.

Lavabo Towel— A linen cloth used to dry the presider's hands.



Pall—The large cloth, usually white or a variance of white, draped over the coffin. Used as a reminder of the deceased person's baptism.

Pall— a stiff square of linen used to cover the chalice to keep the bugs out of the wine.



Purificator—The linen napkin used to wipe the Chalice.