

Saint Anthony of Padua Roman Catholic Church

Altar Server Ministry Requirements

Parishioners that have completed the fourth grade, have received their First Holy Communion, are members of a family that is registered in our parish, and are at a maturity level appropriate for serving at the altar of our Lord are eligible to enroll in the Altar Server Ministry.

Additional requirements include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Arrive at least 20 minutes prior to the beginning of Mass each time when serving.
- Attend Mass each week and Faith Formation (grades 5-12) each week when Faith Formation is in session. (Catholic school students are FF exempt.)
- Provide email addresses to ministry leader and be willing to communicate via email on a regular basis.
- Serve at the Masses where most needed, regardless of Mass time preference.
- Find and confirm an appropriate replacement for the Masses to which assigned when unable to serve at those Masses. Send email to replacement and a copy to ministry leader to confirm the arrangements.
- Provide telephone number to membership and be willing to serve as a replacement for another Server when available.
- Servers must have a very short, clean-cut hairstyle or (if hair is on the ear or longer) must style hair in a bun and place hair bun in a white beaded bun cover. There is to be no hair hanging in front of the shoulders or about the face.
- Gentlemen must wear solid black slacks. Ladies must wear a dress or skirt/blouse combination. DRESS LENGTH MUST NOT EXCEED THE LENGTH OF THE ALB. NO JEANS. NO SHORTS.
- Gentlemen must wear solid black socks and solid black dress shoes. Ladies must wear solid black dress shoes with appropriate flesh-colored hosiery. NO TENNIS SHOES. NO SANDALS. NO SHOES THAT ARE OPEN AT THE TOE, SIDE, OR HEEL.

- **ALL SERVERS must wear SOLID shirts or blouses. (Designs and/or lettering are visible through the alb.)**
- **Have no visible piercings except for (ladies only) piercings to the ear lobe.**
- **Have no facial hair unless it is kept trimmed very close to the face/neck.**
- **Wear no jewelry, or only a very limited amount of jewelry.**
- **Wear no make-up or very light make-up.**
- **Have no visibly bleached hair (such as bleaching only hair on top of head, hair striping, etc.).**
- **Clean hands immediately prior to serving. NO FINGERNAIL POLISH.**
- **Provide payment for initial alb to ministry leader at time of enrollment.**
- **Arrive at Mass with a clean, pressed alb each time when serving.**
- **Ensure that alb hangs to ankle length at all times.**
- **Attend annual training session (as needed).**
- **Arrive 90 minutes prior to the beginning of Mass for practice when serving at Saint Anthony of Padua for the first time.**
- **Follow all instructions from the ministry leader and senior acolytes and support all rules of the program.**
- **Participate in prayer before and after Mass.**
- **Participate quietly, respectfully, and reverently throughout the Mass.**
- **Provide ministry leader with notice of leaving the ministry (90 days preferred). If possible, continue service through September (when most training of new members occurs).**