



ST. MICHAEL PARISH

EXETER | NEW HAMPSHIRE

Usher

Our Mission:

Our mission of the usher at Saint Michael Parish is that of hospitality. Our service is making parishioners and guests feel welcome and comfortable as we gather for our Eucharistic celebration. We can see the presence of Christ in each person as they arrive.

Qualities of an Usher:

This ministry is open to all parishioners; men and women; senior citizen, parent, and teenager. Ushers are friendly people who welcome all ages and nationalities. Their faith enables us to see Christ's presence in individuals and in the gathered community of believers. Ushers are honest and dependable. We can handle emergency situations with courage and composure. We carry a dignity about ourselves even when performing menial tasks. Those duties may include:

Duties:

- Greeting parishioners as they enter for worship
- Selecting a family to make the Offertory presentation
- Assisting in the seating of parishioners and guests
- Maintenance of the climate control system during Mass
- Providing the weekly bulletin to members of the congregation
- Taking up the Offertory collection
- Wishing everyone a good day at the conclusion of the celebration of the Mass
- Cleaning up the church after Mass, collecting excess bulletins and papers left behind in the pews
- Handling emergency situations with courage and composure

Time Commitment:

Usually about 1 and 1/2 hours per Mass beginning about 15 minutes before Mass; includes duties during Mass, and 5-10 minutes after Mass for cleanup of pews.



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Training:

A semi-annual training session of approximately an hour.

"On the job training" is provided by working alongside experienced Ushers.

General Routine:

- Arrive at Church about 15-20 minutes before Mass.
- Check the Weekly Bulletin to see if there is one collection or two.
- Open doors for parishioners and welcome them to church. Try to keep the doors closed as much as possible. Cold and hot temperatures affect the back of the church.
- Go to the Sacristy and get the Eucharistic gifts if they are not out already. Place them on the table.
- Take up the collection. This will be just following the "special intentions." Father will sit down, and the music group will start the offertory song. Place the money into the collection basket.
- Block for Communion. There will normally be a chalice with wine and a ciborium with hosts. Start up the center aisle with the collection first and, the family members following with the chalice of wine and the host to walk towards Father.
- Take up the second collection if there is one. You will start up the aisles as soon as Father closes the Tabernacle door.
- Open the door for Father and the altar servers for the recessional.
- Clean up all the litter after Mass and place the books back in the holder on the back of the pews. Make sure that the side doors and interior rear doors are closed.

Contact:

To join this ministry or to obtain more information, please call the Parish Office to contact the Usher Coordinator, or please approach any of our Senior Ushers after Mass.