

St. Mary's Catholic Church

November 13, 2020

Youth Altar Servers 2020 Protocol

On behalf of Fr. Jeremy, Fr. Benjamin, Fr. Dave, and Deacon Jim, we are excited to welcome youth altar servers to return in a safe manner!

The schedule in MSP will simply show 2 empty slots per Mass so that you can volunteer. Please be mindful of others, and sign up for one or two slots initially, giving others a chance to fill in. If you are willing to serve more, please help fill current-week openings.

Here is our protocol:

- Please refrain from serving and request a substitute as soon as you become aware of any **suspicious symptom** (of COVID or any infectious disease) or **probable exposure** of any household member to a known positive case.
- **Please notify us immediately** if you discover you may have been exposed to the virus prior to a recent service.
- We will **screen temperatures**, using the same 100.4°F fever threshold as schools.
- **Facemasks** must be worn throughout the Mass.
- **Sanitize hands** upon arrival in Church, before Offertory, and before carrying vessels or books to and from the altar.
- **Omitted Elements:**
 - Servers may not carry the candles for the Gospel, but one server may carry the processional Cross.
 - We have no Offertory procession, so servers will only be responsible for bringing vessels from the credence table to the altar and back.
 - Servers will stay in place to receive Communion. They will not hold patens for the Communion line.
- After Mass, **Vestments (cassock and surplice)** should be placed in a hamper to be washed the next day.
- **Reminder:** dress your children in layers so that they only wear their serving vestments over lighter layers. This prevents overheating/fainting/nausea which may be exacerbated by facemasks and the heating and lighting in the sanctuary.

We look forward to having you back!

Fr. Paul and the Pastoral Staff of St. Mary's

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