

# 2017-18 Altar Server

Being a server at the altar today is an opportunity for young people to claim a special role in the service of the Church and one that is uniquely theirs. Our aim is that they will take ownership of this special role and invest appropriate time and energy into this ministry. Our hope is that our young people, having gained an appreciation for worship and experience in leadership, will bring this experience to their adult lives as Disciples of Christ. As such the program at St. Catherine of Siena is designed with several goals in mind:

1. The altar servers assist in liturgical life of the worshipping community. Involvement with leadership in worship familiarizes them with our central act of worship and they develop an understanding of the Mass and its importance.
2. It also offers our young people a ministry through which they may develop beneficial life skills. These include leadership and confidence as well as a sound knowledge of the worship life of the Church.

The Altar Server Program is open to all **fourth grader** or **older** and is divided into three stages.

Upon joining, they become an Observer. This first stage gives the person the opportunity to experience being at the altar during the Mass **without any responsibilities**. Before observing their first mass, they must attend an initial **training session**. During this time of observing, ongoing training led by adult volunteers and Senior Altar Servers who volunteer for this task insures that they are well prepared for progressing to the next step. New servers must observe at least **6 masses** over **8 months** to become familiar and confident on the Altar. After observing Sunday masses, they will be scheduled to serve the daily Lenten Masses. If after observing masses and serving daily Lenten Masses, and they are found comfortable and prepared, they advance to become a **Junior Server**.

They will receive a schedule. It is the server's responsibility to check the schedule and switch or get someone to substitute for them if there is a conflict. An effort is made to assign them to their preferred Mass time but preference is given to the oldest servers.

Mass times are Saturday 4:00pm, Sunday: 7:00am, 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:30pm

Please fill out and return the registration form to the parish office. Forms are due no later than August 31, 2017.

# 2017-18 Altar Server Registration Form

CHILD'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL \_\_\_\_\_

GRADE \_\_\_\_\_

I understand the responsibilities involved and would like to become an altar server for St. Catherine of Siena Parish.

CHILD'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

PARENT'S SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

**Mass Preference – Please number your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> choices for mass times to be assigned to serve.**

**Saturday 4:00pm** \_\_\_\_

**Sunday: 7:00am** \_\_\_\_ **9:00am** \_\_\_\_ **11:00am** \_\_\_\_ **5:30pm** \_\_\_\_

**An effort will be made to assign you to one of your choices, but preference is given to the older servers.**