

An invitation from Deacon Tim:
“Serve the Lord with gladness!” (Ps 100)

Hello to our young parishioners, 4th grade and older, girls as well as boys, St. Catherine Laboure School as well as SCL PSR and also Home School.

When you and your family attend weekend Mass here at St. Catherine’s, have you noticed who leads the way as our worship begins? It’s a youngster, just like you, carrying the processional Cross – a kid who, just like you, attends day school or PSR here at SCL. Some even are home-schooled.

I invite you to join these kids as an altar server at weekend Mass here at SCL! This invitation goes to all who are in 4th grade or older during this 2023-24 school year. Our goal is to get our new servers trained and then actively participating early in the new year. Know that New Server Training is mandatory – more information on that once you’ve applied.

An application form is attached to this greeting.

Let me answer some questions new servers and their families often have.

Why should I want to serve Mass? As Catholics, we believe Jesus Christ is truly present at Mass; He comes in Word and Sacrament to strengthen us in holiness. Because servers draw close to the altar in assisting the priest and deacon, they represent everyone else sitting in the pews. Ask one of our servers what this ministry means to them!

For our parents: Studies show a connection between altar servers remaining active in their faith into adulthood. Serving Mass is a wonderful opportunity for your children to “give a little back” to Our Lord and our parish. Consider the commitment and enthusiasm they pour into their other worthwhile activities. Where do you want Service to God to rank among your children’s sports, dance, martial arts, and so forth?

What exactly do our servers do at Mass? They help set up before Mass. You see them carry the processional Crucifix, assist the priest with some of his prayers, and help him and the deacon prepare the altar with the Offertory gifts of bread and wine. We ask servers to arrive at church 20 minutes before the start of Mass.

How often will I be scheduled to serve? Currently, our servers are scheduled approximately every third weekend, at a Mass time of their choice.

Peace be with you!
Deacon Tim Woods

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