



**CHURCH
OF THE
ASCENSION**

WORSHIP MINISTRIES AT CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION, CHICAGO

- **ACOLYTES** serve in a variety of roles at Sunday and weekday masses, Responsibilities are distinctive to each mass and may include: lector (reader), Lay Eucharistic Minister (serving the Communion chalice—when resumed), fire management (candles) and (at weekday Masses) sacristy preparations and building security.
- **COUNTERS** give of their time and skills on weekdays, working in pairs to complete and record the offering of financial gifts from Masses on the prior Sunday or other services.
- **CRUCIFERS** bear the crucifix for processions at Sunday and holy day masses. (Another role: Banners are borne behind the cross for several holy days per year.)
- **DAILY OFFICE OFFICIANTS** lead Morning Prayer and/or Evening Prayer from the Book of Common Prayer, presently via Zoom. Instruction in the appointed readings and Collects (prayers) can be provided, as well as Zoom protocols.
- **THE FLOWER GUILD** includes any interested woman or man willing to buy and arrange flowers for Sunday mornings and feast days, with extra duties prior to and after Christmas and Easter. Flower Guild members typically buy flowers locally and are reimbursed by the church.
- **HOSPITALITY** is not technically a worship ministry, but what would Sunday morning be without coffee hour? This ministry at Ascension is presently in need of new participation and leadership.
- **LECTORS** read Scripture lessons for Sunday masses. The title *Intercessor* describes a lector who leads the Prayers of the People. At some masses, the Lector is also Intercessor.
- **NURSERY VOLUNTEERS**, who must be certified in a safe church training program, are needed as we anticipate re-opening our nursery in coming weeks or months.
- **SACRISTY MINISTRY** involves routine and one-time tasks and roles necessary to prepare for any Mass and, after it, to clean up, put things in order and prepare for the next service. Some of the many tasks and roles include ironing and other care for linens, polishing silver and brass, organizing various liturgical books, supplies inventory and ordering, and administering the Service Record Book.
- **A SUB-DEACON** is one of the 'three sacred ministers' in any Solemn High Mass. It is a sophisticated ministry, typically requires chanting, and is usually undertaken after longer service in other roles at the altar.
- **THE THURIFER** manages fire and incense in the thurible for many Sunday and holy day masses. The role takes time to perfect. Thurifers usually have prior experience in other ministries at the altar.
- **TORCH BEARERS** light and extinguish candles at the altar before and after a Mass and carry a lighted torch in processions during the Mass.
- **USHERS/GREETERS** welcome worshipers and 'manage the house' on Sundays and at major Holy Day liturgies. Ushers distribute worship leaflets, tidy up the pews after Mass and deal with behind-the-scenes matters (e.g. medical emergencies, taking attendance counts, answering questions).

*Interested? To learn more about any of these worship ministries,
please contact Verger MB Hwang, or George Pineda (for Ushers/Greeters
and Hospitality) or Father Raymond +.*