

St. Joseph Parish Altar Server Newsletter

February, 2012:

Welcome to the first "St. Joseph Altar Server Newsletter." This newsletter is written as a means to keep everyone: servers, parents/guardians, Fr. Rich, the sacristan and other members of the worship team on the same page about events, scheduling, changes, etc.

- *Thank you* for all of your hard work and your dedication to this incredibly important piece of making every Mass and sacred event at St. Joseph's a success. Your commitment to this "service" is to be commended. This time you give to St. Joseph's is essential and appreciated.
- Lent 2012 begins with Ash Wednesday, February 22. There will be six Friday evenings when Stations of the Cross will be observed at 7:00 PM in the church. These Fridays are in addition to the usual Wednesday Mass and novena. Three altar servers are needed for each presentation of Stations. The first one in February has already been scheduled. However, for the five in March, each family has been tentatively scheduled for one of these services.
- Each week there will be a cross-bearer and two candle-bearers. There will be at least one server scheduled who has done this before and at least one member from each family in order that every family has equal commitment and each family has someone who "knows the ropes" for next year. Scheduling this way entails only one Friday per family and keeps everything fair. However, if you have a Friday you prefer or one you cannot do, please get the information to the rectory by February 15.
- You will be receiving with the March calendar the specific, special services that are part of the Holy Week observances. Please commit seriously and only commit to what you will be able to attend. This obligation of your time is vital and last minute no-shows are not an option.
- Also included in this packet is a revised list of the current altar servers, their telephone numbers and Mass preferences. In the event you cannot fulfill one of your scheduled times, please refer to the list to get a replacement.
- Replacements, once you agree to fill in/switch, please make sure you get to the Mass. When you are in the church to serve the Mass, please mark on the server schedule in the sacristy that you are serving over the other servers name. Additionally, if you are in the church to attend Mass and realize there are absent altar servers and you voluntarily go to the sacristy to fill in, please mark it on the schedule hanging there - and thank you for stepping in.