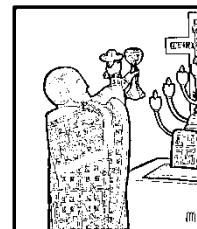


**Altar Boy Information Meeting  
2009-2010**

**Practical things to keep in mind when serving in the Holy Altar**

1. Please check and memorize when you are supposed to be in the Holy Altar.
2. If you are not on the list to serve in the Holy Altar you are expected to be in Sunday School. As Altar Boys you need to give the example to all the other children by regularly attending Sunday School.
3. **After you have entered the Church please come upstairs and ask what color robe to wear and where the robe is located. The robes may be in the Altar or downstairs in the robe room. Please find the appropriate color robe and bring it to be blessed by the priest.**
4. **When you enter the Holy Altar always do your Cross, you are standing in a Holy place where Christ is always present in the Tabernacle on the Holy Altar. Please go and have your robe blessed by the priest and then go and kiss the Cross in the back of the Holy Altar.**
5. Both colored and black robes need to be blessed by the priest before they are put on.
6. Please arrive at least 5 minutes before the beginning of the 1<sup>st</sup> Liturgy (8:25am) and at least 10 minutes before the beginning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Liturgy (9:50am).
7. **If it happens to be a Children's Liturgy, you are expected to be there at 9:45am because the service begins at 9:50am.**
8. In the Holy Altar we speak as little as possible. We do not carry out long discussions. Please be as respectful as you can.
9. Please keep the door **closed** between the Holy Altar and the stairs at all times.
10. **No Altar boy is to be sitting on the stairs. You can either rest using the chairs we have in the Altar or on the side pew in the main part of the Church.**
11. The antidoron is to be cut during the Orthros. If you need to cut more, please ask the priest before cutting any antidoron and he will tell you what prosforo to cut and how much.
12. **Make sure you light a charcoal correctly. Do not turn the candle sideways or try to light the charcoal in the sink.**
13. Make sure the older boys explain to the younger ones how to perform correctly an entrance. If you do not remember, please ask one of the older altar boys to explain it to you.
14. **Everyone needs to be in the Holy Altar area during the time we kneel. We kneel when the priest raises the gifts and crosses his hands (see diagram). This is the most sacred moment of the Divine Liturgy.**
15. Right before kneeling please prepare the censer and kneel beside the Holy Altar so you can immediately give the censer to the priest when he needs it.



## Altar Boy Information Meeting 2009-2010

16. Hand the censer to the priest correctly, with the top part of the censer facing towards the Royal Doors.
17. Right after kneeling please turn on the hot water.
18. Right after kneeling please have the antidoro blessed by the priest. Please hand the antidoro to the priest correctly. At this time, an older and a younger Altar Boy are asked to distribute the antidoro to the Sunday School.
- 19. Holy Communion:**
  - a. **Two Altar boys for candles**
  - b. **Two Altar boys for Antidoro**
  - c. **Two Altar boys to usher the people row by row**
  - d. **Altar boys will be needed to hold the cloth**
- 20. After Holy Communion please bow in the following order so you can come back into the Altar:**
  - a. **(First) Those helping the priest with Holy Communion**
  - b. **(Second) Those holding the candles**
  - c. **(Third) Those holding the Antidoro**
21. Everyone is to be outside during the sermons.
22. When the Liturgy is over the older Altar Boys with the asterisk after their name are expected to stay **until the antidoro is finished** with at least one or two of the younger Altar Boys. Two things are expected of them: (1) to make sure there is enough antidoro for the priests to hand out to the people and (2) they are also expected to clean up. Before you leave please come and ask the priest if he needs anything else. If not, receive his blessing and leave.
23. If there is more than one priest in the Holy Altar make sure to go and get a blessing from each priest.
24. It is an honor and a privilege to be in the Holy Altar. You represent the angels who are constantly ministering to God. Your behavior must exemplify that of angels in the Holy Altar.

