

Ushers



The Ministry of Usher in the Catholic Church comes to us from two ancient functions: Porter *or Doorkeeper* and Greeter. The Porter was the one who, literally, kept the door. It was their responsibility to open and lock the doors, to welcome visitors and keep out the undesirable, in other words, to keep good order within the congregation.

Ushers are a congenial group of women and men who strive to make the church service or Mass run smoothly and be meaningful and pleasant for all. They greet the congregation before Mass, extending a warm welcome to all. They are ready to give assistance to the priest or worshiper before, during, or after Mass. Other church organizations often seek their help with special projects, distributing literature, collecting and collating materials, etc. At the end of Mass, they distribute the Church Bulletin and wish everyone a good day.

Ushers are the first members of the congregation encountered by visitors, and play an important role for God's people. They greet the stranger, making him/her welcome. They assist the celebrant and other ministers of the Altar through constant vigilance over whatever needs to be done before it is needed, during the celebration, and after Mass.

To serve as an Usher, please phone the Parish Office 318 687 5121 to offer your time and service to God.

DUTIES OF AN USHER

- Arrive at least 20 minutes before Mass or a service begins;
- Unlock the front doors and be ready to receive the congregation;
- Turn on and check lights, heat/air, fan settings, and get the building ready for the service;
- Check with the #1 Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist that he/she has what is needed;
- Be in place for the beginning of Mass to participate in the Liturgy of the Word;
- Usher #1 should be alert to the needs of Lectors or Celebrant with regard to the P.A. system;
- At the end of Mass, be ready to distribute the Parish Bulletin to parishioners as they leave church; and
- Clean up papers, trash, and Bulletins left in the pews.

To serve as an Usher is to serve Christ in his people.