

**ST. PETER THE FISHERMAN CHURCH ~ EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS (LEMS)
LITURGICAL RESPONSIBILITIES ~ 8:30 AND 10:30 SERVICES**

It is important to be aware of what is taking place during the liturgy. Be prepared to help when needed. The liturgy is structured but always flexible. The ministers of the altar play a very important, spiritual role. It is important to take our responsibilities seriously and perform them reverently.

- After the priest has asked for 5 minutes of silence prior to the start of the service, please light the candles on the altar table, starting with the candle on the Epistle Side of the table, and finishing with the candle on the Gospel side. The Gospel candle should never burn alone, please always light the Epistle candle first.
- Process from the rear single file. Cross bearer to lead, followed by LEM OR LEMS, followed by the Deacon and Celebrant last. Exception would be when the Choir processes during special occasions. Choir processes behind the Cross bearer, followed by LEMs, Deacon(s), then Celebrant.
- When reaching the sanctuary the Cross-bearer comes to the middle of the altar does not bow but proceeds to the Epistle Side and places the cross in its holder. Each LEM bows individually to the cross and proceeds to their place in the sanctuary.
- The LEM on the Gospel side will proclaim the Psalm of the day and the second reading at both services.
- The LEM or the Cross-bearer on the Epistle Side will proclaim the Prayers of the People and Acolyte at the 8:30 Service and assist at the 10:30.
- Before the last verse of the Creed (“We believe in the Holy Spirit...”) the LEM on the Epistle side proceeds to the middle of the center aisle to begin the Prayers of the People. The LEM on the Gospel side (if able) kneels at the communion rail during the Prayers of the People.
- At the Offertory, the LEM on the Gospel side brings to the center the collection baskets for the ushers and the LEM on the Epistle Side receives the Gifts (elements) and places them on the altar. The LEM on the Gospel side will then close the gate.
- When the offering baskets are brought forward, only the LEM on the Gospel side will come to receive them. The LEM on the Gospel will then present them to the Celebrant, handing them across the altar. The Celebrant will hold them up, blessing them and hand them to the LEM on the Epistle side to place the offering baskets on the shelf.
- For Holy Communion, we will be using one or two intinction cups depending on the presence of the deacon. These will be filled by the deacon or priest with a small amount of wine and the LEM is to follow the priest or deacon, offering the intinction cup to persons who wish to dip their wafer in the wine. Whether the communicant dips their wafer is solely at their discretion or the parent/guardian of a child. Under no circumstances is the communicant to be allowed to sip from the intinction cup or take it from the hands of the LEM. Please hold the intinction cup at a level that allows the communicant to see the wine in the cup.
- After you have received communion, and just prior to following the priest or deacon, you are asked to make use of the hand sanitizer situated on the bench behind the altar, then you will receive your intinction cup from the deacon or priest. When we have distributed communion to everyone, you are to return your intinction cup to the credence table.
- At the conclusion of the service, the LEM on the Epistle side will put out the candles on the altar, starting with the candle on the Gospel side (as the Gospel candle should never burn alone), followed by the candle on the Epistle Side.
- All ministers come to the front of the altar facing the cross and with the Celebrant, bow to the cross and exit. **At the 8:30 service** the cross bearer leads the recessional procession without the Cross. **At the 10:30 service** the cross bearer leads the procession, followed by LEM or LEMS, then the Deacon and the Celebrant last.