

St. Matthew Parish

Exposition and Benediction Altar Server Notes

Part 1:

- --Come at least 20 minutes early. *Earlier*, if you need to ask a question!
- --Are we wearing capey things? Gold? Red? (The only way to find out is to ask the Presider.)
- --Servers, *help each other* to review your jobs. There are two jobs: **Incense** and **Humeral Veil**. Note that the server doing the **Humeral Veil** job doesn't *actually* get the **Humeral Veil** until nearly the end!
- --Look around the Sanctuary. Do you see where things are?



In other words, you are looking at the decorated side.



Is there a printed **pamphlet** for this service? If so, make sure there's a copy on your seat.

Part 2: The Procession IN

--Incense first, then Humeral Veil, then any other ministers, then the Presider.

--In front of the altar, Incense STOPS SHORT and lets Humeral Veil and the other ministers GET BY.

This move puts **Incense** on the Presider's **right** side, which is important.



--Follow the Presider's lead.

When the Presider genuflects, the servers genuflect. When the Presider kneels, the servers kneel.

Whenever the Presider wants to impose incense, Incense hands him the **Boat** and raises the **Thurible** for him.

Servers stay kneeling when the Presider goes up to expose the Most Blessed Sacrament.

When the Presider returns from exposing the Sacrament, he will use the **incense**.

When the Presider goes to his chair,

Incense takes the **incense** back to the sacristy, then goes to a St. Joe side seat. **Humeral Veil** goes to a BVM side seat.

Part 3: Benediction

- --When the Presider goes in front of the altar, **Incense** also goes.
- --For now, Humeral Veil stays on the BVM side but gets ready with the Humeral Veil.



Incense follows the Presider's lead: kneel when the Presider kneels, stand when he stands.

- --The Presider uses the Incense while we sing a hymn of praise. This is often in Latin.
- --The Presider sings or says, "*Let us pray*," then a prayer. As soon as the prayer is finished, **Humeral Veil** brings the **Humeral Veil** to the Presider.



Part 3: Benediction (continued)

--Humeral Veil and Incense stay kneeling as the Presider goes up to the altar.



 --Benediction is the blessing of the people with the Most Holy Eucharist. To say symbolically, "This blessing is from the Lord Himself," the Presider uses the humeral veil like gloves.
 --The Presider makes the Sign of the Cross over the people with the monstrance.

--At the top, right and left points of the Sign of the Cross,

Incense gives three swings of smoke (aimed at praising the Lord), and **Humeral Veil** rings **three short**, **sharp rings** on the **bells**.



Part 3: Benediction (continued)

--The Presider places the Monstrance on the altar, genuflects or kneels, and may then lead *The Divine Praises*.

Blessed be God.
Blessed be his Holy Name.
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.
Blessed be the Name of Jesus.
Blessed be his most Sacred Heart.
Blessed be his most Precious Blood.
Blessed be Jesus in the most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.
Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.
Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.
Blessed be her glorious Assumption.
Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.
Blessed be St. Joseph, her most chaste spouse.
Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints.

May the heart of Jesus, in the Most Blessed Sacrament, be praised, adored, and loved with grateful affection, at every moment, in all the tabernacles of the world, even to the end of time. Amen.



Part 3: Benediction (continued)

--The Presider *reposes* the Most Blessed Sacrament (puts the Holy Eucharist back in the tabernacle).

--When the Presider takes off the **Humeral Veil**, **Humeral Veil** takes it from him, folds it and puts it back on the BVM side table, then returns to the front-center.



--The Music Ministry or the Presider may lead a hymn.

--The Procession OUT is the same as for daily Mass.

Genuflect with the Presider.

Process to the Sacristy: Incense, then Humeral Veil, then Presider.



Part 4: Cleaning up afterwards

- --Put the **Bells** back to their normal place.
- --Bring in the Humeral Veil.
- --Pick up any programs, printed materials, etc., and put them on the sacristy counter.
- --Hang up your alb neatly.
- --ASK what else needs to be done!



Thanks for Serving!