



ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON CATHOLIC CHURCH

Ushers' Newsletter



May, 2018

Website: www.twopaths.com/ushers

Ministry head: Cliff Leitch 954-753-9960 or ushers@twopaths.com

Ushers' Schedule

The new Ushers' Schedule is attached. If you are unable to serve on the dates you are scheduled, please arrange with another usher to cover for you.

If you know in advance of any dates you will not be available, contact the Parish Office at 954-753-3330 before the next schedule is published, and you will not be scheduled on those dates.

Thank You!

Many thanks to all of you who volunteered to serve at the Ash Wednesday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil, Easter, Confirmation, and First Communion Masses.

Special thanks to **Reinhard Derksen** and **Peter Yeh** who served at 6 Masses, **Tony DiBari** and **Marie Ziv** who served at 7 Masses, **Gus Smolich** and **Rosanda Smolich** who served at 8 Masses, and **Julius Hurst** who served at 13 Masses.

New Ushers

Wendy Dunn and Joanne Ulrich have joined the Ushers Ministry and will be serving at the 11:30 AM Mass. Please welcome Wendy and Joanne!



May 13

Happy Father's Day!

June 17

Qualities of a Good Usher

From David R. Enlow, Church Usher: Servant of God, Wing Spread Publishers, 1982, 2003.

(continued from last quarter)

Punctual

"Redeeming the time" (Ephesians 5:16). More so than with many other responsibilities, the church usher must be on time for the performance of his duties, or they will be totally neglected. Early arrivals at a worship service, especially guests, must be warmly welcomed by a caring usher. If the usher is not there to perform his duties on time, the opportunity may be lost forever to affect the life of a visitor for good.

Dear Lord, give me such a keen sense of priorities that I will never allow anything or anyone—outside of genuine emergencies—to keep me from my appointed duties at the proper time. And if emergencies arise, may my concern for church responsibilities be so great that I will never neglect to obtain a replacement when circumstances prevent my being there.

Kind

"Be kind and compassionate to one another" (Ephesians 4:32). The church usher must learn to act—rather than react—in the face of criticism or disfavor of any type, and that acting must be in

kindness. That refers to fellow ushers as well as to worshipers who may be contacted only briefly.

Dear Lord, help me not to allow the petty grievances or behavior of others to set the pattern for my own conduct, but rather enable me by Your grace to show kindness to everyone I contact—young or old, rich or poor, of all races. May the golden rule be operative in my life today: "Do to others whatever you would like them to do to you. This is the essence of all that is taught in the law and the prophets." (Matthew 7:12).

Gracious

"Let your speech always be gracious" (Colossians 4:6). The grace of God—His unmerited favor to man—must be exemplified in one's dealings with his fellow human beings. A gracious spirit goes beyond mere smiles and outward condescension. The truly gracious person imparts a Christlike spirit that cannot be mistaken.

Dear Lord, even as You are the great giver of grace and mercy, help me to represent You worthily by demonstrating Your grace to those whose lives I touch today. May Your grace through me draw others to Yourself in a very real way.

Informed

The efficient church usher must know everything possible to know about his church and its leaders if he is to serve his constituency properly. This means extra effort on his part, but the respect and good will created more than compensates for the time and effort required.

Dear Lord, as I try to represent You before these people today, help me to be as concerned for their need of information and knowledge as You are. Help me to love them as You do and thus have their foremost interests at heart.

Friendly

"A friend loves at all times" (Proverbs 17:17). Nothing is more heartwarming than to be greeted with a friendly smile, and the church usher has that opportunity many times during the performance of his duties. Great care must be

exercised to employ a proper balance between genuine friendliness on the one hand and a proper attitude of dignity and reverence befitting the worship of Almighty God.

Dear Lord, help me to be a true friend—insofar as possible—to every person I serve today. May their color, age or status have no bearing on my recognition of them as friends. Help me to show a friendliness that many will want to reciprocate, realizing it comes from a heart warmed by your Spirit.

Poised, relaxed

The church usher who truly sets the right example for members of the congregation is the one who remains poised and relaxed throughout the service, regardless of developments and disturbances that might otherwise disrupt the proceedings. This ability, too, is a gift of God that must be prayed for in advance of its need, though of course it is cultivated through the week by hiding the Word of God in one's heart and spending time with Him in prayer.

Dear Lord, as Your worshipers happen to observe me through the service, may they see one who is serenely carrying his responsibilities because of Your presence in his life and the certain knowledge that You are in control. May Your Presence in me draw them to You and to our combined worship of You.

(to be continued next quarter)

