

# ICC ACOLYTES & CRUCIFER

## Solemn Mass

### Preparation:

- Arrive in the Sacristy at least 15 minutes before Mass.
- AC<sup>1</sup> lights the six High Mass candles in proper order.
- AC<sup>2</sup> prepares the credence table with the cruets, lavabo dish, and finger towel.
- Crucifer positions the cross stand in a convenient spot in the server sacristy and prays in place in the sanctuary until the MC gets him
- Line-up in sacristy for procession (AC<sup>1</sup> on the right, AC<sup>2</sup> on the left, and Crucifer at the centre,<sup>1</sup> facing the ministers.

### General Guidelines:

- Acolytes and Crucifer shall have hands folded over breast when standing, and the palms of the hands resting flat on thighs when sitting.
- Both Acolytes shall follow the MC as when to kneel, and follow Deacon and Subdeacon as when to sit, otherwise, remain standing.

### Procession and Ceremony:

- The candles of the Acolytes shall be nearest the outside shoulder when walking as a team (i.e. the acolyte on the right carries his candle nearest his right shoulder).
  - Go to the position in the sanctuary where the Thurifer genuflected. (AC<sup>1</sup> at right, AC<sup>2</sup> at left, Crucifer in the centre). Stop, bow, and then acolytes proceed to the credence, and place the candles on the pane next to the credence, and the Crucifer goes to the server sacristy to put the crucifix in the stand, and then go to your seats.

1) After Asperges: (make sure you kneel for the Asperges with MC and rise with him)  
AC<sup>1</sup> shall take the Aspersorium and the Book of Altar Prayers from the MC to the server sacristy.

2) Gospel:

A. Acolytes move to position at the front of the altar:

- Both Acolytes shall move to get their candles **when the Priest imposes incense into the thurible.**
- The D and SD shall be positioned nearest to the altar.
- The MC and Thurifer shall be positioned immediately behind the D and SD.
- AC<sup>1</sup> shall be positioned to the right of AC<sup>2</sup>, just behind the Thurifer.
- AC<sup>2</sup> shall be positioned to the left of AC<sup>1</sup>, just behind the MC.

SD – D

MC – Th

---

<sup>1</sup> Crucifer will use the usual cross for all Masses except Requiem Masses and those in Lent.

AC<sup>2</sup> – AC<sup>1</sup>

- All shall genuflect at the signal from the MC.
- All in the procession shall turn inward to the centre and follow the Acolytes to the Gospel position (as seen below).

AC<sup>2</sup> - MC

SD - D

AC<sup>1</sup> - Th

- Upon arrival at Gospel position, Acolytes face each other until D and SD arrive.
- When they arrive, turn and face the MC and Thurifer respectively (ensuring that the candles are always positioned nearest the outside shoulder).

B. After the Gospel, and after the SD departs, the Acolytes follow behind the MC to the centre of the sanctuary.

- Genuflect with the MC, then return the candles to their place, and return to your seats.

3) Offertory:

A. AC<sup>1</sup> takes both cruets (still on the dish w/out caps) and places them on the epistle side of the altar (after the SD has ascended the altar with the humeral veil). He then stands *in plano*.

- Once the cruets are no longer needed and have been returned to the dish, AC<sup>1</sup> shall remove the cruets from the altar, and return them to the credence table.

B. When the Priest finishes incensing the gospel side, the Acolytes go to the credence table.

- AC<sup>1</sup> takes the finger towel, while AC<sup>2</sup> takes the lavabo dish and the water cruet.
- Wait *in plano* until Priest has been incensed by the D and Thurifer (do remember to leave enough room for the D and Thurifer to incense the Priest).
- Once the D and the Thurifer depart, **approach** the altar step, **then bow**, and ascend for the lavabo.
- Once the lavabo has been completed, bow and return the items to the credence table, then return to seats.
- Wait to be incensed bowing before and after to the Thurifer.
- After he is incensed, the Crucifer should go to the server sacristy and light the TBs torches.

4) Canon:

A. At the 'Sanctus', AC<sup>1</sup> shall ring the bells three times, (each time the Priest says, 'Sanctus', if possible).

B. AC<sup>1</sup> shall ring the bells once the Priest says, 'Hanc Igitur' (this is when the Priest spreads his hands over the chalice).

C. Acolytes & Crucifer shall kneel when the D kneels for the consecration (MC will signal).

D. Elevation of The Blessed Sacrament and The Precious Blood:

- AC<sup>1</sup> shall ring the bells at the moment of the first genuflection (1 ring), the

elevation (3 rings for the elevation), and at the second genuflection (1 ring), for both consecrations.

- All rise after the Priest's second genuflection after the consecration of The Precious Blood (MC will signal).

5) AC<sup>1</sup> rings the bell each time the Priest says, '*Domine, non sum dignus*', before receiving communion.

6) Receiving Communion:

A. After the Priest receives the Precious Blood, all rise (with the MC) and follow the Thurifer in a single file line to the front of the altar to prepare to receive communion. Go behind MC to get to your spot and kneel where the red and white tile meet.

- All the servers will form a straight line:

Th – AC<sup>1</sup> – AC<sup>2</sup> – Cr – MC

- Genuflect, and then kneel (MC will signal both).

- After the SD and D receive communion, rise upon the signal from the MC.

- Immediately ascend the steps and kneel on the footpace.

- After receiving communion, rise, descend (turning towards the centre), genuflect, and then return to your seat and kneel.

7) After the distribution of communion to the faithful, rise once the Priest locks the tabernacle door:

A. AC<sup>1</sup> immediately takes the cruets (on dish w/ out caps) to the altar for ablutions. He waits *in plano*.

- After the cruets are returned to the dish, AC<sup>1</sup> removes the cruets from the altar and places them on the credence table and goes to his seat.

B. AC<sup>2</sup> immediately takes the chalice veil from the credence, then stands to the right of the MC.

- AC<sup>2</sup> waits for the D to remove the Missal from the gospel side.

- When the D descends with the Missal, AC<sup>2</sup> crosses behind the MC and genuflects behind the SD, who is in line with D.

- AC<sup>2</sup> shall proceed to the Gospel side with the chalice veil, by going around the bottom step.

- AC<sup>2</sup> shall help the SD 'build' the chalice assisting with the burse and chalice veil.

- Once the chalice is 'built', AC<sup>2</sup> proceeds to the credence table with the SD, genuflecting behind the SD when crossing the front of the altar.

8) During the Last Gospel, immediately after signing yourself retrieve the processional candles and cross:

- A. Acolytes shall go to the centre of the sanctuary with the Crucifer in the centre.
- do not genuflect at the '*et incarnatus est.*'
  - At the signal from the MC for the last genuflection make a simple head bow, then turn inwards towards the Crucifer, and process out of the sanctuary.

9) Follow the Thurifer to form the line up in the sacristy.

- Upon arrival in the sacristy, stand on either side of the Crucifer.
- Receive the blessing (remain standing)
- AC<sup>1</sup> clears the altar, puts the altar cover back on and extinguishes the candles.
- AC<sup>2</sup> clears the credence table and cleans the cruets and lavabo dish.
- Crucifer returns the cross to its place.