

ICC ACOLYTES & CRUCIFER

Sung Mass

Preparation:

- Arrive in the Sacristy at least 15 minutes before Mass.
- AC¹ lights the six High Mass candles in proper order.
- AC² 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 (AC¹ on the right, AC² on the left, and Crucifer at the centre,¹ facing the Celebrant.

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 C 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. (AC¹ at right, AC² 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)
AC¹ shall take the Aspersorium and the Book of Altar Prayers from the MC to the server sacristy.
- 2) First Incensation: AC¹ removes the missal from the altar after the Thurifer descends the side steps. AC¹ returns the missal to its place once C finishes incensing the epistle side.
- 3) 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**.
 - AC² leads the acolytes to the center of the sanctuary and lines up slightly left-of-center. AC¹ is right-of-center. There should be space enough for Th to line up in between them and MC in front of them.

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

MC
AC² – Th – AC¹

- All shall genuflect at the signal from the MC.
- AC² leads Th and AC¹ around to the gospel side of the altar. He goes to the bottom side step and is in line with the altar.

AC² - C

Th

AC¹ - MC

- Hold the candles on the outside shoulder.

B. After the Gospel, AC¹ leads Th and AC² to the centre of the sanctuary where they originally lined up for Gospel.

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

3) Offertory:

A. After MC folds chalice veil, Acolytes takes both cruets and stand *in plano* on the epistle side. AC¹ is to the right with the wine, AC² to the left with the water.

- When C is ready to fill the chalice, the acolytes bow to him, ascend the steps, and hand the cruets in their right hands *w/ solita oscula*.
- Receive the cruets from C in your right hand.
- Once the chalice is filled, bow to C, kiss the cruets, return them to credence table, and go to your spots.

B. AC¹ immediately goes the long way around to the gospel side to retrieve the missal for the second incensation.

C. After C incenses the gospel side, return the missal, then go the long way around to the credence table. AC² is ready with water, Lavabo bowl, and the finger towel.

- AC¹ takes the finger towel, while AC² takes the lavabo dish and the water cruet.
- Wait *in plano* until Priest has been incensed by the MC and Thurifer (do remember to leave enough room for the MC and Thurifer to incense the Priest).
- Once the MC 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*', AC¹ shall ring the bells three times, (each time the Priest says, '*Sanctus*', if possible).

B. AC¹ shall ring the bells once the Priest says, '*Hanc Igitur*' (this is when the Priest

spreads his hands over the chalice).

C. Th will bring boat to Crucifer at *Hanc igitur* and Crucifer will impose 3 scoops of incense.

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

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

- AC¹ 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) AC¹ 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 AC¹ leads the servers in a single file line to the front of the altar to prepare to receive communion.

- All the servers will form a straight line:

MC – AC¹ – AC² – Cr – Th

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

- Recite 2nd *Confiteor*.

- 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. Acolytes immediately takes the cruets and wait *in plano*.

- After C tilts the chalice, AC¹ ascends to pour wine until C signals him to stop.

- AC² retrieves one of the patens and waits at the top step for AC¹.

- AC¹ retrieves the other paten once he has filled the chalice with wine.

- C consumes the wine and brings the chalice to the edge of the altar for the second ablution.

- AC¹ pours a small amount of wine over his fingers, AC² pours most of the water. C will signal both when to stop.

B. Acolytes immediately go to the credence table to return the patens and cruets, then AC² leads them to the center of the sanctuary, as at Low Mass.

- Genuflect together, then AC¹ crosses in front of AC² and goes the long way to retrieve the missal on the gospel side.

- AC² goes behind AC¹ to the epistle side to retrieve the chalice veil.

- Both go the short way and meet in the center and genuflect
- AC1 returns the missal to its position on the epistle side, then returns to his spot, while AC2 helps C with burse and chalice veil.
- Once the chalice is 'built', AC² returns to his spot.

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)
- AC¹ clears the altar, puts the altar cover back on and extinguishes the candles.
- AC² clears the credence table and cleans the cruets and lavabo dish.
- Crucifer returns the cross to its place.