

USHERS



DESCRIPTION/OVERVIEW:

The ministry of ushers is the oldest lay ministry in the Catholic Church. The ushers of today have descended from a long line of people of God who have gone before them. During the time of Christ, the doorkeepers of the temple numbered in the hundreds and were the forerunners of today's ushers.

ACTIVITIES and EXPECTATIONS:

- Welcoming parishioners as they enter for worship
- Assisting in the seating of parishioners and guests
- Taking up the Offertory collection
- Wishing everyone a good day at the conclusion of the celebration of the Mass
- Cleaning up the church after Mass, collecting excess bulletins and papers left behind in the pews

Witness Statement 1:

I started in this ministry with my father-in-law, Lu DeLuca Lewis, who was the head Usher for many years. He asked me if I could help out as a spare usher, so that's how I started in this ministry. My father-in-law passed away and ever since then I have taken over where he left off. Passing around the offertory basket is an important job because the money that we collect goes to support the parish and all its needs. Many times people will ask us for directions, like how to get to the restroom, and that's always rewarding. We help people. As they come in we greet them with a smile and say hello. As they leave we hand them a bulletin and tell them to have a good day. As an usher we make people feel comfortable and welcome in our Parish."

Greg Morelli

Witness Statement 2:

"Russell Fairbaugh, a deceased parishioner, was a "go to" guy for Father Ritchie at Mass on Saturday evenings. Russ could do just about anything Father needed. I asked him why he did what he did. He said, "If I see it needs to be done I just do it". I thought about that and became a greeter for several years, with my wife. Then we needed ushers, a few times, to take up collection, so I just do it."

David Rinke

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