

Worship

Acolytes

Grace Church is privileged to have a large group of Crucifers, Servers and Torchbearers participating as leaders of worship on Sundays and for all special services. This year, acolyte training was held in January and was led by Gretchen Poliero and Bill Lowden, and also in October, led by Mother Debbie, assisted by Diane Close. We are thankful for the ministry of Reeves Honey, who scheduled the acolytes for the first part of the year. Mother Debbie and Mr. George Freeze are currently responsible for acolyte scheduling and training.

Active acolytes this year have been: **Thurifers:** John Poliero, ----- Buenzle, Joseph Gambardello, Beth Manning, James Diaz. **Crucifers:** ----- **Emergency Crucifers:** ----- **Servers:** -----, Rob Spaeth, ----- **Torchbearers:** -----.

Other interested youth and adults should contact Mother Debbie for training, and to be added to the schedule.

Adult Acolytes, Lectors, & Chalice Bearers

Maintaining an orderly and smooth-flowing worship service involves the assistance of many parishioners. In addition to serving at one Saturday and three Sunday Services, our Chalice Bearers and Lectors assist at special weekday services, weddings, and funerals. Appropriate training is given for each type of service.

The following persons have served as Adult Acolytes, Lectors, and Chalice Bearers in 2007: Marlene Alexoff, Les Baxter, Nora Bollinger, Dick Bynum, Peg Bynum, Susie Carter, Diane Close, Jim Diaz, Carl Gakeler, Joe Gambardello, Michael Guerriero, Harry Guest, Brandon Hamilton, Dick Hammond, Rachel Heston, Michael Leedy, Jane Leichner, Bill Lubenow, Betty Phillips, Andy Pleninger, Jessica Richards, Stan Sikorski, David Spaeth, Sara Sweeney, Ann Waller, Al Watkins, Pat Watkins and Bob Winyard

Eucharistic Ministers taking the Holy Eucharist to parishioners in homes, in hospitals or in Nursing or retirement homes were: Dick and Peg Bynum, Carl and Peg Gakeler and Joe and Ann Waller.

Altar Flower Committee

The Altar Flower Committee continues to flower the church "to the glory of God" on a weekly basis. The committee provides the parish an opportunity to remember loved ones and beautify the church on Holidays as well as Sundays. We wish to thank everyone for their continued financial support in making Grace Church, what we think is the most beautiful church in town.

Also, my most sincere thanks to the members of this small committee:

Laura Humphries, Betsy Gagliardi, Bobbie Schmidt and Denise Sikorski.

Again, thanks to all, Jean Fischer, Chair

Altar Guild

“The Altar Guild is different from other ministries. Altar Guilds work for the Lord quietly on prescribed tasks. They don’t have a program. They aren’t political. They don’t champion causes. Their principal work is preparing the church for worship. The ministry of the Altar Guild is just as important as any other ministry. In fact, the work that the Altar Guild members do in preparation for worship makes their ministry central to all the others.” This is how an Altar Guild was described by Barbara Gent to the Council on Women’s Ministry.

However, the Altar Guild does have missions: to prepare the Lord’s table for Holy Eucharist with the utmost care and affection; to anticipate the needs of the priest and the people; and to encourage members of our parish family to join us as Sacristans in this joyful work. Wherever and whenever Holy Eucharist is celebrated, there is an Altar Guild working quietly behind the scenes.

Those who served this year were: Sue Comfort, Barbara Elliott, Peg Gakeler, Beth Deitelbaum, Ruthann Johnson, Barbara Linn, Jessie Orlando, Betty Phillips, Barbara Tamarri, Sue Rosica, and Pat Panzone.

We would like to thank Barbara Tamarri for her leadership and faithful service.

We are a small, faithful group, hoping to expand! If you are looking for a way to serve the church, please consider the Altar Guild.