

ALTAR GUILD

Mary Lou Parks

The Altar Guild is a group of dedicated persons who perform tasks that are crucial to every parishioner's worship experience. Week after week, we fill the candles, wash linens, change numbers on the hymn boards, polish the silver communion vessels, and most importantly, set the tables and altar so that everything flows smoothly during the Liturgy and Holy Communion.

Someone once told me that her mother, an active Episcopalian, had no desire to join the Altar Guild because she had no interest in "doing the dishes." I say, from my own experience, this is NOT what we are about. Without our careful preparation, the Holy Eucharist would not happen in an organized, practically seamless fashion. It is love for Christ, as well as the All Saints' Parish, which drives us to assemble the communion elements and vessels in the most attentive and deliberate way.

We have five Altar Guild teams; each team serves every 5th week. A few persons who have served for numerous years are hoping to pass the torch to some younger individuals in the next year. Therefore, we are looking for new members who pay careful attention to detail and who love All Saints'.

This year we spent \$ 1,436.80 of \$ 1,586.00 budgeted. Our regular expenses include wine, communion wafers/bread, candles and candle supplies, incense and charcoal, Diocesan dues, cleaning supplies, and vestment cleaning.