

ACOLYTES/VERGERS

Albert White

In conjunction with our hopeful restart of acolyte and verger training (and retraining) I have spoken with Phillip, Ty Robinson and Rick Wise about incorporating Pack and Troop 85 into acolyte training. All are enthusiastic about the idea.

The thought is to introduce the Scouts very gradually into the liturgy on a weekly basis as part of their Monday meetings. This will be a way of generating interest in the church for non-members, as well as introducing church youth into Scouting.

Our need for acolytes is great and our congregational base is too small to have robust scheduling of three acolytes for 10:45 and one for the early service. We need a dozen to be available as crucifer and server and another 20 or so as torch bearers. This would permit scheduling acolytes no more than once per month. Church competes for the participation of youth. Consistency among acolytes was an issue before COVID.

We are also in need of additional vergers. The holidays and additional services have placed additional burdens on the verger rotation. This will continue to manifest as Lent and Easter approach.

The latest COVID protocol will undoubtedly delay the start of our training program. My guess is that we would need to observe a sustained downward trend from the current surge before proceeding.

As a shameless plug, the task of this joint acclamation and training program would be an ideal task to be led by a new Curate in our parish!