

Incense Instructions

The 2nd A.S. will prepare the thurible for incense about 10 minutes before mass begins. Light a taper and hold a piece of charcoal with the tongs. Using the taper light the charcoal in several places. Look for red sparks to tell if the charcoal is lit. When lit place the charcoal in the thurible. **Light two charcoals at the beginning of Mass.** Do not put them on top of each other.

Place the thurible stand out near the credence table

Make sure there are incense beads and a spoon in the boat. **The A.S. does not add incense on the hot coals.** The priest will do that at the altar at the end of the opening procession. **ONLY DURING MASS SHOULD THERE BE MATCHES ON THE CREEDENCE TABLE. MAKE SURE MATCHES ARE LOCKED IN THE CUPBOARD DIRECTLY AFTER THE SERVICE.**

The 2nd Adult server will have the thurible and boat and will lead the procession at the beginning of the mass. Gently swing the thurible at your side as you process down the aisle.

The incense will be used 3 times during the mass.

#1 Right after the bow the 2nd A.S. will bring the thurible and boat to the priest. The priest will put some incense on the hot coals and take the thurible and cense the altar and cross, returning the thurible to the A.S. when finished. The A.S. will then place the boat on the credence table and the thurible on its stand (and the boat on the Mary statue stand at the church.) 2nd Server can then be seated.

#2 **Immediately after the second reading the 2nd A.S. will get the thurible and incense boat and bring it to the priests chair** before the priest stands up. Once the priest has placed the incense in the thurible the 2nd A.S. will GO IMMEDIATELY and stand behind, but near where the priest stands at the ambo. Give the priest the thurible to cense the Lectionary. When he returns the thurible, stand **a few steps behind him during the proclamation of the Gospel, gently swinging the thurible.** At the end of the Gospel, after the priest and J.S. have placed the Lectionary and candles on the bookstand behind the altar, bow to the Lectionary at the same time as the priest. Then return the thurible and boat to their places.

#3 After bringing up the host family the 2nd A.S. should go directly to the thurible stand and get the thurible. At the same time, the 1st A.S. will go to the credence table and help by taking the incense boat. The priest will cense the altar just before he washes his hands. Hold the thurible open for the priest to put incense on the charcoal. Hand the thurible to the priest and he will cense the gifts, altar and cross and give it back. Bow to the priest and then **cense the priest buy ‘clinking’ two times, lowering the thurible and ‘clinking’ two more times and then bow again.** (If you are serving for the Bishop, bow, cense him by clinking three times. Lower the thurible and clink

three more times and bow again.) Then proceed to the front of the Altar and cense the congregation. **First bow** to the congregation. Then ‘clink’ the thurible **two times towards the centre** of the congregation. Then **turn to the left and ‘clink’ the thurible two times** and cense the left section of the church. Stop and **turn to the right section and choir and cense again**. (Thus you have roughly made the sign of the cross with the thurible. Bow to the congregation, put the thurible back on the stand and return to your chair.

While 2nd Adult Server is censuring the congregation the 1st Adult server should return the boat to the credence table and be ready to turn the pages in the book.

After the Mass

The 2nd adult server should dump the coals into the tin can over top of the pan. Use the tongs to hold the thurible to do this. Use the metal spoon if necessary to clean out the bottom of the thurible.

Remove the incense from the boat and return it to the jar.

When the **thurible has cooled** return it and all other items to the box. Make arrangements to get it to the other school if needed.