



Mater Ecclesiae

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



TRADITIONAL ROMAN RITE

Established October 13, 2000



November 2009

Thoughts from an Altar Server

By Parishioner and Altar Server, Nicholas Byrne



The Mater Ecclesiae Newsletter will occasionally highlight articles written by our parish young people. This month 16-year-old Nicholas Byrne has written a wonderful article about how serving Our Lord as an altar server at Mater Ecclesiae has affected his life.

One of the many great gifts God has given me in this life is the privilege of serving at a Traditional Latin Rite Parish. Mater Ecclesiae is that parish, and the extraordinary form of the Mass has never been more beautiful than it is here. As an altar server, I get to serve alongside Father Pasley, and one cannot get a better view of the Mass, than from the altar itself.

I have been serving for many years, and it has made a great impact on my spiritual life. During the years, I have watched three of my cousins enter the seminary, and each one of them has served here at Mater Ecclesiae. Seeing my own cousins enter the seminary, made me realize that altar serving here at Mater Ecclesiae is much more than just a part-time duty, it is a life time service, as we are all here on this earth to serve God. Serving at Mass is much more than just a job it is a privilege that should be cherished always.

We are always interested in new servers here at Mater Ecclesiae, since we have lost many servers due to college and the seminary. My advice to anyone who is considering serving is to give it a try. Serving is not exactly easy, but it is completely worth all the time and effort put into it because of the incredible graces we receive from God. Hopefully after reading this, some parishioners will decide to start serving, and that is a wonderful thing. This newsletter article, however, is not just for people who are considering serving, but for the actual servers themselves. By reading this, I hope all will know that we shouldn't take our parish for granted. Through the hard work of Father Pasley, Mater Ecclesiae has become a truly incredible parish. It is a great privilege to serve alongside Father Pasley, and it is a great blessing from God to have the parish of Mater Ecclesiae.



It is customary to pray a Novena to the Immaculate Conception starting on November 29 and ending on December 7, the Vigil of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception



Say once a day for nine days, starting on November 29 and ending on December 7

O Most Holy Virgin who wast pleasing to God and didst become His Mother. Immaculate in your body, in your soul, in your faith and in your love, we beseech thee to look graciously upon the wretched who implore thy powerful protection. The wicked serpent, against whom the primal curse was hurled, continues nonetheless to wage war and to lay snares for the unhappy children of Eve. Ah, do thou, our blessed Mother, our Queen and Advocate, who from the first instant of thy conception didst crush the head of our enemy, receive the prayers that we unite single-heartedly to thine and conjure thee to offer at the throne of God, that we may never fall into the snares that are laid for us, in such wise that we may all come to the haven of salvation; and in the midst of so many dangers may holy Church and the fellowship of Christians everywhere sing once more the hymn of deliverance, victory and peace. Amen.