

## DIOCESE OF ST. PETERSBURG

Pastoral Center

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## Memo

To: All Pastors

From: Fr. Chuck Dornquast, Director of Vocations

**Date:** February 16, 2021

**Re:** Youth Altar Server Appreciation Mass

This year's Youth Altar Server Appreciation Mass will be on Sunday, March 21, 2021, at 3:00 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Jude the Apostle. While we realize many parishes have not been having altar servers on a regular basis since last year, we still wanted to recognize those that have been serving over the years and since in person masses have resumed.

Due to Covid restrictions, we will not be having the servers gather and process in and there will not be a reception following mass. Please note, that anyone attending the mass in person will be required to wear a mask. Due to social distancing guidelines, seating will be limited, so we will be taking RSVP's until we reach capacity. We will also be live streaming the mass for everyone to view.

If you have one server in particular you would like to recognize we will be giving out the Altar Server of the Year certificates during the mass for a server that you will choose, if you want to. Otherwise, we will have you submit the names of those that have been serving to receive a certificate of recognition for their service at the altar.

The process to submit your names will be the same as it has been in years past. All names will be submitted online and certificates will be printed out for you to distribute at your parishes. The certificates of recognition will not be distributed at the mass. We will have tables set up for you to have a representative pick-up the certificates and bring them to the parish.

The Diocese of St. Petersburg sponsors this annual event to recognize and thank all of our Altar Servers. A separate memo has been sent to <u>your parish Altar Server Director</u> with information as to how to submit the names of your servers for a recognition certificate as well as the submittal of the name of your Altar Server of the Year. This will be done online so we ask that this be completed <u>by Wednesday, March 10, 2021.</u> (Please note, we will not be able to handle certificate/award requests after March 10.)

We ask you choose <u>one and only one</u> Altar Server from your parish to receive the *Altar Server of the Year* from Bishop Parkes. We appreciate your cooperation.

All servers attending the Mass will be seated in the cathedral with their family, there will be no reserved seating. If they would like to wear **their Liturgical garments** they are welcome to do so, but this is not required.