

St. Peter's Church, Salisbury, MD
CUSTOMARY FOR CRUCIFER 9AM (10:00 in Summer) and
11AM HOLY EUCHARIST

Before the Service

1. Arrive at least 15 minutes before the service. Vest in Alb, cincture, and gloves. Put on Crucifer's cross.
2. When instructed, retrieve processional cross five (5) minutes before the service begins and assemble with the altar party in the vesting room.

During the Service

1. When instructed by the Celebrant, carry the processional cross and lead the altar party into the church. Turn left just after the door and walk toward the back of the church on the left side. Stop at the head of the aisle, facing the altar. If present, the torchbearers will stand next to you, one on each side.
2. When the processional hymn starts playing, wait until the beginning of the second verse (or wait until the celebrant tells you to go) then slowly start the procession, walking at a slow pace toward the altar. The Crucifer leads the procession followed by the choir/band if present, the Eucharist Ministers and any ordained clergy (such as the Celebrant).
3. When you get to the step at the altar, pause briefly (do not bow) then turn toward your left to place the processional cross in its holder at the end of choir pew near the organ. Go to the opening at the gate, bow at the altar then move toward the chairs on the right side of the altar. Stand next to the Acolyte.

Acclamation (stand)

Gloria in excelsis, Kyrie, or Trisagion (stand)

Old Testament Lesson (sit)

Psalm (sit)

Epistle (sit)

Sequence Hymn (stand)

Gospel Reading (stand)

Sermon (sit)

Nicene Creed (stand)

Prayers of the People (kneel)

Confession (kneel)

Peace (stand)

Announcements (sit)

Offertory (stand)

4. At the beginning of the Offertory hymn, when the congregation stands, pick up the large alms basin and proceed with the Acolyte through the gate and step down. Turn toward the altar and bow with the Acolyte, then walk side by side to the top of the Chancel steps. You should stand on the right and the Acolyte on the left.

5. When the ushers arrive, bend down holding the large alms basin to allow the usher to place the small alms basins into the large alms basin. The acolyte will take the bread and wine from the other usher.
6. Bow to the ushers then turn and walk with the acolyte to the altar. Do not bow. Hand the large alms basin to the Celebrant or Deacon then return to stand at your chair.

Great Thanksgiving (stand)

Sanctus "Holy, Holy, Holy" (stand)

7. After the Sanctus, kneel at one of the cushions near your chair.

Lord's Prayer (kneel)

Fraction (kneel)

Words of Invitation

8. At the words "The Gifts of God for the People of God", rise and assist the acolyte to place the gate in the communion rail and move the cushion to the center of the altar step. Be sure to end up on the outside of the rail with the acolyte so you can kneel at the gate to receive the communion.
9. Proceed down the aisle with the acolyte. Stand at the first pew facing the altar until everyone has had communion.
10. When communion is over, the acolyte will join you then you both proceed to the altar. Assist the acolyte to remove the gate and place it in its holder and replace the cushion. Return to your chair.

Post Communion Prayer (kneel)

Closing Hymn (stand)

11. Wait at your chair when the organist plays the final hymn while the acolyte extinguishes the candles. Once the acolyte is done, move to the opening in the gate, step down, turn toward the altar and bow. Move toward the processional cross, unhook the chain, and remove the processional cross. Stand at the end of the choir pew until the final hymn is done.
12. The Celebrant will give the blessing and, if present, the Deacon will give the dismissal.
13. Move to the center of the aisle, briefly face the altar (do not bow) then turn and lead the altar party out of the church. Unless the Deacon or Celebrant tells you otherwise, you will go down the steps then turn left before the pews and head back toward the vesting room.

After the Service

1. Go through the vesting room into the sacristy and into the church to return the processional cross to its holder. Bow at the altar then go back to the vesting room.
2. Remove your cotta and surplice and return them neatly to the closet.
3. Thank you for your ministry!

Updated: August 2023