

"This and That"



St. Matthew's Ushers

Mr. Thomas Siegler has graciously consented to become Head Usher. He was kind enough to take this role upon my invitation. We are also recruiting new ushers: **Any parishioner from the age of 18 and up, male or female, who wishes to be an Usher is invited to call the Parish Office and leave their name and phone number. A general meeting of all the ushers will be held in the near future.**

Kneeling for Holy Communion

As is well known there is a long-standing tradition here at St. Matthew's of the option of kneeling for Holy Communion at the altar rail on the right side of the Sanctuary as one faces the altar. I wish to continue that custom and to that end I make the following observations:

If you wish to kneel for Communion please come to the altar rail as soon as people come forward to receive in the aisle. If the altar rail is full, wait behind it for it to become free. As soon as a place is open, kneel and wait to receive.

Please come forward as soon as Communion starts, rather than coming up in "drips and drabs."

You may receive Holy Communion either on the tongue or in the hand while kneeling. If however, one wishes to stand to receive Communion, please line up at the aisle Communion stations, rather than stand along the altar rail.

The Announcements

Liturgical practice indicates that a *"few brief announcements may be made after Communion."* However, after some practical problems of second collections being announced after they've already been taken up after Communion, etc. I have decided that the best pragmatic solution is to have the Announcements read after the Prayer of the Faithful before the first collection and the Offertory. This will ensure that the announcements are heard in time by the most people. This will also leave the time after Communion a more meditative and recollected time. Anyone wishing an oral announcement to be made should make this known to the Parish Office prior to the weekend.

The Parish Mass Schedule.

The next Mass Intention Book will soon be open. St. Matthew's maintains a rather full schedule of Sunday Masses and an extensive schedule of Holy Day of Obligation Masses beyond most parishes. I have decided to maintain this essentially as is for the coming year. However, much will depend on the availability of both assigned and visiting priests in the near future. I ask you to be sensitive to the possibility of changes to the Mass schedule that may become necessary as time goes on.

God's blessings,
Father Hewes