

St. Winefride's Catholic Church, Neston - To Serve God Joyfully at the Altar...

Sacred Vessels

Aspergillum: the holy water **sprinkler** used with a holy water pot (reminds us of baptism)

Chalice: gold cup used by the priest to hold the wine

Ciborium: gold cuplike container with a lid for holding the Body of Christ in the tabernacle

Cruets: the glass containers that hold the wine and water

Decanter: large container that holds wine to be poured into the glasses for communion

Finger bowl: glass bowl used for washing the priest hands

Monstrance: the large, gold figure that has a small space to hold a consecrated host for adoration of the Body of Christ. This consecrated host is referred to as "blessed sacrament." exposition = exposed and everyone praises [Lunette]

Paten: gold, flat plate used by the priest at Mass for the bread

Processional Cross: The crucifix carried in procession and kept in a prominent place

Pyx: small, round, metal container that a consecrated host can be carried in (such as taking communion to sick people in the hospital, elderly people at nursing homes, etc.)

Thurible: the round object at the end of the chain which holds the hot charcoal and incense. It is what makes the smoke and incenses the altar. **Incense boat** holds the incense

Sacred Books

Breviary: a book of psalms, hymns, prayers etc. recited daily as part of the Divine Office – Prayer of the Church

Lectionary: the book which contains the scripture readings for the Mass

Rubrics: the red writing in the sacramentary that has the directions for doing Mass

Sacramentary: the book from which the presider reads the prayers for the mass; it has all the rules and prayers for Mass

Altar Linen

Corporal: "holds body"; a square cloth used placed on the centre of the altar. the chalice, paten, and ciborium are placed on it.

Finger towel: cloth used for the priest to dry his hands before he proceeds with the consecration of the Eucharist

Pall: A square type pad kept on the paten [also the cloth which covers a coffin while it is in the church]

Purificator: a cloth with a cross in the corner or the middle used for wiping and purifying the chalice

Communion Supplies

Host: the wafer which becomes the Body of Christ

Reserve: the extra hosts which are consecrated which must be placed safely in the tabernacle

Wine: the fermented liquid which becomes the blood of Christ

Vestments

Alb: the long, white robe worn under other garments in the liturgy

Chasuble: "little house"; coloured vestment worn over the alb

Cincture: a rope worn around the alb to tie at the waist

Crossier: staff carried by the Bishop

Dalmatic: the diagonal, coloured cloth worn by the deacon over his alb

Mitre: the pointed hat worn by the Bishop

Stole: a scarf like coloured cloth worn by ordained priests

Surplice: short, lacy garment worn by altar servers or someone serving the priest

Church Furnishing

Altar: at the centre, most obvious place in the Church where the faithful gather as the Body of Christ to celebrate the Eucharist. it is also called the Table of the Lord. focal point of mass

Ambo/Lectern: podium where the Word of God is proclaimed to the congregation; a place for teaching; reading from the lectionary = the book that holds all the readings (always at ambo)

Baptismal Font: the large fountain or basin which is used for baptism

Holy Oils: the 3 oils of Chrism, Catechumen, and Healing. they are kept in a prominent place within the Church

Holy water: blessed water which reminds us of our baptism

Paschal Candle: the large candle used for funerals and baptisms which was lit first from the Easter Vigil fire

Presider's Chair: stands as the symbol of the priest's office of presiding over the assembly; in a cathedral, the chair is called the cathedra (the teaching chair)

Sacristy: a room for the storage of sacred vessels and is used by the priest for vesting; it may have a special sink to clean the vessels used for Mass

Tabernacle: the place in the Church where the consecrated hosts are reserved

Tabernacle light: this red, glass lamp is lit when the tabernacle has the Body of Christ is present inside; anytime hosts are in the tabernacle, the candle is lit

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To Serve God Joyfully at the Altar...

Prayer before Serving

Go before us Lord,
in this Sacrifice of prayer and praise!
May we believe with our hearts
what we say and do in this Holy Mass
and may we live always in your love.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Prayer after Serving

Loving God,
we thank you for calling us
to serve You in the Holy Mass.
In Your Sacred presence,
we are filled with joy and peace.
May Your Holy Spirit always guide us
that we may grow in Your love.
We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord.
Amen.