

## **Youth Weekend Assignments**

### **Altar servers at Vespers (boys, ages 7+ / arrive no later than 6:50 pm to the altar)**

While there is not as much "to do" during Vespers as there is during a Divine Liturgy, altar servers are still needed to assist Father Martin during the celebration of the evening service on Saturday night.

### **2 Readers - Psalm verses at Vespers (ages 8+ / arrive no later than 6:40 pm to the choir stands in front)**

At the singing of daily hymns during the first and second halves of Vespers, one individual will read single psalm verses between each hymn. In addition, a second reader will intone an evening prayer "Vouchsafe, O Lord..." and the Trisagion during the service.

### **Junior choir at Vespers (ages 5+ / arrive no later than 6:50 pm to the choir stands in front)**

All children are invited to discover the joy of singing in church by joining our parish choir. During non-youth weekends, the children will become familiar with the order and hymns of Vespers by standing among our 'veteran' choir members. On Youth Weekends, the children will sing specific litanies and hymns led by Nick. Parents are also invited to join in.

### **2 Greeters (ages 12+ / arrive no later than 9:10 am to the candle desk)**

Responsible for welcoming both parishioners and guests as they arrive in the vestibule of the church, greeters ensure everyone feels like they are a special part of our Christian community. They can also help elderly and very young members up the stairs, from the elevator, or opening the doors into the nave. Once the liturgy begins, the greeters remain near the back to welcome any other guests who may arrive up until the little entrance.

### **Junior choir (ages 5+ / arrive no later than 9:20 am in the choir loft)**

All children are invited to discover the joy of singing in church by joining our parish choir. During non-youth Sundays, the children will become familiar with the order and hymns of the Divine Liturgy by standing among our 'veteran' choir members.

### **1 Reader - Hours (ages 12+ / arrive no later than 9:10 am in the choir loft)**

Prior to the start of the Divine Liturgy, the 3rd Hour is read from the choir loft, beginning at approximately 9:15 am. This brief service includes the Trisagion, three psalms, and the resurrection troparion and kontakion, closing with a final prayer before the start of the Liturgy. *One practice session with Nick R. is required.*

### **1 Reader - Epistle (ages 12+ / arrive no later than 9:10 am in the choir loft)**

During the Liturgy of the Word, the daily reading from the New Testament epistles is read prior to the Gospel reading by Father Martin. The scripture reading is preceded by two psalm verses which are repeated by the choir. Likewise, two alleluia verses are read after the epistle reading, to introduce the gospel reading of the day. The exact details of reading and receiving a blessing from Father while the choir sings the

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Trisagion will be discussed during the practice sessions. *Epistle readers should read at Vespers or the Hours at least once and one practice session with Nick R. is required.*

## **4 Donation Plate holders (ages 5-11 / arrive no later than 9:20 am to the candle desk)**

At the conclusion of the Great Entrance during which our offering of the bread and wine were placed on the altar, likewise, a financial collection is taken to support the church. After Father Martin has finished placing the chalice and diskos on the altar, he will come out from the sanctuary to bless those holding the baskets. They will then pass the baskets through each of the pews, 2 to each side of the church. The donations collected are turned over to the council members at the candle desk.

## **4 Post-Communion distributors (ages 5-11 / arrive no later than 9:20 am to the candle desk)**

After Father Martin intones "The Holy Things are for the Holy." the two rolling tables are brought out from the side walls and small cups are prepared for post-communion. After the reading of the pre-communion prayer, altar servers will bring out pitchers of wine, baskets, and cut bread. The wine can then begin to be poured (must be at least 8 yrs old) into the small cups, which will continue during the distribution of communion. Once the distribution of communion is finished, the remaining wine and bread are handed back to the altar servers, any remaining cups are put away, the table-tops are wiped down, and each are returned to their place along the walls.

## **2 Communion cloth holders (ages 14+ / arrive no later than 9:20 am to the candle desk)**

When Father Martin comes from the altar with the chalice for the distribution of the Eucharist, two individuals are needed to hold the cloth. If there is a second chalice, two more individuals will also be needed. The communion cloth should be held from the base of the chalice to the shoulders of each recipient, to prevent any particles of Eucharist from dropping to the floor. The person standing on Father's left side should gently dab the lips of each recipient so as not to interfere with Father's arm or the spoon. If the cloth becomes too damp on one corner, the cloth holders can rotate to a dry corner. Once everyone has received the Eucharist, the cloth holders can receive and fold the cloth, presenting it back to Father before he returns to the altar. *One practice session with Fr. Martin is required.*

## **4 Coffee Hour helpers (ages 8+ / arrive no later than 9 am to the kitchen)**

Prior to the start of the liturgy, the cups, sugar, plates, napkins, and donation basket are set-out. Bagels and other food are prepared, and the coffee is started before returning upstairs for the start of the Liturgy. After the singing of "We have seen the True Light..." return back downstairs to help put out any remaining food items including jellies, jams, butter, and milk. Help maintain a neat and orderly kitchen, and fully-stocked food before heading off to church school class.