



## INCENSE QUICK REFERENCE

### WHY DO WE DO INCENSE?

- Symbolic of Sanctification / Purification
- Smoke also symbolizes our prayers rising to heaven
- Engage our “fifth sense”

### DURING MASS, REMEMBER:

- 3 G’s (Greeting, Gospel, Gifts)
- Minimum Graceful Movements
- Stay calm when surprises occur
- **Tip:** When walking, keep Censer to the side and swing gently back and forth it

	BEFORE	INCENSE ROLE	AFTER
<b>BEFORE MASS</b>			
When Procession is about to begin...		Get the Censer from the Head Usher or Mass Coordinator	
<b>GREETING (PROCESSION)</b>			
When words are sung...	Start walking in FRONT of the Cross. Do NOT bow at Altar. Proceed up the Altar and stand between Ambo and the Altar facing the Presider’s chair. Wait for the Presider.	Presider will ask for the Censer. When he takes it, STAY in place and wait for the Presider to return.	After Presider returns the Censer, walk down the <b>center aisle</b> of the Church and return Censer to Usher, then walk around the <b>creek/Sacristy</b> side of Church to return to your chair.
<b>GOSPEL</b>			
At the “Alleluia” ... <i>(Tip: This comes after the Second Reading and will be helpful if you are following along in the Missal)</i>	Discreetly go to back of Church via the <b>creek/Sacristy</b> side of the Church (so as to not cross the Altar) and get the Censer from the Usher. Return discreetly down the <b>center aisle</b> and stand to the right of the Ambo, between the Ambo and the Choir, <i>facing the Ambo</i> .	The Presider will take the Censer and after he ‘incenses’ the Book of the Gospel, will return it to you.	After Presider returns the Censer, walk down the <b>center aisle</b> of the Church and return Censer to Usher, then walk around the <b>creek/Sacristy</b> side of Church to return to your chair.

	BEFORE	INCENSE	AFTER
<b>PRESENTATION OF THE <u>G</u>IFTS</b>			
During collection...	Discreetly go to back of Church via the Sacristy side of the Church (so as to not cross the Altar) and get the Censer from the Usher. -- Wait at the back.		
When people walk up to Altar with the gifts...	LEAD in front of the gifts, as it were the Procession. Stand between the Altar and the Ambo. Leave room for Presider to pass. Face the Presider's chair, and wait for the Presider.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Give Censer to Presider.</li> <li>•Stay in place – DO NOT follow Presider.</li> </ul>	
When Presider returns the Censer to you...		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Bow</li> <li>•Incense the Presider               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•2 Center</li> <li>•2 Left</li> <li>•2 Right</li> </ul> </li> <li>•Bow</li> </ul>	Walk down the <b>center aisle</b> of the Church and return Censer to Usher, then walk around the <b>creek/Sacristy</b> side of Church to return to your chair.

**THANK YOU and may GOD BLESS YOU for serving!**