

When you enter the church ...

Make the Sign of the Cross with Holy Water. This is a reminder of your Baptism—when you became a child of God.

Write the date and place you were baptized below:

Date: _____

Church: _____



The Sign of the Cross

Saint Bernadette shows us how to make the Sign of the Cross, slowly and reverently. Do you know who taught her how? It was the Blessed Virgin Mary, when she appeared to Bernadette at Lourdes!



In the name of the
Father,

and of the
Son,

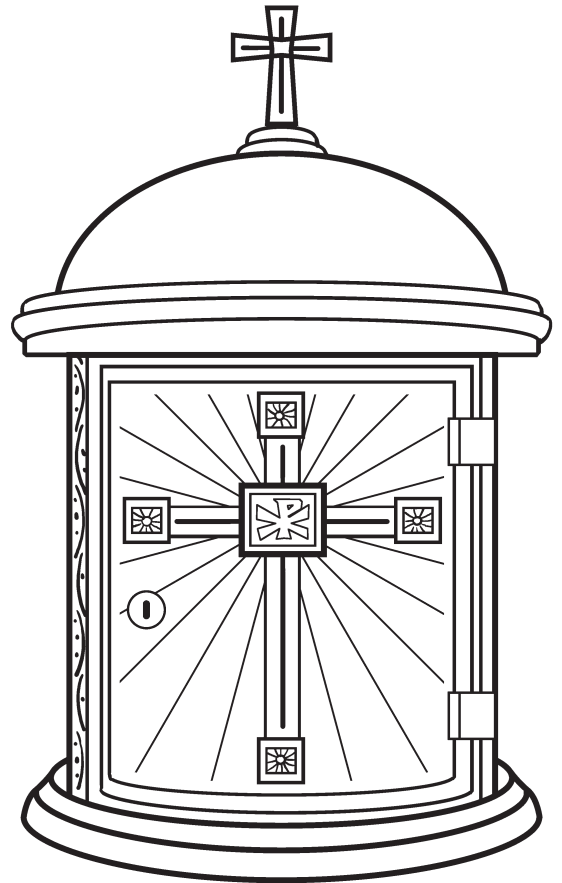
and of the
Holy - Spirit

Amen.

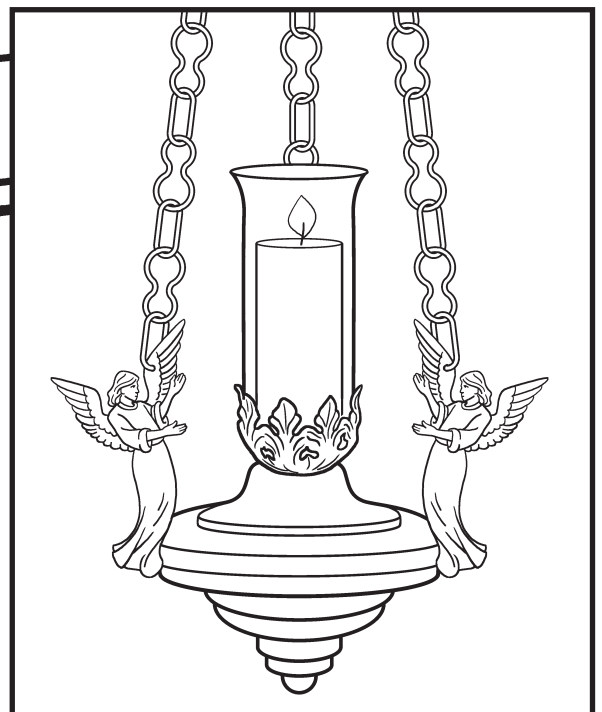
When you come into the church and see the red sanctuary lamp with the lit candle, you know Jesus is there in the tabernacle! Jesus is truly present in the Holy Eucharist inside the tabernacle, so we genuflect to Him, because Jesus is God.



Genuflect on the RIGHT knee.



Tabernacle



Sanctuary Lamp

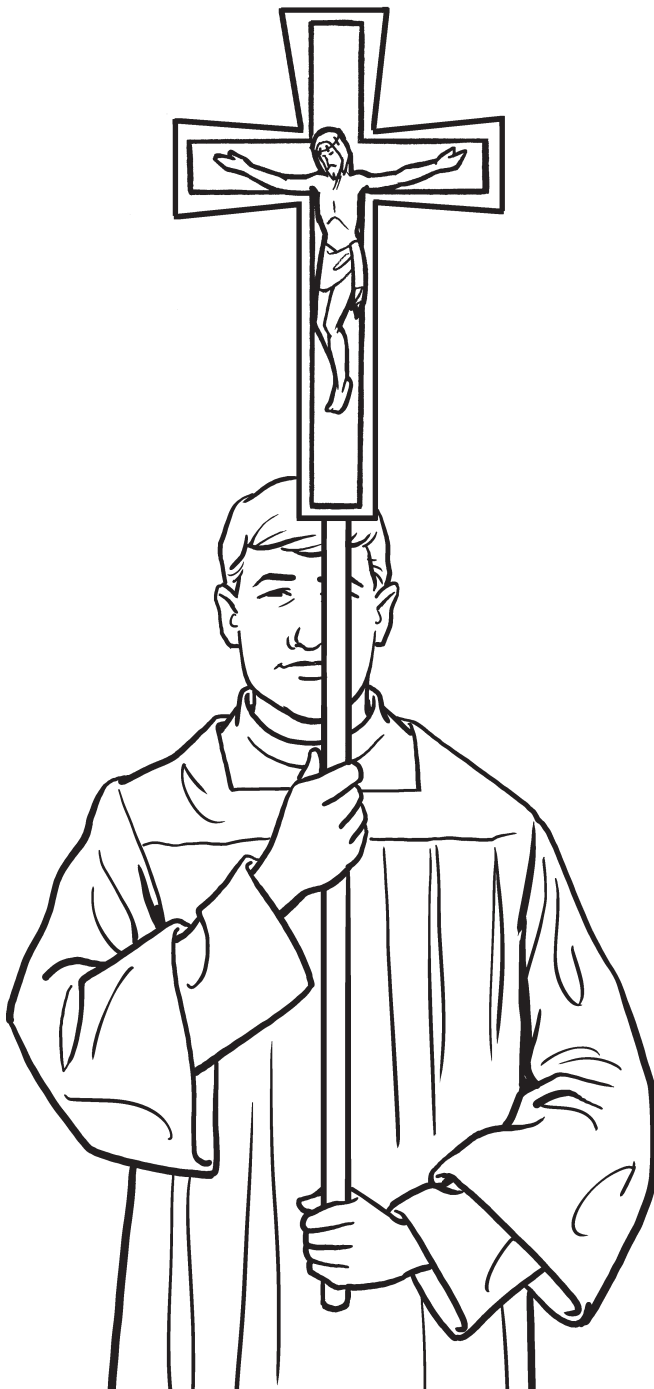
Pray before Mass begins



"Lord, I believe in You,
I hope in You, and I love You."

Holy Mass starts when the priest and servers come into the church. This is called a procession. Everyone STANDS.

The procession begins with a crucifix, followed by the altar servers, deacons, and the priest. If the Book of the Gospels is carried in the procession, it comes after the servers.



Cross Bearer

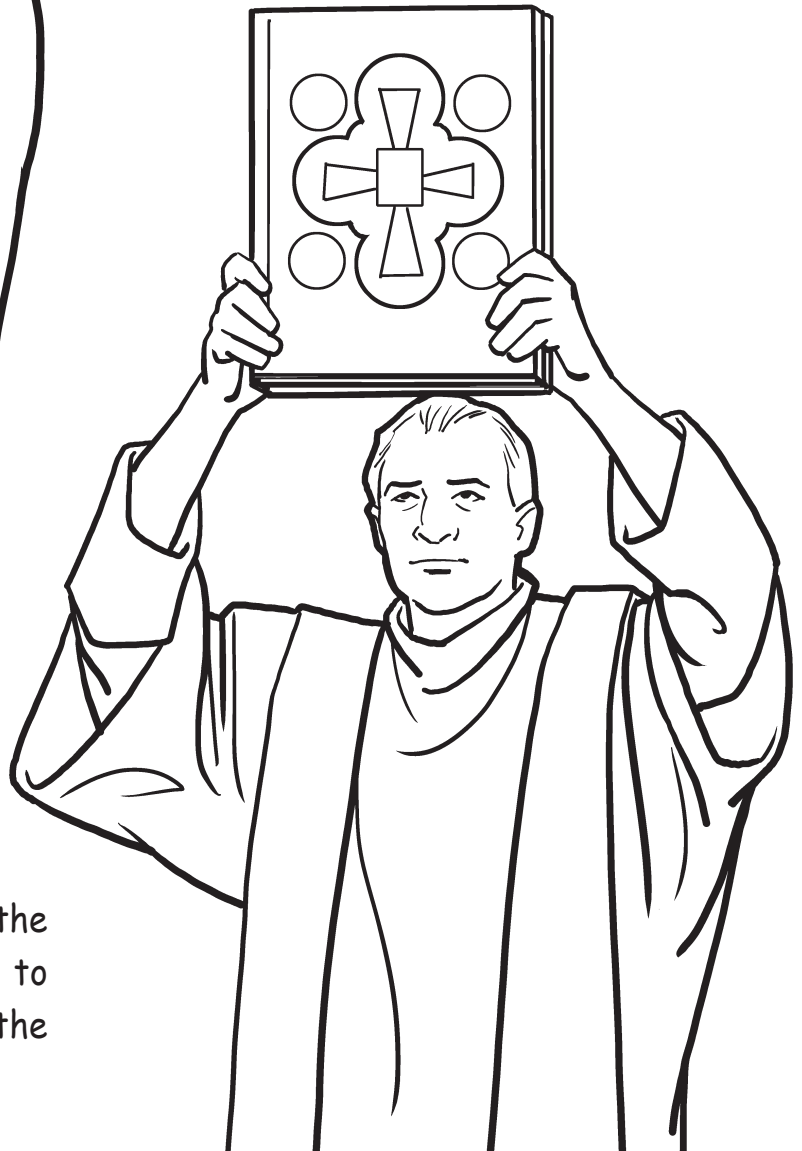


Candle Bearer



Priest

We continue to STAND to welcome the priest who acts "in the person of Christ," offering the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and the Word of God in the Holy Scriptures. We stand to show respect to both.



The Deacon or Book Bearer

Some people bow slightly to the priest as he passes by them, to show respect for him bringing the Eucharist to us!

The priest goes up to the front of the church and kisses the altar as an act of reverence to Christ, Whose sacrifice saved us from our sins. The altar contains small relics of martyrs in a compartment under the altar cloth. If a deacon accompanies the priest, he will also kiss the altar.

