

St. John Vianney Parish Guidelines for Gift Bearers

Take a moment to clear your mind while the offertory song is being sung. Remember that you are representing the entire Parish as we return to God a small part of the many blessings that He has given to us. The unleavened Bread and Wine that you carry will be consecrated to become the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Treat it with reverence and respect.

There will be three (3) Gift Bearers assigned to each Mass: one for the collection bowl (must be an adult), one for the bread and one for the wine. If a family is serving as Gift Bearers and there are more than three members of the family, other members can walk reverently with the Gift Bearers.

Gift Bearers should leave their pew when Father says, "Let us profess our Faith" and proceed to the back of the church. Gift Bearers recite the Creed from their position inline. The gifts are brought up reverently when the priest and altar servers have moved in front of the altar and await them there.

The order of procession is as follows:

1. Usher: Book of Intentions
2. First Gift Bearer: Adult with the collection bowl
3. Second Gift Bearer: Wine
4. Third Gift Bearer: Bread

The Usher will bow, then proceed to the left to place the Book of Intentions beside the Tabernacle.

The First Gift Bearer will present the collection bowl to Father then move to the side.

The Second Gift Bearer then hands the Wine to Father. The Wine should be in the left hand using the right hand to support the cruet. If the cruet has a handle, please be sure the handle to the cruet is facing towards Father so he can grasp it easily and pass it to the Deacon or Altar Server.

The Third Gift Bearer will be the last to hand the gift of the Host to Father.

Once all of the gifts have been presented to Father, he may say a few words of thanks to the Gift Bearers. Then Father, the Deacon(s) and the Altar Server(s) will bow and the Gift Bearers, still standing in a line in front of the altar, bow together toward the altar, turn and return down the center aisle.

Practical Pointers:

- Please let the Hospitality Ministers know when you arrive so they know that you are there.
- Be sure to sit at the end of the pew so you can get up easily when it is time to take the gifts forward.
- At the end of the Prayers of the Faithful, quietly get up from your seat and go to the back of the church. The gifts will be on the left-hand side of the church. You will need to wait until the offertory collection has finished and the monetary offering is ready before moving to the center aisle.
- Wait for Father to stand and walk to the front of the altar before proceeding down the aisle.
- **Don't rush!** Please be sure to walk slowly and reverently down the aisle.
- Don't stop too far away from Father. Stand close enough that he can take the gifts from you easily.
- Offer the gifts to Father: hold them upwards and forwards to him.
- After you have offered your gift to Father, move slightly to the side to allow the other Gift Bearers to easily hand their gifts to Father.
- Please walk back down the center aisle to the back of the church after you have presented your gifts. You may then return to your seat.

Thank you for blessing our Church with your service!