

2019 VGEC Conference

VERGER 101

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What is a Verger

“The ministry of the vergers is to help to lead the church in bearing witness in the world to the hospitality of God, by helping the church to be a truly hospitable place, by helping us to worship the Lord our God in dignity, in order, in beauty, and in truth in the church so that we can go forth to witness to that God to the world.”

The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry
27th Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church

What is a Verger

- Servant Ministry
- Who do we work for (who is in charge)
- Sunday morning dynamics
- Missing ministry team members
 - Recruiting subs
 - Verger in dual roles (EM, Lector, Acolyte)
- **STOP** Resigning when clergy change

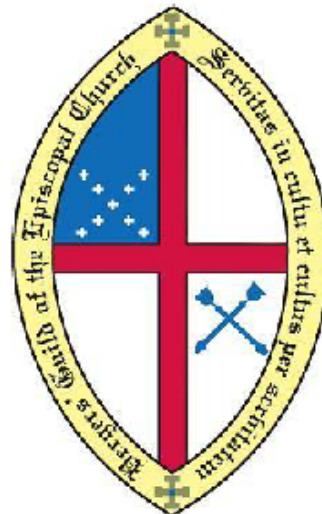
Verger Responsibilities and Parish Dynamics

- Escorting -vs- Leading
- Sacristan
- Acolyte Master / Training
- Altar Guild
- Audio Tech
- Thurifer
- Serving on Vestries or as Wardens

Vergers Responsibilities

- Worship Planning
- Eucharistic Minister training
- Scheduling: Vergers, LEMs, Lectors, Acolytes
- Other Duties as Assigned
- Mission –vs- Parish –vs- Cathedral

A Course of Training for a Verger 2015 Edition, Revision A



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Training Course

- VGEC Training Course - \$65
- Altar Book
- Gospel Book
- Book of Occasional Services
- Priest's Handbook
- Constitution and Canons – on line
- Book of Common Prayer

Training Course

- Purchasing \neq Enrollment
- Clergy Mentor
- Parish dynamics
- Group training

Expanding our ministry

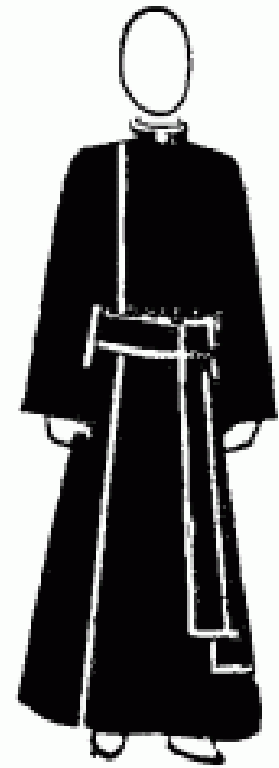
- Avoiding burn out
- How many is too many
- Helping select new vergers

Acolyte training

- Unique to your parish, talk w/ clergy
- Lighting candles
- Carrying crosses, torches, banners, flags, etc
- New book from Church Publishing this past November – *“I serve at God’s Altar – The Ministry of Acolytes”*

Vestments

- Vestments or Not
- Cassocks
- Chimere -vs- Surplice
- Hoods & Tippetts
- ~~Preaching Tabs, Jabots, Ruffs, and Hats~~
- Less is less and less is appropriate



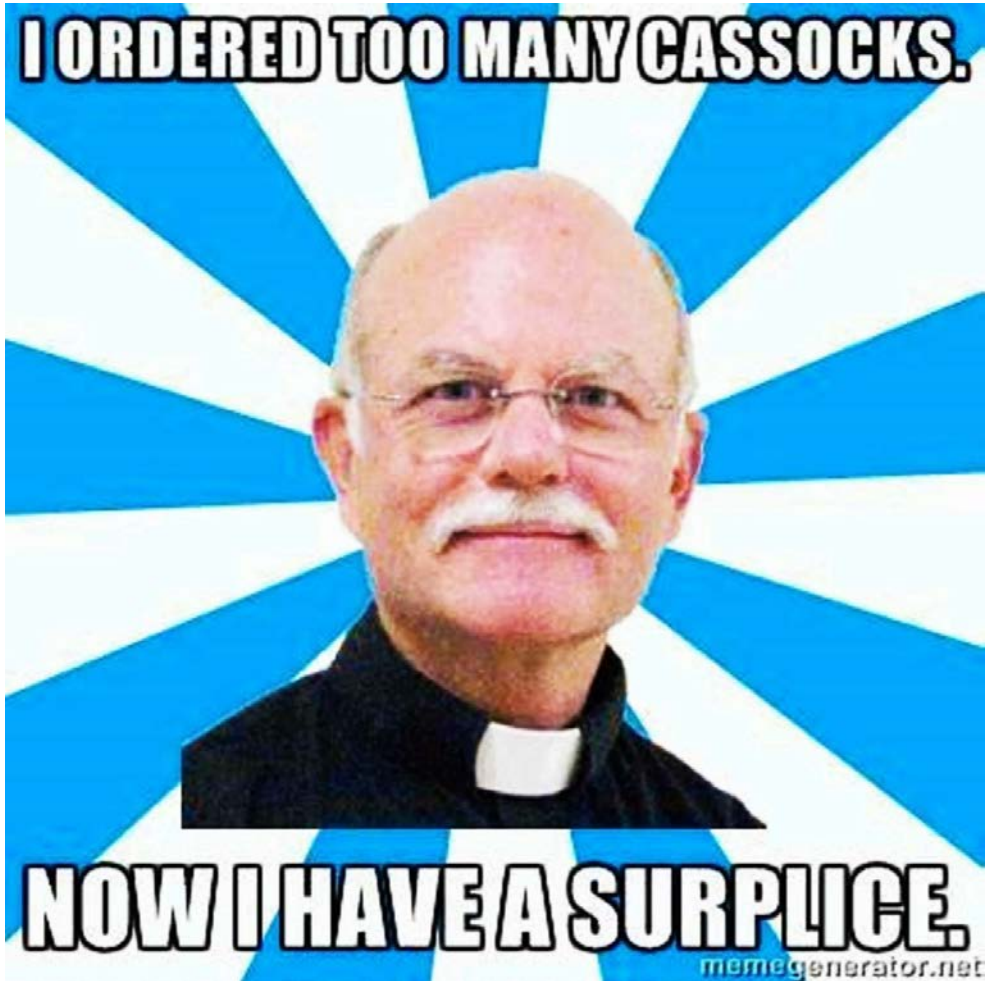








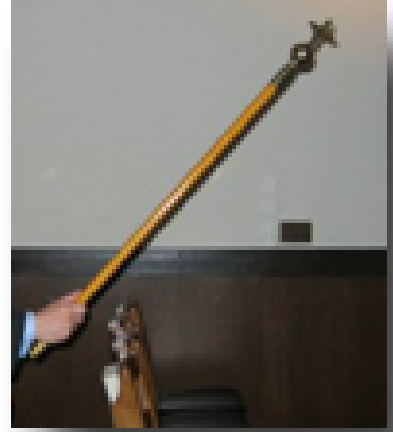
CASSOCKS



I ORDERED TOO MANY CASSOCKS.

NOW I HAVE A SURPLICE.

- Virges –
 - how to carry
 - when to carry
- Beadle pole
 - how to carry



Books that have helped me the most

- *A Priest's Handbook* by Dennis G. Michno
- *The Book of Occasional Services* by Church Publishing
- *Pastoral and Occasional Liturgies* by Leonel L. Mitchell
- *Lent, Holy Week, Easter and the Great Fifty Days* by Leonel L. Mitchell

All available on Amazon, Kindle, and iBooks

Anecdotes & Questions

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