

Festal Offertory Procession – Christmas Eve & Easter principal, and Pentecost

Order of Procession:

Beadle
Cross and Torches
Element Bearers
Ushers (with 2 or 4 offering plates)

Notes:

The Clergy Crucifer and torches should do this assignment. After the Peace, the Beadle, Crucifer and torchbearers should go to the narthex. The torches are lighted in the narthex. It's best not to assign acolytes in this procession as plates ushers.

The Customary:

When the ushers are ready following the anthem, the procession leaves from the narthex. The Organist plays while the procession moves, and should begin the Presentation Hymn when the procession nears the chancel.

At the proper time the Verger, with the alms basin, and the Servers leave the credence tables and move to reverence the Altar. The Deacons arrive at the gate behind the Verger and Servers, to receive the bread and wine first.

When the procession reaches the gate, the Beadle turns left and leads one torchbearer to the end gate in the communion rail. The Crucifer and a torchbearer turn right and move to that end gate. The cross and torches (extinguished) are placed in their stands.

The Deacons receive the bread and wine and exchange a bow with the Element Bearers. They step aside to allow the Verger and Servers space. The Servers transfer the red bags into the alms basin, and collect the empty wooden plates. All exchange a bow. Facing the Altar, the Deacons raise their vessels, and the Verger raises the alms for a blessing by the Celebrant.

The vessels are placed on the corporal along with the chalice and paten. Do not add water to the flagon in this instance. The Deacons wait near the credence tables, leaving enough space for the censuring. They move into position at the horns of the Altar after the Thurifer exits the sanctuary.

The alms are placed on the Altar between the East altar candle and the corporal. Server 2 places the collection plates beneath the West credence.

At the West end of the Altar, the Thurifer presents the thurible for the CEL to add incense, with the assistance of a Verger or Deacon. The CEL then censes the bread and wine, alms, Altar and cross. During this, the Thurifer waits at the West credence. A Server or Deacon assists with the lavabo bowl after the Thurifer censes the CEL.