

Sacramentary – the book the priest prays from during the mass at the altar

Lectionary – the book of scriptures read at the liturgy of the Word

Lector – person who reads the scriptures during mass

Sanctuary – the sacred space elevated before the congregation

Sacristy – the room where the priests vest before mass

Vestments – special robes worn by priests, deacons and altar servers

Alb – white robe worn over street clothes

Cincture – cord used as a belt for the alb

Chasuble – colored vestment worn only by the priest

Cassock – black/red/white vestment worn by altar servers

Altar – the table of the Lord in the sanctuary

Altar Cloth – the tablecloth for the altar – always white

Purificator – small white cloth used with the Chalice

Corporal – small white cloth placed in the center of the altar over the altar cloth

Altar Vessels – sacred vessels used during the celebration of the liturgy

Chalice – gold cup used by the priest/eucharistic ministers for the Blood of Christ

Ciborium – gold cup with a lid for the Body of Christ in the Tabernacle

Tabernacle – the ornate receptacle used to place the Body of Christ

Credence Table – the small table off to one side of the sanctuary for sacred vessels

Bells – rung during the consecration of the the mass

Paschal Candle – the large ornate candle used at funerals, baptisms and Easter until Pentacost

Processional Cross – the cross carried in and out of the mass

Cruets – small pitchers of water and wine for the mass

Finger bowl – small bowl for priest to wash hands during the liturgy of eucharist

Boat – container for incense

Aspergillum – the holy water sprinkler

ALTAR SERVING GLOSSARY OF TERMS