

10/01/23

**Saint John the Baptist Catholic Church  
915 Ivory Street  
Seymour, Wisconsin 54165**

Dear Parents of Future Mass Servers,

Thank you for allowing your child to take part in this training session for this most important church ministry. As they grow older, they will look upon this moment as an honorable and important service they gave to God and the Church. The lessons they learn from this experience will be instrumental in building the foundation of a lifelong faith.

As part of the fathers blessing during the baptismal rite you would have heard the words “You and your wife will be the first teachers of your child in the ways of the faith... may you also be the best of teachers.”

Your encouragement and participation in this new chapter in your child’s faith life is certainly an expression of bringing them up in the “ways of the faith” and doing your part in being the “best of teachers”.

All the training and encouragement the parish staff can give your child is for nothing, if they don’t show up at church when they are scheduled. It is indeed unfortunate that this important phase in their faith life is lost when that happens. As parents it will be your responsibility to see that your child is prepared and ready to serve Mass on the days they are scheduled. Sometimes this may require a sacrifice on your part, but most things that are important in life come with sacrifices.

For your child, serving at Mass may seem like a lot to remember at first, but after a few times of serving they will become more comfortable with it. I would encourage you as a parent, to sit behind, or close by them in church, so you can be a means of support and comfort for them. We don’t worry about mistakes being made or forgetting to do something. It happens to everyone. The priest and I will guide them along the way. We want this to be a good experience for them, not a stressful one.

If ever you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to serving with your child and helping them grow in the ways of the faith.

Your friend in Christ,

Deacon Rich Matuszak