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PART ONE: New Servers {before investiture}

1. REQUIREMENTS OF BEING A SERVER.

- ✓ One should be willing to serve God and forget the world around.
- ✓ One should be willing to obey the rules and custom of the Parish he/she is serving at.
- ✓ One should be able to read and write.
- ✓ One must have understanding since they will be taught on a day to day basis.

2. SAINT LAURANCE: motto, aims, rules and promise.

P WILL GO UNTO THE ALTAR OF GOD, EVEN UNTO GOD OF MY JOY AND GLADNESS.

AIMS:

To serve God
To be present at every sacrament of the Church
To love my neighbors as myself
To comfort the needy, suffering and the sick

RULES:

To respect and to be obedient
To attend Guild meeting's regularly
To be present and punctual at all services

PROMISE:

I offer myself to God almighty, Blessed Virgin Mary our Mother and to our Holy Patron St. Laurance. I promise to do my best, to serve regularly with reverence and understanding. To the Glory of God the service of His church and to my own eternal salvation. Amen

3. THE INVESTITURE PROCEDURE:

HEADSERVER	: Reverend father in God, I present to you the following persons [read their names from a prepared list] to be admitted as servers at the altar of His church.
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PRIEST	: Did you take care of that these candidates to be fit and proper persons to be admitted as servers at the altar in the church of God.
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HEADSERVER : I have tried and proved them believing so to be.

PRIEST : My beloved what is your desire?

SERVERS : Our desire is to serve at the altar.

PRIEST : Do you promise to be in thought and act in discharge of all your duties?

SERVERS : We do so promise, God being our helper.

PRIEST : Do you promise obedience to the server's rules and to those in authority over you?

SERVERS : We do so promise.

PRIEST : Do you promise regularity and punctuality in the discharge of your duties?

NB: Servers kneel and say the Promise

PROMISE:

I offer myself to God almighty, Blessed Virgin Mary our Mother and to our Holy Patron St. Laurance. I promise to do my best, to serve regularly with reverence and understanding. To the Glory of God the service of His church and to my own eternal salvation. Amen

The priest lay his/her hands on them and prays:

PRIEST : God, who has given you this good will, graciously fulfill the same in you. I admit you, to serve at the altar in this church in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I clothe you with this white garment of purity.
[Headserver takes the quotas and wears the servers]

NB: When everyone has worn his/her quota, the Priest continues. Servers remain kneeling.

PRIEST : See that you serve God here that you may hereafter be numbered amongst those who, have washed their robes and made them white in the Blood of the Lamb, stand before the throne of God and serve Him continuously.

NB: While servers are on their knees, they pray the St. Laurance prayer.

ST. LAURANCE PRAYER

Grant we beseech thee, Almighty God, that like thou did enabled Blessed Laurance to be victorious through the fire of torture, so may we have strength to quench the flames? Of our evil desire, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRIEST : Bless, Lord these thy servants as thou did blessed Samuel who was ministered to thee by High Priest Eli, and grant them so devoutly to serve at Thine altar on earth that they may at last be counted worthy to worship at Thine altar in Heaven, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

PART TWO: ROPED SERVERS/ INVESTITURED

1. SERVING:

1.1 How to Walk, Bow, Genuflect and Serve.

Serving is an act of Worship, an expansion of adoration, praise and thanksgiving to God.

A server should hardly be noticed. She/he must move/walks quietly and with dignity avoiding attracting attention. Walk at a normal pace, not too fast or too slow. When

Walking servers keep their hands clasped in front of them at about chest level.

A server should stand straight with both feet firmly on the ground/floor. Server should

Not lean against anything. A server when Bow must be with care and a complete action.

A server will Bow mostly during the metanse/morning service.

A server will not genuflect while carrying something. Server will genuflect mostly during

Eucharist service. When a server genuflects bends the right knee with hands clasped in front of his/her chest.

To serve will differ from Priest to Priest but be sure that you know the basics of serving at Eucharist service.

1.2.WHICH VESTMENTS AND VESSELS DO THE CHURCH USE:

1.2.1 The Eucharist vestments:

SERVERS:

Cassock: A long fitted garment, usually red, cream white.

Quota: A white garment worn over the cassock.

WORSHIP LEADER:

Cassock: A long fitted garment, usually black.

Surplice: A white garment worn over the cassock.

LAY MINISTER:

Amice : A white cloth, first placed upon the head and then worn around the neck. It is the rag which the soldiers tied over the eyes of Jesus, when they Blindfolded and struck him.

Alb : A long white robe covering the whole body. When Pilate sent Jesus to King Herod's Court to be tried, Herod and his men of war dressed up Jesus in a fancy robe to make fun of Him.

Girdle : A rope worn around the waist. When Pilate ordered Jesus to be scourged, They tied Him to a column with ropes, and beat His whole Body most Cruelly.

PRIEST/DEACON/BISHOP:

Clergy shirt: A shirt worn by celebrants.

Amice : A white cloth, first placed upon the head and then worn around the neck. It is the rag which the soldiers tied over the eyes of Jesus, when they Blindfolded and struck him.

Alb : A long white robe covering the whole body. When Pilate sent Jesus to King Herod's Court to be tried, Herod and his men of war dressed up Jesus in a fancy robe to make fun of Him.

Girdle : A rope worn around the waist. When Pilate ordered Jesus to be scourged, They tied Him to a column with ropes, and beat His whole Body most Cruelly.

Stole : Another colored band, worn round the neck and crossing over the body. After the trial of Jesus, they took Him and led Him away to Calvary, Dragging Him with ropes along the way of the Cross-.

Chasuble : The outer vestment of gorgeous color with a cross upon it, hanging In front and behind. Jesus was clothed in royal purple, when the soldiers Dressed Him as a king; and He came forth wearing the purple robe.

BISHOP:

Mitre : A tongue-like hat in remembrance of the tongue of fire at Pentecost

Staff: : Is shaped like a shepherd's crook as a reminder of the Bishop duty To be the sheered of the Body of Christ The other name of Pastoral Staff is crozier.

Episcopal Ring : A ring given to the Bishop at ordination. It is a reminder of the Commitment to the Diocese and the duty to care for the people The Diocese.

Makers : Two lappets on the mitre. They represent Old and New Testament.

Pectoral Cross : Is the cross the Bishop wears.

Episcopal Chair : It is the chair the Bishop sits. It is also known as the Cathedra and Always found at the Cathedral.

1.2.2 The Eucharist vessels.

Chalice : The large cup in the Eucharist to hold wine, which becomes the Blood of Christ.

Paten : A sauce-like dish, which holds the bread, which becomes the Body Of Christ.

Ciborium : A cup-like vessel with a lid. It is used to hold bread if a large number of people are to receive communion. It is also used to keep the Consecrated bread in the tabernacle.

- Pyx : A round case used for carrying the consecrated bread for the sick. It usually has a cord and is carried around the neck of the minister Who takes communion to the sick.
- Pall : A stiff square white cover placed over the paten when it is on the Chalice during Eucharist service.
- Veil : A large square cloth, of the same color as the vestments that covers The chalice, purificator, paten and pall before the preparations of gifts.
- Corporal : This comes from the Latin word "corpus" which means, "body". It is A square white cloth on which we place the vessels containing wine and bread during Eucharist. It is never shaken in the air.
- Purificator : This is a triple folded rectangular white cloth used to clean the chalice.
- Lavabo : A double folded white cloth used to dry the celebrants hands at ablutions.
- Burse : It is used to hold corporal.
- Wine Cruet : Is a cruet used to pour wine in.
- Water Cruet : Is a cruet used to pour water in.

PART THREE: THE CHURCH OF GOD [CPSA]

3.1THE SACRAMENTS OF THE CHURCH.

- Baptism : To make me a child of God, a member of Christ's church, and an heir of Heaven.
- Confession : To forgive me my sins and to help me fight against them.
- Confirmation : To strengthen me with the Holy Spirit and make me full member of the Church.
- Mass : To unite me with Christ in His Sacrifice, and to feed my soul with His Body and Blood.
- Matrimony : To make husbands and wives faithful lovers until death and make them Good parents.

Holy Orders : To give men and women power and authority to be Bishops, Priest and Deacons.

Holy Unction : To bring health to the sick and comfort to the dying.

3.2 THE CHURCH CALENDAR.

Advent : It is that period when John the Baptist, shouted from the dessert Preaching the coming of Christ. It is an indication that our calendar Starts around November till October.

Christmas : In his preaching and writing, St. John said: "And the word was made Flesh, and dwelt among us full of grace and truth". This was the time The Virgin mother, Blessed Mary gave birth to Christ who was called Emmanuel.

Epiphany : This is that period when Jesus Christ was introduced to the whole world.

Passiontide : Jesus enters Jerusalem on a colt. There was jubilation everywhere in Jerusalem, Palm branches were laid down on the ground for Jesus to Walk on.

Lent : Is a period of forty days and forty nights, when Jesus was tested by Satan.

Ash Wednesday : After collection of last year's crosses, they are burnt and mixed with Holy oil. People will be anointed with the ashes on their foreheads.

Easter tide : As it was proclaimed in the Good News that He will be raised on the Third day, yes he was risen. Jesus resurrected from the grave.

Ascension Day : The Son of Man leaves the earth on a cloud. His disciples witnessed the scene.

Pentecost : Before He left with the cloud He said unto His disciples: " For John Truly baptize with water; you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit Not many days from now".

Trinity : Is God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

3.3 Days in the Holy Week:

- Monday : "Lord redress my wrong; disarm the enemies who rise in arms against Me, grip your weapon and your shield bestir yourself in my defence, Lord my strong deliverer.
- Tuesday : On this day Judas betray Jesus to the chief priest. "May God be merciful Unto us and bless us, may He smile graciously unto us and show mercy.
- Wednesday : With the help of the Holy Spirit Jesus was in the knowledge of exactly what was going to happen soon.
- Maundy Thursday : Jesus with His disciples shares the Last Supper. While eating He Makes them aware that one of them will betray him. He washes his Disciples feet. Later during the day Jesus warned Simon Peter Saying: "Verily, verily I say unto thee, the cock shall not crow, Till thou has denied me thrice". Jesus took some of his disciples With Him to Gethsemane to pray. After praying he was arrested.
- Good Friday : Jesus was taken to Pilate to be sentenced. Pilate washed his hands and Said: "I do not find Him guilty at all". As he handed them Jesus, they Took him and crucified him and released Barnabbas who was a thief.
- Saturday : This is the day on which the Pascal candle is lit from a blessed fire.

3.4 THE ANGLICAN HEIRARCHY:

- Archbishop : The head of all dioceses jointly. He is stationed in Cape Town, St. George the Martyr.
- Bishop : Heads a specific diocese, like Pretoria.
- Suffrigan Bishop : Observes the duties of the Bishop and performs them in the request of the Bishop.
- Archdeacon to the Origin : He does the duty and tasks of the bishop in his absence.
- Dean : Is the senior priest of the diocese and is stationed in the cathedral. Can also be called Verger General which means in most cases he is The bearer of the bishop's pectoral staff.

Archdeacon : Is responsible to head an Archdeaconry. Pretoria has five Archdeaconries.

Canon : Advisors of the diocese and sit during the Chapter meetings.

Priest : Rector of the parish and work under the Archdeacon.

Deacon : Is a vice priest.

Lay minister : Helps with ministry in the church and also has power to burial.

Server : Is those they help the celebrant during sacraments.

PART FOUR.

4.1 ALTAR:

An altar is the table on which the celebrant:
⇒ Conducts the service.
⇒ Prepare the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

TYPES OF ALTARS:

Dorsal : On this altar the priest does not face the congregation while conducting The service. It is an example of the shepherd followed by his flock.

Ventral : On this type of altar the priest is always facing the congregation. Is an Example of a teacher/lecture to course attendants like Jesus did.

Rowing : Are immovable and are placed anywhere the priest wants.

High : Is the highest altar in the parish. On this kind of altar a tabernacle is Mostly found. Such altars are elevated.

Middle : Does not have a tabernacle. It can also be elevated.

Low : Is the lowest altar found in the parish.

4.2 CHAPELS:

- Maria's : This is a table on which Blessed Mary, the Virgin mother used to pray At. These days the Mother's Union (MU) uses it as a reminder that they Are on Mary's footsteps.
- Jacob's : This reminds us of that time Jacob fled to hide at his uncle, Laban. He was forced to sleep before he reached his uncle's castle. As he was asleep He dreamt the angels going up and down the ladder. As he woke up he made a vow saying:" This is the Holy place. If God can protect me and give me food, I'll build a house of God from this memorial pillar."

4.3TRADITIONAL LAYOUT OF THE CHURCH.

- Dorsal Curtain : This is the same curtain that separated God and man, which was torn into two when Jesus died on the cross.
- Tabernacle : Is a safe-like box in which the reserved sacrament is kept. It Should be lined with white material.
- Sanctuary : It is a place in the church where normally the high altar is Situated. It is a constant reminder that the Mass is Christ 's Death renewed.
- Chancel : It is a supplement place where rowing altar can be placed And Mass be conducted. It is also known as Holy of Hollies.
- Sedila : It is the celebrant/priest chair.
- Rails :This is the point where the Holy Communion is received. It also Separates the chancel and the sanctuary.
- Altar Steps : The altar is elevated by several steps for symbolical reason (It is a mystical Mount Calvary) and practical reason (better Visibility)
- Pulpit : A place from which the sermon is delivered.
- Lectern : A point from which both the first and the second lessons are read.
- Ark : It serves to separate the nave from the chancel. It is also a Reminder of Noah's ark.

Aisle	: Avenues in the church.
Pews	: Benches on which the congregation sits.
Nave	: Is the portion in the church from the pulpit and lectern to the Back of the church.
Iron	: It is the carpet laid on the main ale. Normally red/maroon in Color.
Font	: Receptacle for baptismal water.

PART FIVE: LAPSED SERVERS

DEFINATION

- ❖ Any server who fails to adhere to the motto, aims and rules of the guild
- ❖ Any server who absent him/her for a month without a report
- ❖ Any server who seduces a girl/ a seduced girl

RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP

HEADSERVER	: Reverend father in God, I present to you the following persons [Read from a prepared list] to be re- admitted as servers at the Altar of His church.
PRIEST	: Did you take care that these candidates to be fit and proper persons to Be re- admitted as servers at the altar in the church of God.
HEADSERVER	: I with the help of Lay ministers have tried and proved them and believe Them so to be.
PRIEST	: My beloved, what is your desire?
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PART SIX: GENERAL

SAINT LAURANCE HISTORY

Laurance was a member of the church who will do anything to protect the church of God. Today the servers who bear his name serve the Lord and His people, as he will be doing.

The life of Laurance became a blessing to the people of his church and to us the servers. Laurance was a Deacon in Rome during the years 258; the Roman Emperor spread message to all the churches in Rome to bring their treasures to the Government. While other churches brought gold, silver and many other things of value, Laurance brought to the Empire the lame, elder, sick, those who suffered dread skin and the paralyzed. He said before all " this people are the treasure of our church".

They caught him and tortured him for disobeying the command of the Roman Emperor. By faith, prayer and observing the will of God he gave his body to be burnt. While the soldiers were waiting to hear him screaming he says to them " You can turn me to the other side and start to eat this side of my body for it is ready to be eaten". This was how Laurance was killed by the Roman Empire, the words that gave him courage was our motto being " I WILL GO UNTO THE ALTAR OF GOD, EVEN UNTO GOD OF MY JOY AND GLADNESS"

This book was given after presentation to the Diocese of Kimberly Servers event at Setlagole. The presentation was conducted by SIPHIWE LUCKY NJUZA during the Lord's year 2004- 12-04

KEEP ON STUDYING THE WORD OF GOD!

*LET US BE
PRACTICAL IN
WORD OF GOD
AND HIS
SERVICE TO
HIS PEOPLE.
AMEN.*

