

## **Gospel Cross/Banner**

Arrive 20 minutes before the service and Vest.

Before you leave the vesting room, the priest will pray. At that time everyone will proceed to the Narthex (back of the Nave).

### **Procession**

- The Gospel Cross processes in behind the torches and the Epistle Cross.
- In most services, the choir will follow the torches and the Epistle Cross, thus going in front of the Gospel Cross.
- The priest(s) will proceed behind the Gospel Cross.
- When used, the Gospel Banner will proceed directly behind the Epistle Banner. When five acolytes are present, the Saint Dunstan's banner will be used. When there are six acolytes, the Gospel Banner processes directly behind the Saint Dunstan's (Epistle) Banner, holding the banner at a 45 degree angle.
- The Gospel Banner will turn to the right, just before the altar railing and will post the banner in the stand to the left. The acolyte will then cross behind the altar, through the right (Epistle) side to sit on the left (Gospel) side.
- The Gospel Cross processes up the altar steps and then between the altar table and sermon pulpit to post in the holder nearest the center (the torch will post in the outside holder).
- Both acolytes will remain seated until the second reading.
- The acolyte serving as Gospel Crucifer will read the second reading.\*

\*In services where the Gospel Banner is used, the acolyte of the Gospel Banner will read the second reading.

### **The Gospel Reading**

- Acolytes will line up on the altar steps with crosses and torches at the start of the Sequence Hymn and wait for the Acolyte Master to signal them to process forward for the reading.

- The Gospel Cross will lead the procession, processing in front of the torches and the Gospel Book (held by the acolyte bearing the Epistle Cross or the priest).
- The Gospel Cross (and all acolytes) will stop in the center of the church when signaled by the Acolyte Master. The Gospel Cross will then turn to face the altar.
- During this time, the Gospel Banner remains behind the altar while standing for the Gospel.
- After the Gospel is read, the Gospel Cross will lead the procession back up the altar to post and sit behind the altar.

*The Sermon, the Nicene Creed, the Prayers of the People, and the Confession and Absolution of Sins are spoken. During this time, the acolytes sit, stand, and kneel along with the congregation.*

### **The Holy Communion**

- The acolyte bearing the Gospel Cross\* will bring up the chalices, cruet, and flagon from the credence table and place them on the altar.
- The acolyte will return to the credence table and take the lavabo bowl in their left hand, and the purificator on their left arm. They will use these to wash the celebrant's hands.
- Once hands are washed, the acolyte will bow to the priest, return the lavabo bowl and the purificator to the credence table and return to their seat.
- During The Communion, the acolyte will stand in front of the altar, bearing either the flagon/cruet or the ciborium found in the aumbry. They will stand with another acolyte until the celebrant is finished.

\*The acolyte bearing the Gospel Banner can also carry out these duties during this time.

### **The Blessing and Dismissal**

- After The Holy Communion, the acolyte will help clear the altar, and put things back on the credence table.\*
- Once the celebrant has blessed and dismissed the congregation, the acolyte bearing the Gospel Cross will take the cross to the front of the altar and line up, facing the altar.

- The Gospel Cross processes out behind the Epistle Cross and torches. If there is a choir, the acolyte will pause and let the choir process out behind the torches. The Gospel Cross is then behind the choir and lay chalice/ readers.
- When used, the Gospel Banner will proceed directly behind the Epistle Banner. The acolyte will process out with their hands folded in front or behind them.

\*The LEV Kit(s) will be taken to the altar, if there are any on the credence table.