



# ALTAR BOY DEAN

## *General Information and Application Details*

### PURPOSE AND MISSION

The Deans of the St. Patrick Altar Boy Program are a select few high school Juniors and Seniors who have proven themselves over the course of their years of service as altar boys. The Altar Boy Dean possesses a combination of strong faith in Jesus Christ, personal maturity, skill at serving, and leadership abilities that make him not only the best server, but also a solid Christian role model for his fellow altar boys. Being an Adult Boy Dean not only gives a young man the opportunity to grow in and witness to his faith, but also allows him to be a leader within the parish at a young age (which will hopefully blossom for years to come in other areas of service, both to the parish and the Church as a whole). The Altar Boy Dean contributes to parish liturgies in a very visible way, especially on major feasts, as he is entrusted with the most important tasks of the servers, while leading a crew of his fellow altar boys. With approximately 70 boys registered in the Altar Boy Program, there are usually only four who hold the position of Dean, making it a true honor. To distinguish the Altar Boy Dean for his leadership among his peers, he wears a full-size surplice when he serves, rather than the regular surplices worn by the other altar boys.

### QUALIFICATIONS

To apply for the position of Altar Boy Dean, the following requirements must be met:

1. The server must be a (rising) Junior or Senior in High School.
2. The server must already hold the rank of Head Server.
3. The server cannot serve as a member of the choir and be an Altar Boy Dean during the same year.

### RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES

The Altar Boy Dean has several responsibilities and duties. These include:

- Serving as a mature, humble, disciplined leader and example of Christian virtue for the other altar boys.
- Helping other altar boys to serve well in a fraternal and friendly (not overbearing) manner.
- Assisting the Director of Altar Boys in the annual trainings of new servers, as well as helping him to develop or implement occasional special projects or events which improve and enrich the Altar Boy Program.

### **TIME COMMITMENTS**

The Altar Boy Dean has several time commitments. These include:

- A two-year commitment serving as Dean (Junior and Senior years of high school).
- Attending the summer cookout/beginning of the new year business meeting with the other Deans and the Director of Altar Boys (mid-August).
- Helping to train the altar boys on Saturdays in late September and throughout October (with the other Deans and the Director of Altar Boys), and occasionally on other days as needed (e.g. Holy Week).
- Serving at major liturgies (especially Christmas and during Holy Week and Easter Sunday) and generously volunteering when needed.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

The application for the position of Altar Boy Dean consists of:

1. a formal application
2. a written essay/personal statement
3. an in-person interview

The application and essay/personal statement must be submitted to the Director of Altar Boys before the in-person interview can take place.

Additionally, the candidate for Altar Boy Dean will be observed for his leadership skills and serving abilities during the Holy Week liturgies. He may be given special tasks in order to see how he handles serving major liturgies and accepting important responsibilities.

### **APPLICATION TIMETABLE**

*February of Sophomore year*  
*March of Sophomore year*

Applications given  
 Applications (with essays) completed  
 and returned to the Director of Altar  
 Boys

<i>March/April of Sophomore year</i>	In-person interview with the Director of Altar Boys
<i>April of Sophomore year (after Easter)</i>	Selection of new Altar Boy Deans; applicants notified of decision
<i>June between Sophomore and Junior years</i>	Installation and Blessing of New Altar Boy Deans at a Sunday Mass

For additional information or questions, please contact Fr. Paul Marich, O.P., the Director of Altar Boys, at [frpaulmarich@stpatrickcolumbus.org](mailto:frpaulmarich@stpatrickcolumbus.org), or at (614) 240-5917.