

Training

New servers are encouraged to join the more experienced members within the sanctuary, where they can watch and learn at first hand. By this method they gradually gain knowledge and skill as they make progress in serving at the altar. Practices are held on a Friday evening between 6.00pm and 7.00pm, and additionally as advertised in the Sunday Bulletin.

Dress Code

All servers are asked to make sure their alb, cassock and / or surplice, is clean, wax free and in good condition before entering the sanctuary, as it should be every week. A parent, guardian or adult family member should be in attendance to assist servers when changing their outer clothing. It would also be preferred if all servers wore black or brown shoes when serving at the altar, and NOT trainers, as this does not look well under albs and cassocks.

Guild Promise

I offer myself to God Almighty, to blessed Mary our mother, and to our Holy Patron, St. Stephen, and I promise to do my best to serve regularly with reverence and understanding, for the glory of God, the service of his Church and my own eternal salvation.



Guild Motto

'cui servire regnare est'

'to serve is to reign'

Guild of St. Stephen for Altar Servers



St. Mary's Cathedral
Huntly Street Aberdeen

A Brief History

The Guild of St. Stephen was founded at the beginning of the last century, in 1905, and celebrated its Centenary Year in 2005. Its founder was Father Hamilton



MacDonald, who was chaplain at the Convent of the Sacred Heart, at Hammersmith in London.

St. Mary's Cathedral Guild, was the second to be formed in Scotland, and was granted affiliation to the Archconfraternity at Westminster, in February 1960. The Guild chaplain then was Father Mario Conti, now the Archbishop Emeritus of Glasgow.

There are a growing number of parishes throughout the Diocese of Aberdeen, where servers have been enrolled as members of the Guild of St. Stephen.

The Feast of St. Stephen is celebrated on 26 December each year, when servers gather together to honour their patron saint.

Rules of the Guild

- 1) to serve at the altar with reverence, understanding and regularity, with due attention to cleanliness and tidiness
- 2) to say short prayers in preparation for, and in thanksgiving after serving Mass
- 3) to observe silence in the sacristy and great reverence in the sanctuary
- 4) to recite the Guild Prayer every day



Membership of the Guild of St. Stephen is open to any server without limit of age, who can assist at Mass, and who has shown a sincere wish to live up to the rules and standards set by the Guild. It is recommended that servers should go through a period of training, and serve satisfactorily for a minimum period of between six to twelve months before being enrolled as a member.

If you would like to become an altar server in St. Mary's Cathedral, then please complete this form and get it signed by a parent or guardian. Please hand this form in to the Main Sacristy or the Cathedral Clergy House once it has been completed.

Name

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Email

Date of Birth

Child Photograph / Video Permission

We would be grateful if you might also consider giving us permission to take photographs of your child and use them on our Parish website / Facebook page, to display in Church, or include in a Parish Magazine.

I give permission for a designated person (appointed by the Parish Priest) to take photographs and / or video of my child at parish events and for those images to be used on the Parish website / Facebook page, to be displayed in Church, or included in a Parish Magazine.

I give / do not give permission for the first name of my child to be used to identify him / her.

I reserve the right to request that images are removed if necessary and will do so in writing.

Parent or Guardian's Signature

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Date