

GLOSSARY OF TERMS FOR SACRISTANS

Term	Explanation
Alb	The white undergarment worn by the priest or acolytes
Altar	the appropriate term for the table around which we gather to celebrate the Eucharist
Ambo	The appropriate term for the podium from which the Word is proclaimed.
Boat	Small metal container with cover, used to hold incense; comes with a small spoon
Book of Gospels	Book containing Sunday Gospels for all three cycles of the year
Book of Gospels bookholder	Used to hold the Book of Gospels on the Altar during the first part of Mass
Candle Lighter	Metal rod that holds a taper used to light candles
Chalice	appropriate term for the vessel used to consecrate the Blood of Christ.
Chasuble	The outer garment worn by the priest on Sundays
Cincture	The rope-like cord sometimes worn around the waist by the priest
Corporal	Square linen cloth used on the altar underneath the chalice and paten during the Eucharistic Prayer
Credence Table	The small table to the left of the altar when facing the pews; it holds materials for Mass
Cruet	The small pitcher (with cover) that holds the wine for Mass
Host	the unleavened flat bread which we use in addition to the homemade unleavened bread
Hymn Board	Used to list the hymns for Mass
Incense bowl	A bowl filled with sand used to burn incense
Lectionary	Book containing readings used during Mass
Paschal Candle	The tall candle with the year inscribed on it – it is blessed at the Easter Vigil each year; used during the Easter season and for Baptisms, Funerals and Weddings
Purificator	Rectangular linen folded in three, used to wipe chalice during and after communion
Sacramentary	The book containing all the prayers for Mass
Sanctuary Lamp	The candle which burns constantly near the fountain;
Stole	The long strip of cloth worn by the priest over the shoulders (deacons wear them over one shoulder and across the body)
Thurible	Metal pot on a long chain used for burning incense; there are 2, one with single chain, one with multiple chains
Vestments	Garments used during liturgical rites
Water Pitcher	Small pitcher (no cover)