



EVENSONG

Servers

The team is made up either of a Crucifer (CR) alone or a Crucifer (CR) with two Acolytes (AA).

PREPARATIONS

- The standards are lit.
- One or two plates resting against the High Altar rails depending on the number of collection bags which the stewards will use (for the size of congregation).
- Two processional torch bases are placed on the steps from the Presbytery down to the north ambulatory.
- Servers wear appropriately coloured apparels, white rather than gold when the white frontal is on the Altar.

THE SERVICE

1. The procession forms up in the south ambulatory headed by the CR and AA.
2. Following the prayer, the CR and AA lead the procession to organ cover via the crossing and up through the Quire to the Presbytery where they stop. Following the corporate bow which is led by a virger, the virger will come and tell the servers that they may move off. They turn left on the CR's command and the NSA leads the servers out through the presbytery arch to the north ambulatory in files.
3. The servers sit in the stalls behind the choir.
4. At the third hymn (which follows the sermon) one or two servers receive the collection after a member of the clergy has been virged to the sanctuary. When two servers are required, one moves via the retrochoir to the south ambulatory. After the member of the clergy giving the Blessing has processed to the Sanctuary, the servers enter the Presbytery and take up the collection plates. They move to their tramlines (or the middle in the case of a single server), reverence the altar, and then proceed through the Quire to the top of the Quire steps where they stop. On the signal from the senior steward they move down to the stag and lower their plates.
5. Once the stewards have placed the bags on the plates, the servers turn about and move up through the Quire to the Presbytery. They do not enter the sanctuary. They lift their plates for the collection to be blessed, then bow and exit to the north ambulatory through the presbytery arch.
6. The CR and AA immediately take up the cross and torches respectively. When the voluntary begins after the Blessing, the SSA leads the servers into the Presbytery in files, synchronised with a virger if present (who is east of the servers). They turn to face the altar. After the corporate bow led by the member of the clergy who gave the Blessing, the CR and AA turn about and lead the choir and clergy through the Quire and via the crossing to the south ambulatory.

Chris Nott
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