
ORDER OF PROCESSION

Once the people have gathered, the priest and ministers, clad in the sacred vestments, go in procession to the altar in this order:

- (a) the thurifer carrying a thurible with burning incense, if incense is used
- (b) the ministers who carry lighted candles, and between them an acolyte or other minister with the cross
- (c) the acolytes and other ministers
- (d) a [deacon or] lector, who may carry the Book of the Gospels (though not the Lectionary) which should be slightly elevated
- (e) the priest who is to celebrate the Mass

If incense is used, before the procession begins, the priest puts some in the censer (thurible) and blesses it with the Sign of the Cross without saying anything.