

## **Altar Server's Ministry at St John's and St Francis Churches Hibiscus Coast Parish 2020-2021.**

It has been a very difficult and interesting year with our Altar Servers this year, especially with the COVID-19 pandemic. It has been a big learning curve for us all, especially of how we have had to change things because of this.

I have taken the role to help Joanne and Chris Wilson with leading this ministry to help ease the pressure of them as they are both involved in many other ministries. This year I have also decided to no longer be an Altar Server but to dedicate myself rather in helping lead the Altar Servers.

This year we welcomed some new Altar Servers including Antonio and Joao Sousa, Azario Goodall (whose brother Anthony is currently an Altar Server too), Liam Craig (whose brother Nathan is also currently an Altar Server) Thomas and John Manuel. It is wonderful that this ministry continues to grow and year in and out we continue to have more and more young, keen Altar Servers joining our parish.

We have also had some people move on from being Altar Servers this year and these are, Lakeisha Thompson, Jesse and Micha Donovan.

We are planning to have an Altar Servers get together within the next few coming weeks. Which we are planning to go out and play some mini-golf or bowling or something of the sort. We are still planning to when will be the best day for us all to do this, we are thinking maybe after the school holiday break as many people usually go out of town for school holidays. Hopefully everything regarding the pandemic will remain as it is, and we will be able to have some more events later throughout the year.

This year we were lucky to be able to have our Altar Servers serve throughout Easter, when last year we could not. Nearly all of our current Altar Servers served throughout the Easter period and it was very nice of Nathan Craig who has just been recently trained to also be a Thurifer. Even though he wasn't able to be the Thurifer, it is nice to have a new Thurifer trained for future masses when one is needed.

We are looking forward to this coming year as we have at least three young people who put their hands up to be Altar Servers. We are hopefully wanting to see many more young people coming through and becoming Altar Servers. I will be training the Altar Servers and with Joanne and Chris Wilson's help we will have some more wonderful Altar Servers to add to our crew.

I would like to express my deepest thanks to Joanne and Chris Wilson, for all the help they give in order to lead this ministry. Without their help and encouragement, I would struggle much more and their help has made it a very smooth ride.

Arya Widiyanto