

LAUNDERING ALTAR LINENS

revised September 15, 2015

1. Thank you for volunteering for this very-needed ministry in our Parish.
2. We will try to establish a schedule for your turn, a month at a time. When it is your turn to do the linens, please take all items in the basket on top of the chest of drawers in the left-hand sacristy behind the altar. After laundering, please place the clean linens in the appropriate drawers in the chest of drawers. Please place the freshly-laundered ones on the bottom of the stack so that all Altar Linens are used in rotation.
3. Please try to take the soiled linens after the 11:00AM Mass on Sunday and return them before the 5:30PM Mass on Saturday.

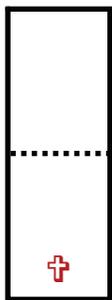
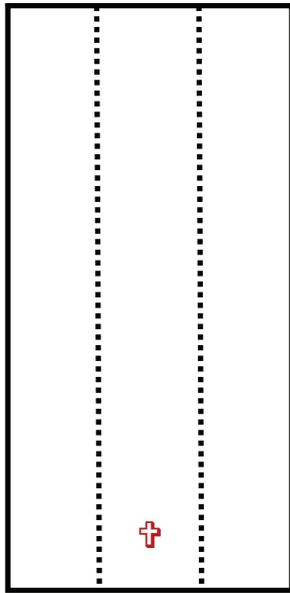
INSTRUCTIONS FOR LAUNDERING:

These instructions need to be observed carefully, particularly the 1st one—which must be observed exactly as written here.

1. Before Altar Linens are laundered, any linen with the Precious Blood of Christ in it must be specifically handled thus: (it is safe to presume that if you see a wine stain, it is the Precious Blood; please handle it in this way...) These linens must be soaked for at least an hour in a basin of plain water – no detergents or other agents – to remove the last traces of the Precious Blood (It is fine to let them soak overnight). This is the **FIRST RINSE**. When you have completed the **First Rinse**, hand wring out each linen. These linens may be placed into the washing machine at this time. The water from the basin for the *First Rinse* must be poured carefully onto the ground in a place such as the lawn, a flower bed, or shrubbery around your home.
The *First Rinse* may NEVER be poured into a sewer or septic system.
2. To wash Altar Linens, please use regular laundry detergent and Oxi-Clean or equivalent product. **Do not use chlorine bleach as it quickly destroys the fabric.** The linens should be soaked in the detergent/*Oxi-Clean* solution for at least 4 hours (you may do this directly in your washer) before the cycle is run-through completely. **Please make sure all stains (from wine or lipstick, etc.) are completely removed.** Also, please use NO or very little fabric softener in the rinse cycle as it lessens absorption.
3. **Do NOT iron stains;** re-wash the linens first until the stains are removed. Cotton Altar Linens should be ironed while damp (steam setting on the iron is acceptable) to make them look crisp and finished. Altar Linens made of linen fabric MUST BE damp ironed—please do not use the steam setting on your iron. Finger towels may be dried in the dryer and then folded in like manner to the purificators.
4. Linens are folded after ironing. Purificators (oblong cloth used to wipe the chalice) are folded in 3 sections and then folded over in half—right side out (see diagram below). Please iron the folds on all purificators. Corporals (square cloth placed on the altar at Mass) must be folded INSIDE OUT. They are folded in 9ths. First fold the corporal horizontally into 3 equal sections. Then fold vertically into 3 equal sections. Corporals should easily unfold like a flower opening a bloom. Ironing is not needed on the folds.
5. If you need help covering a weekend or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact Nancy or Donna.

Folding Instructions

Purificators



Corporals

