

*Did you know.... there is a patron saint for Altar Servers? His name is St. John Berchmans and his feast day is November 26<sup>th</sup>. This is a day to remember all Altar Servers and pray that they be blessed for their dedication and service.*

*Many of you may not know how fun it is to be a part of the Pro-Cathedral Altar Server ministry team. Not only do our team members have the best seats in the house, but they also enjoy getting together socially too. In September, our team enjoyed an evening out for dinner. Dessert included! What's more, we anticipate up and coming events, planned for the New Year. There is a winter sleigh ride tentatively scheduled for early February; there will also be a night out for bowling; and maybe a weekend Matinee at the theatre. Sounds exciting, doesn't it?*

*If there are any young people who have celebrated First Eucharist who would like to know more about our Altar Server ministry, or would simply like to join us for a social event, we would love to hear from you! Jessica Costa is our team coordinator, and she will be happy to answer any questions you may have.*

*So, consider this your invitation... All are welcome to the dynamic team we call the Pro-Cathedral Altar Servers!*



St. John Berchmans is the patron saint of altar Servers (1599—1621). His Feast Day is celebrated on November 26. Saint John was an ordinary young man who desired to become a priest. During his preparations, he loved serving at the altar, praying the Rosary, meditating and striving for holiness by following the rules of his Jesuit order. He died of illness while still a seminarian. Please pray for our youth who serve on our altar in this ministry.

This weekend our Altar Servers will be given a special St. John Prayer Card with the following special prayer.

Please keep our altar servers in your prayers.

### **To an Altar Server**

To assist Christ at the altar;  
To serve Him freely there,  
Where even the angels falter,  
Bowed low in reverent prayer.

To touch the throne most holy,  
To hand the gifts for the feast,  
To see Him meek and lowly,  
Descend at the word of the priest.

To hear man's poor petition,  
To sound the joyful bell,  
When He in sweet submission,  
Comes down with us to dwell.

No grander mission surely  
Should inflame such prayerful fervor,  
No heart should love more purely,  
Than yours O altar server.

May God bless you forever,  
And keep you in His care,  
And guard you, that you never  
Belie the robes you wear.

Throughout life, then, endeavour  
God's graces to employ,  
For your most deserving reward,  
Will be eternal joy.