

## **St. John's Episcopal Church Vergers Report for 2022**

The Vergers of St. John's are a group of experienced and trained lay servers who assist the Clergy with planning, organizing, and conducting the various worship services. Service as a Verger is at the invitation of the Rector, and we are licensed by the Diocese of Texas for many of our duties.

Although you don't see the Vergers vested very often, you may rest assured that a Verger is assigned to serve at every Sunday 11:00am service, all bilingual services, and other special services at St. John's. The assigned Verger is vested on High Holy Days and other special occasions like the Bishop's visit.

If you don't notice us at work, then we are doing our job. Vergers serve behind the scenes, as part of the Liturgical Team planning services, assisting the clergy, and as silent hosts and facilitators of the worship experience for our members.

Our duties include so much more than just escorting the procession! Multi-tasking is a "requirement" for Vergers in our parish: we serve as acolytes, readers, Eucharistic Ministers, ushers, and go-fers as needed. Vergers comprise your tech team, managing the cameras and sound, as well as serving as Zoom host for our members and visitors who join us electronically. We ensure the church is set up appropriately for each service. We are all on stand-by for any eventuality.

We would like to highlight one of these duties. Part of ensuring that the church is set up for a service is ensuring that the people necessary to conduct the service are assigned and ready to perform their roles: acolytes, readers, eucharistic ministers, ushers, and so forth. In past years, scheduling people for these roles in the English language services had mostly been done by the vergers. This year, Anne Faithful has very graciously stepped up and now manages scheduling servers for the English language services and sending them the readings, prayers, etc. that they need for the week's services. Thank you, Anne!

We are always looking for more people to participate in our worship services: acolytes, readers, eucharistic ministers, ushers, and tech team operators. These roles do not take a lot of time, and training, where required, is provided. If you are interested in participating in our worship services in any of these roles, please contact Mother Minerva, Deacon Victoria, or any of the vergers.

The Vergers at St. John's:  
Bill Cox, Fay Jones, Marvin Rasmussen, and Sandra Ward