

## St Thomas has a Verger!



During the last Bishop's Committee meeting, Kathy Foxen was nominated and elected St Thomas's Verger. Your next thought might be, what is a Verger and why does St Thomas need one? A Verger's main duty is helping to plan the logistical details of the service and discreetly shepherding the clergy through it. The contemporary role of the Verger is experiencing a rapid expansion within the Episcopal Church and in the Anglican Communion worldwide. Differing from the Church of England, where Vergers are often full-time paid employees of the Church, Vergers in America are more often volunteers with a special calling to the ordering and conduct of the church and the church's liturgy. Clergy have come to appreciate the ministry of Vergers within their parishes. Vergers can relieve the clergy of the burden of liturgical detail so that they can concentrate on their duties to preach the Gospel and administer the Sacraments. No longer found only in cathedrals and large parishes, Vergers are an asset to any worshiping community regardless of size or tradition.

Kathy has been involved with our liturgical ministries for many years. She regularly serves as an acolyte and chalice bearer along with training new volunteers. We are sure that Kathy will be very successful in her new role.

As part of Kathy's new responsibilities as a Verger, she is taking over the scheduling for Liturgical Ministries. This has started with the November Schedule. We would like to thank Liz Barclay who has done a tremendous job owning the schedule. St Thomas appreciates all of her efforts and hard work.

Finally, here's a special message from Kathy to St. Thomas' servers:

### *Message from the Verger: Change in Scheduling Routine*

*Dear Fellow Servers,*

*As I begin my time as verger, please know that I will do my best to meet your needs as I know you are doing in the service of St. Thomas. My first schedule is starting with November. This schedule is meant to be something of a template. If you are working the first Sunday, you will probably be scheduled to work the first Sunday, etc. We know that life's events will from time to time affect everyone's availability. All I ask is that you communicate as soon as you know that a change is needed. This "first" schedule is very much written in sand. If it doesn't work for you in general (I put you on a first Sunday and you always have something else scheduled on a first Sunday, please reach out to me and let me know.)*

*To communicate any scheduling change needs, please send an email to [scheduler@episcopalchurchtemecula.org](mailto:scheduler@episcopalchurchtemecula.org). Jackie will still be making calls and the schedule will be available on the website.*

*Thank you for your understanding, consideration and patience.*

*Peace,*

*Kathy Foxen*

[CLICK HERE TO SEE SCHEDULE ON WEBSITE.](#)