

**Glossary of Episcopal and General Church Terms at
All Saints Episcopal Church
Parma, Ohio**

Alb	A long white garment worn by members of the altar party.
Alms	The offerings of the people for the work of the church and the relief of the poor.
Altar	The Lord's Table, at which the Eucharist is celebrated.
Asperges	The rite of sprinkling the altar, the people, the clergy, the palms on Palm Sunday, with holy water.
Aspergillum	The container of holy water and the instrument used for sprinkling.
Aumbrey	A chest or box located near the altar for housing the Reserved Sacrament.
Baptismal Font	The basin which holds the blessed water used for baptism.
Burse and Veil	The square cover placed on top of the chalice and the veil spread over it as it rests on the altar before the Eucharist begins. The color of the appropriate season is used.
Chalice	The cup from which the sacramental wine is served.
Chancel	The front of the church where the altar and pulpit are found.
Chasuble	The garment, in the color of the appropriate season, worn by the priest presiding at the Eucharist over the priest's alb.
Ciborium	A chalice with a lid in which is kept consecrated bread.
Columbarium	A vault with niches for urns containing the ashes of the dead.
Corporal	A cloth placed under the chalice and paten while the elements are blessed for communion. 'Corporal' means literally <i>body</i> , thus, the Body of Christ.
Credence Table	A side table for holding sacramental vessels. All Saints has front and back credence tables.

- Crucifer** A person who carries a processional cross at the head of the procession.
- Dust Cover** A piece of cloth used to cover and protect the fair linen on the altar when it is not in use.
- Episcopal** An adjective describing the church in which we worship. The word *Episcopal* comes from the Greek word meaning ‘of bishops.’
- Episcopalian** The noun which indicates a person who worships in an Episcopal church.
- Eucharist** Holy Communion, from the Greek word meaning ‘thanks giving.’
- Fair Linen** A white cloth spread on the altar and falling over both ends on which the vessels for the Eucharist are placed. These are often embroidered in white.
- Gloria** A part of the Ordinary of the Mass used for festival days and seasons.
- Homily** A brief sermon.
- Kyrie Eleison** A part of the Ordinary of the Mass which means ‘Lord, have mercy.’
- Lector** One who reads Holy Scripture at worship.
- Lectern** The desk from which Holy Scripture is read.
- Liturgy** A service of Christian worship. Literally, ‘the work of the people.’
- Mass** A term for a celebration of the Eucharist.
- Narthex** The room where worshipers meet before entering the worship space.
- Oil of Crism** Oil blessed by a bishop for sealing one who has been baptized. This oil is often scented.
- Oil for Healing** Oil blessed by a bishop for the purpose of healing the sick. This oil is not scented.

Ordinary of the Mass	Those parts of the service of Eucharist which remain constant through a season of the church year.
Paschal Candle	A large decorated candle which is lighted at the Easter Vigil, during Eastertide, at baptisms, and at funerals, symbolizing the light of the Risen Christ.
Paten	A small plate used with the chalice to hold the bread.
Pall	A small white cloth placed on the chalice before Eucharist, and also the large cloth draped over a coffin or the smaller one placed on an urn at a service of burial.
Piscina	A sink which drains directly into the ground. It is located in the sacristy and is used for the disposal of consecrated wine and water used in cleaning the Eucharistic vessels.
Proper of the Mass	Those parts of the service which change each week (ie Scripture readings, the collect, etc)
Pulpit	The desk, often ornate, from which the sermon or homily is preached.
Purificator	A white linen napkin used by the Eucharistic minister to wipe the rim of the chalice during the administration of Holy Communion.
Reserved Sacrament	Bread and wine which have been consecrated during Eucharist and are held for a later liturgy or for administration to the sick or homebound.
Sacristy	A room in the church building in which the sacred vessels are kept.
Sanctuary	The area of the church building in which the altar is located. In some cases the term refers to the entire worship space. Literally, sanctuary means 'place of safety.'

Sanctuary

Light A candle which is kept burning perpetually to indicate the presence of the Reserved Sacrament in the Aumbrey.

Sanctus A part of the Ordinary of the Mass within the Eucharistic Prayer. Sanctus means 'holy, holy, holy.'

Sexton The one charged with keeping the church clean and in good repair.

Stole A scarf, usually matching the chasuble, worn by bishops and priests, over the shoulders and hanging down in front. Deacons wear a stole over one shoulder and under the other arm. The stole is the sign of one's ordination.

Trisagion A canticle derived from Eastern Orthodox rites which is now used as an alternative to the Kyrie. The text, 'Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us,' is repeated three times.

Thurible A vessel which contains burning incense and emits fragrant smoke when swung. It is used for the censuring of sacred objects and people.

Thurifer A server who carries and swings the thurible in procession.