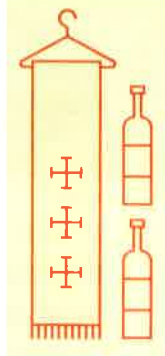


# KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE



## What do we call the room near the sanctuary?

The room near the sanctuary is called the “sacristy.” See if you can find the door to the sacristy in your church. The use of sacristies became common over 1500 years ago. In most churches you will find the sacristy beside or behind the the altar area (called the chancel).



## What is it used for?

**The sacristy is the storage place for the sacred items used in God’s house.** For



example, the vessels and utensils used for Holy Communion are stored there, as well as extra candles, oil and banners. Keeping them in a separate room helps to ensure they are not broken, misplaced or disturbed in any way. Some churches may have two kinds of sacristies. One is the “clergy sacristy” where the pastor keeps his vestments (the clothes he wears during the service). The other is the “altar guild sacristy” where the people who help keep the chancel looking nice store their supplies.



**Parents:** Before or after the service, allow your children to go into the sacristy to get a better look. Instruct them to be careful. The items there are set aside for use in the service. Help them to remember why the church uses a sacristy.

