

Safety Precautions

CARRY THE CROSS

Safety precautions from a retired member of the highway patrol

Jim McNiell, who retired in 2007 after 33 years with the Missouri State Highway Patrol, offers the following guidelines for all cross holders:

- Remember the driver's attention will be drawn to you and the CROSS. This leads to some drivers coasting or veering toward the shoulder. Pay attention to traffic and where vehicles are going.
- Do not stand on the shoulder of the highway. Stand off the shoulder in a driveway, parking lot or in the grassy area. Safety is priority No. 1. You should feel comfortable and safe in your location.
- Your vehicle should not be parked on the shoulder or blocking a driveway or street. Park on the state right-of-way (grassy area off the shoulder of the highway) or nearby safe location.
- Remember to position yourself where you have an area to retreat in the event a vehicle veers off the roadway. Don't have a rock bluff, fence or any other obstacle blocking your potential path to safety.
- Remember why you are participating in this event. Young children should not be allowed to run around or throw balls, etc. We do not want someone creating a hazard for traffic or unattended children near traffic.
- Remember to think "SAFETY" throughout the time you are holding the cross.