

Acolytes

Prince of Peace

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ACOLYTE

Acolyte is the Greek word for
"To follow"

Acolytes are lay volunteers who follow the cross in procession and recession and assist the priest at worship. An *Acolyte* lights and sometimes carries candles and the cross and helps in preparation of communion.

- *Acolytes* are people in the parish that have made a commitment to serve faithfully in this ministry.
- *All Acolytes* at Prince of Peace serve during *10:00am Worship Service* assisting the clergy.
- *Acolytes* are also called on to serve at special Worship Services such as weddings, Christmas, Holy Week and Easter.

MISSION

The *Acolytes* are trained to be aware of the liturgy and to assist the clergy during worship and provides a supportive environment in which they can engage in and develop an understanding of servant ministry, commitment and loyalty within the Church.

VALUES

Commitment, servant hood, loyalty, timeliness, team awareness, leadership,
high standards in all we do. All these are our offering and sacrifice to the glory of God.

How do I become an *Acolyte*?

- You must be in *3rd grade older* (*must be able to carry the heavy candles*)
- You have to *want* to be an acolyte. This needs to be your idea first and foremost. You must be a baptized Christian and a person who regularly attends church.

TRAINING

Acolytes are initially trained in their duties, and serve with experienced acolytes until the duties become familiar.

(1 level) Torch Bearer- carries a candle in the worship procession; often two torches follow the *Crucifer*--"two person each carrying a candle mounted on a short staff.

(2nd level) Gospel Bearer- carries the Gospel Book in worship service.

(3rd level) Crucifer- Chief Acolyte who leads the Acolyte Team in assisting worship. Crucifer is the person in the worship procession who carries the large cross (processional cross and recession) out of the church. Helps clergy prepare communion.

When to be at church?

You should be at church

20 minutes before the service is scheduled to begin to allow enough time to get robed and receive any last minute instructions.

***If you are unable to make your*

Scheduled Acolyte commitment on Sunday morning you need to be responsible to find your own replacement.

Acolyte Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ

We ask Your blessing upon these Acolytes and we thank them for their many hours of service at Your Altar. As they light the candles in Your holy house, give them humbleness of heart. When they carry Your Gospel news, stir them to be like You.

While they hold Your precious vessels, instill in them the assurance of Your sacrifice and love. And as they carry Your cross with dignity, let them also carry it with joy--being resurrection people--ready to walk into the world to share the good tidings You have to proclaim to all people.

We thank them Father. Hold them and bless them always, and bring them back often.

Amen.

**If you are in 3rd grade or older and are interested in learning more about being an Acolyte please contact:*

Head Acolytes

Gregory Reasoner (Training)

Kelly Hamilton (Scheduling)