



The Episcopal Church of  
St. Peter &  
St. Paul

We invite you to join us and your friends by becoming an acolyte at the Church of Saint Peter & Saint Paul, or by recommitting to acolyte service if you are already serving in the acolyte ministry.

The Acolyte Ministry is open to all youth who will be in the 5<sup>th</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup> grades in September of this year. It requires a commitment of time and dedication to assisting our priests and the congregation in the liturgy during worship services. Acolyte Guidelines are enclosed for your review. We will begin training new and current acolytes in May and continue over the summer. New acolytes will be assigned to one of the current teams. Our goal is to supplement current teams with new acolytes and hopefully add teams if enough new members join.

Our acolytes are currently assigned to a team serving every three weeks at either the 8:00am or 10:30am service. Teams serve on a rotating basis switching between services in each rotation. Currently there are six teams with approximately 10 people serving on each team.

Teams are led by an experienced Team Captain who leads and organizes the team. Each team has enough members so that there are at least 7 acolytes available for each service. This has eased the hunt for substitutes and last minute replacements from the pews. The larger teams have allowed the processions to regularly include flags and/or banners.

Typically, an acolyte will serve once every three weeks at the regularly scheduled worship services. New and younger acolytes are trained in the requirements of easier tasks such as carrying a torch. As your experience grows, you can receive instruction in performing more difficult tasks, such as carrying a cross or a flag and service at the altar. There might also be opportunities to voluntarily serve at other events such as weddings, funerals and special services. Your service, over time, will help you realize the value in undertaking responsibility, learning leadership and fulfilling your commitment to others. But most importantly, as an acolyte you are demonstrating your dedication to God through your service.

Becoming an acolyte involves a commitment of your time and a dedication to service at Saint Peter & Saint Paul. Serving as an acolyte also involves the commitment of your parents to support you in this ministry. We have enclosed an Acolyte Commitment Form for your and your parents' review. Please complete the Commitment Form and return to the Acolyte Mailbox in the Church office. We will not add anyone to an Acolyte Team without a signed Commitment Form in hand. **All acolytes, including currently serving acolytes, must complete a Commitment Form to serve in the coming year.**

Please consider this opportunity to join us in the acolyte ministry. Talk it over with your parents and review the guidelines. Feel free to contact any of us by phone or e-mail or contact the Church office if you have a question. If you want to volunteer to be an acolyte, **fill out, sign, and return a commitment form**. The Acolyte Commitment form can be found on the Church website: [www.PeterAndPaul.org](http://www.PeterAndPaul.org) under Worship Services > Acolyte Information. We hope you will join our acolyte team!

Yours in service to Christ,

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