

Confirmation Stoles

A stole symbolizes being tied with Christ in all aspects of life. This is a great opportunity for you to express the faith that has been affirmed over the past several years of your Christian education. The following are some helpful instructions on how to make your stole.

We provide you with a basic stole made of felt. You cut it to the correct dimensions and then personalize it as you wish. We suggest that you plan in advance what you want on the stole before you go shopping. Remember to have fun with this.

Decorating Your Stole:

This is the fun part. Pray and think about how you want to decorate your stole. Symbols are the easiest way to communicate.

You can use anything from glitter glue, sequins, buttons, fabric paint, patches, etc. Felt pieces work well. They are easy to cut out. We have supplies here at church if you would like to use those, or you are welcome to use your own.

You can attach items by sewing, gluing (tacky glue works well on fabric) or even using a glue gun. *Graphics/Clip art on the computer is another place to look for ideas.*

Right side of your stole (when you are wearing it):

This side represents your faith. You will be making symbols of your faith to attach to this side of the stole. You must include your chosen Bible verse and at least 3 symbols. Some examples are on the attached sheet.

Cross – to symbolize the sacrifice Jesus made for us on the cross.

Fish – to symbolize discipleship and the Christian faith.

Chalice – to symbolize the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Shell – to symbolize the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.

Bible – to symbolize the Word of God.

Left side of your stole (when you are wearing it):

This side represents you. You will be making symbols of your family, daily life, hobbies, interests, etc. to attach to this side of your stole.

The back of the neck of your stole:

You will attach your first name here. There are many styles of letters you can use. Some examples are iron-on letters that come in a pack, cut out letters, fabric markers, puffy paints etc. Make your name large enough so it can be seen.

Please bring your completed Stole with you to the rehearsal on October 21st.

The following is a guide to help you with designing and personalizing your stole.

The Significance of Color & Symbols in the Christian Faith

The meanings associated with color in Christian worship, art, architecture and design are summarized as follows:

Yellow/Gold

This is the symbol of light and purity. It speaks of youth, happiness, the harvest, hospitality, love and benevolence.

Orange

Symbolic of endurance and strength, orange is the color of fire and flame.

Red

Signifies action, fire, charity, spiritual awakening. In the Christian symbolism, it denotes the Holy Spirit.

Purple

Purple speaks of fasting, faith, patience and trust. It is the color used during Advent and Lent.

Blue

Blue signifies hope and good health. It is an alternate color for the season of Advent.

Green

Green is the color of fertility. In the Christian context, it represents bountifulness, hope and the victory of life over death.

Brown

Brown is symbolic of the earth and was often the color of a monks robe, signifying humility and God's connection with the commonplace and the ordinary.

White

Purity, virginity, innocence, and birth, are symbolized with this color. White is the color of Christmas and Easter.

Black

Said to represent the death, fear and ignorance. Black is the color of Good Friday.

Christian Symbols

Symbols in the church have meanings that convey information and feelings. They serve to identify us as people and as reminders of the many aspects of our faith. Each symbol has a different meaning. You may want to include some of these symbols on the faith side of your stole.



ANCHOR

It ranks among the most ancient of Christian symbols found relating to the virtue of hope of salvation and holding secure in faith.



FISH

This was used by the early persecuted Christians to secretly symbolize their faith in Jesus Christ. The letters 'IXOYC' are the Greek initials of the words for "Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior. They also spell the Greek word for fish.



CUP

The cup or chalice is a sacred vessel and symbol in which is contained the consecrated wine or the Blood of Christ.



SHELL

Representing the sacrament of Baptism. Especially of Our Lord's Baptism by John the Baptist.



CROSS

The symbol of the crucifixion and the great price Jesus paid for the salvation of all mankind. Symbol of hope, love and sacrifice.



SHIP

Representing the Church of Christ amid the perilous waters.



DOVE

The dove symbolizes purity, innocence, peace and is used to represent the Holy Spirit. The dove brought back an olive branch to Noah which was a sign to him that the waters had receded.



TRIANGLE

The symbol of the three divine persons of the One True God. In the unity of the Godhead there are Three Persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.



FIRE

Fire is seen throughout the Old and New Testaments as representing the presence of God. From the burning bush of Moses to the Red Sea and also at Pentecost.



WHEAT

The symbol of prosperity and fruitfulness, as well as the bread it will become and the hunger it will satisfy.