



INDUCTION INTO THE ORDER OF ACOLYTES
Sunday, May 8, 2016 ~ 10:00AM

The Examination

Celebrant: It is my honor to invite our new acolyte candidates for induction today into the Order of Acolytes to come forward with their sponsors.

Karen Sole and Ella Binder

Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus, we are all baptized by the one Spirit into one Body, and given gifts for a variety of ministries for the common good. We now induct these candidates, in the Name of God and of this congregation into the Order of Acolytes for the ministry to which they are called.

Will the candidates be presented.

***Sponsors:* WE PRESENT TO YOU THESE CANDIDATES TO BE INDUCTED TO THE ORDER OF ACOLYTES.**

Celebrant: Are these candidates committed to love Christ, respect our Beloved Community, and grow in knowledge of their duties, in order to exercise their ministry to honor of God, and the well-being of God's church?

***Sponsors:* WE BELIEVE THEY ARE.**

To the Candidates

Celebrant: Each of you has been called to a ministry here in this congregation. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with care and respect?

***Candidates:* I WILL.**

Celebrant: Will you faithfully and reverently carry out the duties of your ministry honoring God, and with an earnest desire to add strength and hope for the spiritual well-being of this congregation?

***Candidates:* I WILL.**

To the Congregation

Celebrant: Beloved Saints, all ministry is an expression of a community grafted together for the sake of building up God's kingdom here in this time and place. Do you, as the community gathered commit to doing all in your power to honor and respect, nurture and celebrate the ministry to which these candidates commit themselves to this day?

***Congregation:* WE DO.**

The Commissioning

Celebrant: [N.] In the Name of God and of this congregation, I admit you into the Order of Acolytes and give you this cross as a sacred symbol of your ministry.

Let us pray. Gracious God, confirm with your heavenly benediction your servants inducted this day into the Order of Acolytes. May they receive your blessing and with dedication of mind, body and spirit, offer acceptable service to you in reverence and holiness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



SJP ORDER OF ACOLYTES *Sunday, May 8, 2016*

Today we are honoring and celebrating the ministry of acolytes.

Last May we inducted 16 youth into the *Order of Acolytes* and presented each one with a cross to wear as a sign of their vows:

"Each of you has been called to a ministry here in this congregation. Will you, as long as you are engaged in this work, perform it with care and respect?" and "Will you faithfully and reverently carry out the duties of your ministry honoring God, and with an earnest desire to add strength and hope for the spiritual well-being of this congregation?"

This year we have two new acolytes to be inducted: **Ella Binder and Karen Sole.**

We are also honoring those who have served during the last year by awarding them a silver cross to wear when they serve in the future.

The wooden crosses are given to each one as they begin this ministry and then when they are awarded their Silver cross we would like them to keep their wooden cross as a token of our gratitude for their service.

The ministry of acolytes can be traced back to the 3rd century. The word "acolyte" refers to *one who follows, attends, and serves the needs of the priest in the Eucharist.* All young people, grades 5-12, are invited to try out this important ministry. If you are interested, please contact one of our coaches about this ministry.

Acolytes that have served faithfully this year are:

Catherine Boileau, Gabrielle Boileau, Maya Crouse, Ryan Crouse, Jocelyn Dessin, Ray Ernst, Matt Gmeiner, Kyle Klosterman, Casey McCord, Maria McCord, Emma Reeves, Gretchen Reck, Carolyn Roderique, Kenneth Skoug, Meganne Skoug, Michael Zuckerman

We are so very grateful to each of them and their families who provide support, encouragement and help in this ministry. This is truly the work of many people and for that we give thanks to God.

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